

**Newport Bay Conservancy
Annual Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2019**

7:04 Call to Order - Randall English

President Randall English made welcomed all the 38 volunteers and staff in attendance at the Peter and Mary Muth Interpretive Center. He explained that quorum, being one third of the voting members, was achieved with 20 of the 49 eligible members present and so the meeting would continue. Randall recognized Past Presidents Dr. Peter Bryant and Peter Fuhrer in attendance and then proposed that Josie Bennett, current Secretary, would be the recorder of the minutes; there being no opposition to this proposal, the meeting continued.

The minutes of the 2018 meeting, which had been previously distributed to the membership, as well as copies were available before the meeting, were approved without changes.

Randall announced the election committee of Pam Winkler, Hillary Cunningham, and Julie Ferguson and the meeting minute certifiers of Holly and Peter Fuhrer.

7:11 Presidents Annual Report - Randall English

Randall presented his annual report using a slide show; he thanked staff and then briefly reviewed the board committees. He highlighted volunteers Vanessa Ayala and Cassandra Radliff who were OneOC Spirit of Volunteerism winners as well as Diana Grice who was OC Parks Volunteer Celebration winner. He also recognized the volunteers with over 100 hours of service being Linda Barker, Judy Booth, Connie Calvert, Lane Calvert, Frances Cork, Donna Flower, Holly Fuhrer, Mary Gartung, Hollie Gilcrease, Diana Grice, Jo Carol Hunter, Susan Jarratt, Drew Kosicki, Theresa Kueny, Norman Lacourciere, Sherry Marger, Don Millar, Jean Savage, Pam Winkler and Ken Yamagata.

Then he reviewed a variety of programs. He explained that NBC hosted roughly the same number of programs and activities, reaching more people in the past year. Earth Day at the Bay saw thousands of families in attendance enjoying our 22 of our environmental partners from around the county. NBC also hosted Gourmet by the Bay with 60 attendees, raising \$11,000 to support NBC's mission. The annual SOCALPAPA Art Show and Display Sale saw 1,200 people, selling 39 paintings and raising \$2,000. Coastal Cleanup Day saw more financial support from corporations in 2019 including FCA, Ingram Micro, Western Digital, Kingson Technologies, Geosyntec Consultants, Michael Baker International, Irvine Subaru, Tek Systems, Newport Auto Center, Surfside Sports with in-kind donations from MBC Aquatic Sciences, Newport Aquatic Center, Sprouts Farmers Market, Newport Sea Base, Volcom and Ware Disposal. Roughly 800 volunteers removed 15,000 lbs of trash and recyclables from the Bay that morning.

As far as the Anniversary Book Project, *Saving Upper Newport Bay* is in its final stages of proofing and layout, with a release date coming this winter.

California State Parks, Boating & Waterways, Boating Safety Programs continued to provide our fleet of kayaks, along with subsidizing some of the costs of the Environmental Education program allowing 1,360 students to enjoy the water.

Randall talked about how the Big Canyon Restoration Project continues. NBC received additional grants in order to provide the construction funds for Phase 2A from the California Coastal Conservancy (through USFWS Grant) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Proposition 1 Grant as well as design, engineering and permitting funds from the Ocean Protection Council. Randall English explained the construction plans and habitat zones and talked through the project's construction timeline.

Algerian Sea Lavender (ASL) Restoration Project also continues with NBC volunteers and corporate groups like Advanced Sterilization Products, Sage Hill High School, Google, Schneider Electric and CrowdStrike all participating in the past year. Other restoration included Early College High School at Constellation, Target at Bayview, Second Sundays with OC Parks, ROOTS and Steward Days with Project Grow, Volutaria monitoring/mapping, rounding out with submitting a proposal to the City of Newport Beach to monitor the Bayview Heights Project.

Educational programs for volunteers included Volunteer and Naturalist Training in which 58 and 18 students participated, respectively. Other educational highlights included a new program in partnership with the City of Newport Beach, Camp James and the Dunes called FiiN, Fostering Interest in Nature, to bring 5th graders to the Bay for a 4 day, 3 night nature camp experience. Also 2019 saw the construction of a new exhibit at the Peter and Mary Muth Center, a relief map and touch screen with multiple 90 second videos highlighting different aspects of the Bay. Vista Point received new interpretive panels to replace the ones that were fading. With the addition of OC Parks new Resource Specialist, Nathan Taxel, OCP hosted new educational programs in which NBC volunteers assisted in programs such as Lunar Eclipse/Astronomy Nights, Butterfly Migration, BioBlitz and Migratory Bird Day. Finally, in partnership with the Back Bay Science Center, NBC again hosted World Wetlands Day which featured Native Americans and Wetlands.

7:52 Treasurer's Report - Pam Winkler

Pam presented the 2018 financial report for the Conservancy; the report was accepted with a motion from Dave Waller, seconded by Drew Kosicki. The vote was unanimous. Pam continued to highlight 2019 financial accomplishments that included new accounts for FiiN and Big Canyon, transitioning to an online version of Quickbooks and enacting more policies and procedures for expenditures. Pam finished with the expectations for next year being increased accounting transactions from managing construction funds and the possibility of a professional audit.

8:00 Election of the Board - Tim Brown

Tim presented the slate of candidates for the upcoming year and advised that all the candidates were incumbents. The Board Development Committee and the Board had no objection to this. Tim also acknowledged that per the Bylaws, the Board Development Committee must have two non-board members. Those people who were recommended by the committee to serve are Peter Bryant and Nancy Gardner, both who had experience sitting on NBC's Board in the past.

Instructions were given on the voting process; Ballots were handed out to all voting members and then collected; the Election Committee retired to the library to count the votes.

While the votes were tabulated attendees were invited to get drinks and snacks and watch a video that the City of Newport produced highlighting the FiiN program.

8:18 Election Results - Randall English

It was announced that all candidates on the ballot won approval from the voting membership.

8:20 Meeting was adjourned

Minutes prepared by Josie Bennett, Board Secretary