

NEWPORT BAY CONSERVANCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
MINUTES

Wednesday, May 27, 2026, 5:30 PM, In Person and **ZOOM**

Attending:

President – Bryan Tsu

Board Members – Mario Cuevas, Yugina Yun, McKenna Wegner, Peter Bryant (virtual), Bettina Eastman, Diane Daruty (virtual), Maureen Flanagan, Lori Metherrate (virtual)

Staff and guests - Heather Cieslak

OC Parks – Molly Waldram

Excused Absence: Julia Powers

5:35 Call to order/roll call: Bryan

Approval of Minutes: April 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

Molly moved; Maureen seconded; Unanimously approved

1. Treasurer's Report: Bryan

The Treasurer's Report was provided ([see attached](#)). The 2025 actuals look different than the 2025 projected due to the fact that the organization switched their accounting method intra-year. The board reviewed the 2026 draft budget. The board went into an executive session to discuss the budget. The board approved the budget in the executive session. Bettina made a motion to approve the budget, Molly seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Operations Report: Heather

The Operations Report was provided ([see attached](#)). The Volunteer Celebration is set for June 4th at the Back Bay Science Center. All new staff has been onboarded and the FiiN program applications are now live. Save the date for the SOCALPAPA art reception coming up on the evening of Fri 7/17.

The City of Newport Beach is moving forward with incorporating the approved amendment to their Local Coastal Program from the Coastal Commission with their housing plan.

Targeting to close out 2025 financials and get all audit information to the auditor by June 30th.

3. Restoration Committee: Yugina

The Restoration Report was provided ([see attached](#)).

The board previously approved via email a budget extension for Big Canyon Phase 3 for additional biomonitoring services.

4. Fundraising Committee: Bryan

Printed the save the date flyers for Gourmet By The Bay to hand out to companies, co-workers, etc. as we are 3 months out for Gourmet By The Bay. The materials have been shared with the board and board members are encouraged to send graphics to people that would be interested.

Have the official approval from OC Parks for the Spirit Run on 10/18 and the website is up and running. The board discussed creating a committee to make sure the SpiritRun aligns with the organization's interest.

5. Education Committee: Mario

The Education Report was provided ([see attached](#)). Two Naturalist Programs: Drawn to Nature was 5/17. The program went well and will consider running again due to attendance. Taste the Bay and Trek and Taste are held 6/7 at Back Bay Science Center.

Internship applications for the YCA Community Engagement Intern (CEI) - job description and application posted 5/22. Engaging Santa Ana Community College to help recruit from Santa Ana community for the Community Engagement Intern position.

6. Community Outreach Committee: Bettina

Hosted a bird walk at the Bay this past weekend with a group from OLLI/UCI where donations were received in conjunction.

7. Board Recruitment: Diane

The Board Recruitment Committee update will be provided at the next meeting.

8. Audit Committee: Diane

The Audit Committee update will be provided at the next meeting.

6:40 Adjournment: Molly moved; Mario seconded.

Respectfully submitted,
McKenna Wegner, Secretary and Bryan Tsu, President