

Newport Bay Conservancy

January 18 2017 Board Meeting

Board Attendees: Dick Zembal, Randall English, Peter Bryant, Frances Cork, Pam Winkler, Tim Brown, Donna Flower, Molly Stallcup, Liz Flint.

Excused Absence: Heather Cieslak, Ian Swift

Visitors: Howard Cork, Jack Keating, Michelle Clemente

Meeting called to Order at 2:07. A quorum was present.

2:08 – Liz made motion to approve minutes from Decembers meeting. Some discussion on review and validation of corrections/additions. After corrections confirmed Frances seconded motion to approve minutes. Carried unanimously

2:10 – Treasures Report

Explanation of 2017 preliminary budget – discussion of numbers, Board members need to review and familiarize themselves with numbers as budget will be finalized at the February retreat.

2:22 - Fundraising Report

Membership made \$27K, well above budget. Tracks seen as one key in increasing/keeping members.

Corporate memberships are “thin”

Golf tournament has been rescheduled to October. Tim advised avoiding same weekend of Toshiba. Need prizes donated for raffle.

Peter Fuhrer has stepped down from chair of the subcommittee.

2:33 – Conservation Report

Conservation Easement officially recorded but questions remain about management plan.

Michelle Clemente will find out who in NB city handles management plan.

Restoration committee tasked to develop NBC management plan.

Dick asked if the 1K to manage retroactive to 1995.

2:43 – Restoration Report

Molly discussed *Volutaria tubuliflora* infestation and strategy. Known infestations have been treated. Will continue to monitor and treat. Interest in hand pulling so volunteers recognize plant, good idea but must respond quickly, if any delay may seed. Will keep contractor in loop to treat further infestation discoveries.

Michelle mentioned RRMP for Big Canyon needs to be submitted to and approved by city council.

Further discussion on selenium, speculation on have we reached dry flow levels low enough to satisfy Coastal Conservancy at completion of Phase 1. Phase 2 funding is contingent on lower selenium levels.

Howard discussed limonium eradication efforts by solar (tarps), hand pulling and spraying herbicide. A few board members and volunteers received herbicide spray training. Solar has had limited effect due to cooler temps/storms. Hand pulling and spraying have been more effective. Further spray training will be scheduled.

3:03 – Board Development Report

Six identified board candidates all declined.

Discussed strategies for publicizing need for board members along with conservation easement, new kayaks and signage around the bay.

New member board orientation will be postponed until February.

Need new committee chairs for Fundraising, Marketing and Outreach/Tracks newsletter.

3:13 - Advocacy Report

Howard – Lands pass, no pay on site, pre-buy on line or purchase at same place get fishing license.

Submit letter reaffirming NBC's position against send reply to Karie Lewis and Julie Horenstein copy Carla Navarro, Anthony Williams

Water Wheel – Peter started discussion on trash boom

Howard has inquired with boom manufacturer "Would the boom work with internment flow, can it be used with dirt banks? Answer is yes to both. The manufacturer asked about maximum flow of San Diego Creek. Numbers provided was it is designed for 30,000 Cubic Feet a Second, has reached 43,500 CFS in El Nino years.

Howard had asked Ian about potential placement of booms by Fletcher Jones, Ian had agreed with positioning there. Spirited discussion about the water wheel proposal followed discussion of boom. Tone of discussion reiterated our position opposing and strategies to articulate our position.

3:37 – Book Project

Target for completion is April 2018, Frances will keep board apprised on progress.

3:38 – World Wetlands Day – Informed we currently have 15 signups. Touched on the symposium agenda and field trip to OC Groundwater Recharge Facility

3:43 Board Retreat

Discussion on purpose/agenda for the retreat. Look at general direction and philosophy of board. Can we better utilize our resources? (board members/volunteers) Are we being effective? Are we over depending on some resources? Is the agenda too full and do we need to narrow focus?

Tim opined need to have entire board to prioritize goals for committees.

Peter suggested we use some of the retreat time to review the boards relationship with the various landowners (Newport Beach, OC Parks, CDFW), Howard related this to forging a Memo of Understanding.

Dick discussed Logistics of the day for retreat. He will email all a map. Dick has to leave the retreat at 2:00 but we can continue until 4:00. Lunch/beverages will be provided to retreat attendees. Depending on conditions we may have a field trip walking/drive.

4:01 Spirit of Volunteer Awards – One OC

NBC can nominate up to 2 individuals for award.

Molly moved we nominate 2 individuals, Randall seconded, carried unanimously.

4:08 Move to adjourn by Liz, seconded by Frances, carried unanimously.