NEWPORT BAY CONSERVANCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES
Wednesday, May 23, 2025, 5:30 PM, **ZOOM**

Attending:
President – Bryan Tsu
Board Members –Stacey Tutt, Bettina Eastman, Julie Powers, Mario Cuevas, McKenna Wegner, Yugina Yun, Diane Daruty, Lori Metherate, Peter Bryant
Staff and guests - Heather Cieslak
OC Parks – Molly Waldram

Excused Absence: Susie Onate

5:35 Call to order/roll call: Bryan

Approval of Minutes:

The Board Minutes for April were postponed until the June meeting for the Board to review.

1. Operations Report: Heather

The Operations Report was provided (see attached).

Motion to approve the Bayview Heights Project amendment. Bettina motioned, Molly seconded, unanimously approved.

2. Update from Bob Stein (City Engineer, Newport Beach) on Big Canyon Phase 3

Discussion of timeline, City responsibilities and Newport Bay Conservancy responsibilities in the coming months, as Phase 3 begins.

3. Treasurer's Report: Julie

Julie presented on alternative fundraising options for Newport Bay Conservancy to utilize, in lieu of accepting donations thru the existing Paypal Giving platform. 3 options were presented, but discussion focused on Infinite Giving, which was the medium-cost option, and allows for one-time and recurring donations, stock donations, DAF donations and foundation donations.

Bryan moved to go into an Executive Session as the Board would be updated on a material financial development related to a recent donation made.

Motion to approve using the donated funds as a liquidity reserve for the rest of the fiscal year. Stacey motioned, Molly seconded, unanimously approved.

Motion to approve opening a brokerage account (E*Trade) to invest the donated funds into a government-only money market fund. Mario motioned, Diane seconded, unanimously approved. Stacey and Julie discussed drafting the resolution needed by E*trade, expressing the Board's intent, for Susie to sign.

Motion to approve the Infinite Giving platform for 1 year at a cost of $1,800. Bettina motioned, Yugina seconded. All voted in favor, except for Stacey who voted against. The motion carries by majority. Stacey expressed her opinion that the Board should form a strategic fundraising plan for how best to maximize the Infinite Giving platform, before making the investment in the platform.

4. Education/DEI Committee: Mario

The Education Committee Report was provided (see attached).

5. Fundraising Committee: Bryan

The Fundraising Committee Report was provided (see attached).

6. Restoration and Technical Committee: Yugina

The Restoration and Technical Committee Report was provided (see attached).

7:07: Bryan adjourned the meeting

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan Tsu
President