

NEWPORT BAY CONSERVANCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES

Wednesday, July 27, 2022, 5:30 PM, **ZOOM**

Attending:

President – Kim Bick

Board members – Mario Cuevas, Julie Ferguson, Ramraghi Fuller, Susie Onate, Cassandra Radcliff-Mendoza, Taylor Sais, Dave Waller

Past President – Randall English

Staff and guests – David Banuelas, Peter Bryant, Heather Cieslak

OC Parks - Derrick Ankerstar

Absent: Sherry Marger, Angie Vazirian

Call to order/roll call: Kim

Approval of Minutes: Mario moves; Cassandra seconds.

Minutes, as modified, are approved.

Treasurer's Report: Ramraghi Fuller

Congratulations to artists and purchasers in SOCAL PAPA. Muth Center events have picked up; outrigger, kayak, and school tours are bringing in money. The gift shop is doing very well.

Operations Report: Heather Cieslak

Staff issues: Dave Meyer (BBSC/CFWL) retired; Tori is leaving after a year. We are still looking for FiiN staff. Fundraising: Target Circle has been good; also the art festival. Sherry did a great job with press releases, taking pictures, etc. Lots of first-time volunteers there. Gourmet-by-the-Bay registration is live. Please share with everyone. There's a special program this Sat. for the Kizh nation: bird and plant walk (8:30), lunch (NAC), kayak tour (2-4). We're submitting bigger grant applications: (1) Ocean Protection Council and (2) California Natural Resources Agency, Youth Community Access Grant (UCI; also available to community college students and SAUSD students). We are going to try hard to build our unrestricted funding to keep the cash flow going. There will be more possibilities coming in the near future.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2022-01 in support of the Ocean Protection Council grant: Cassandra moves; Julie seconds. The motion passed: 11 ayes; 0 noes; 2 absentees.

Motion to approve Resolution No: 2022-02 in support of the Youth Community Access grant. Julie moves; Mario seconds. The motion passed: 11 ayes; 0 noes; 2 absentees.

A tally of programs for 7/1/21-6/30/22: lots of programs for fewer people.

President's Report: Kim Bick

Thanks to everyone for all their work on the SOCAL PAPA event. Implicit Bias Training will be offered in the fall. Everyone should be creating descriptions of committees – an “ad” – summary of activities and call to action. Have them done by Sept. committee meeting.

Community Outreach, Website, Tracks: Cassandra Radcliff

This committee's blurb appeared in the Volunteer newsletter. These blurbs could go in *Tracks*, be printed out and posted in the Muth Center, and other places. Cassandra reviewed various media events. The next *Tracks* planning committee will happen soon. The website development committee will be calling a meeting soon. No update for the Ramsar application. The next *Tracks* will be on flimsier paper. What about the option for only an email-only version of *Tracks*? We want to do it and will be working on it in the future.

Board Development Committee: Taylor Sais

Sherry will not be coming back for another term, so there are four open spots. We have three interested candidates and need a couple more people. Notify Taylor with ideas. The Board Development blurb will be a description but not an invitation to join.

Restoration Committee: Randall English

They are going forward with grant funding for Phase 3 of Big Canyon. Big change in BC Phase 2: Endemic Environmental will be taking over from Brightview, which is basically a landscape company. They're looking for new volunteers for the new semester for the adopt-a-plot program. Five-year plan: project portfolio – what around the Bay would we like to work on; goal would be to work out 30% of the design to get grant readiness. Getting it to a point that we can take it to our partners. Randall submitted a grant to the Mazda Foundation: replicates the grant for Sage Hill High School students for SAUSD students.

Trash wheel? It will be located outside the bay – in San Diego Creek on the other side of the Jamboree bridge.

Education Committee: Julie Ferguson

Thanks to those who came to the premier of the underwater film. The naturalist training course is almost complete. Invite likely people to sign up. Programs are continuing. Tori will be leaving. There will be fewer OC Parks programs. We need more job applicants for FiiN. A new yoga program led by Krystal is happening on the roof. The committee will put together a list of program ideas.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee: Susan Jarratt

The Diversity Scholarship for the naturalist course is open for applications. Please circulate and encourage people to apply. Professor Michael Mendez will be presenting a session to the naturalist class on environmental justice and diversity in the outdoors on Thurs., Nov. 17th. It will be advertised as a diversity presentation as well. The next Accessibility Day event is in process—for neurodiverse/special ed youth.

Research and Advocacy Committee: Peter Bryant/Julie

Can we make a real difference in supporting legislation that will contribute to our goals? Meeting with Vic Leipzig and Heather from Sea and Sage on legislative advocacy was very helpful; they gave an excellent presentation. It's a very complicated process. We did get support from Katie Porter on a bill. Kim suggests that the committee share their list to get confirmation about whether the bill is relevant to NBC. Working on these bills might be a good opportunity for new volunteers.

6:48 Adjournment – Randall moves; Julie seconds; approved

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Jarratt
Secretary