

**San Francisco Bay Trail
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
ABAG Metro Center
April 11, 2013**

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

Attendance

Steering Committee

Brian Wiese, Chair
Tom Huening, Co-Chair
Julie Bondurant
Leo DuBose
Ann Buell
Joe LaClair

Bay Trail Staff

Lee Huo
Maureen Gaffney
Laura Thompson

Board Directors

Linda Stonier
Betty Moose

ACTION: Adoption of 04/11/13 agenda and approval of 12/13/12 and 02/14/13 minutes.

LaClair moved, Moose seconded approval of the agenda and minutes.

The agenda and minutes were adopted unanimously.

Announcements by Chair and Boardmembers

- Huening Announced he plans to depart from the board of directors. He will work with staff to identify a replacement from San Mateo County before he officially steps down.

- LaClair Reviewed the renewed Oak to Ninth development project and suggested that we advocate to include the highway overcrossing as part of the project. Announced that BCDC received a \$300,000 grant from FHWA for climate change adaption planning for three focus areas in the Adapting to Riding Tides (ART) region: Bay Bridge touchtown area, Oakland Coliseum area and the Hwy 92 area.

- Stonier Highlighted the Golden Gate Fields stretch as a confusing gap in the Bay Trail. East Bay Regional Park District is working to complete the gap.

- DuBose Announced that Bike to Work Day preparations are underway.

- Buell Announced the Explore the Coast Grant Program for projects that are not capital outlay. Approximately \$1.5 million available statewide. A second grant will be announced shortly for the coast only. Announced that the Water Trail was invited to have a session at the 2013 Trails and Greenways Conference. Panel members included: Ann, Galli,

Steve, Sue Rae Ireland of the Tahoe Rim Trail. In addition, announced that Alviso Marina County Park is set for designation at the next meeting.

-Moose The Hayward Area Shoreline Planning Association (HASPA) is updating a booklet that includes the Bay Trail. Two grievances are in process: the Calpine power plant, and recently approved wind turbine near the Bay Trail in San Leandro. Highlighted Virtual Marsh, an interactive website, virtualmarsh.org .

Announced that she was awarded the John Sandoval Community Award by the Hayward Historical Society!

-Wiese EBRPD is in contract for two Bay Trail projects using federal Tiger funds: Carquinez Strait Scenic Drive and the Hercules Intermodal segment, near Victoria by the Bay (BioRad).

Staff Announcements

-Thompson Confirmed next full board meeting date is June 27. Announced that the bike/ped bridge to Inner Bair Island was recently completed by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and Ducks Unlimited as part of a Bay Trail grant. Exciting news that a member of the public, Kurt Schwabe, plans to walk around the Bay Trail during the month of June to raise awareness of the project.

-Gaffney Announced release of the new Bay Trail map set, the Bay Trail brochure and an online/mobile map program. The map sets are for sale on the Bay Trail website and at visitor centers. Exploring use of a distributor to help get the maps into bike shops and other retail outlets. Plan to apply for an Explore the Coast grant to develop a Bay Trail app. Announced that the Napa Plant Site work is moving forward.

-Huo Measure DD and the Bay Trail made a general presentation to the Port of Oakland Commissioners about the Bay Trail and two board members were very supportive of moving projects forward. Lee and Laura made a presentation to BCDC's design review board about the Bay Trail focusing on design issues.

Bay Trail Strategic Plan Update

Thompson introduced the Strategic Plan discussion as a review of the Strategic Plan Sub-Committee's work so far. Staff and the board reviewed the scenario-based approach and the initial conclusions of the sub-committee.

The Committee commented on several topics:

Funding. The need for strategic coordination with the congestion management agencies (CMAs) to incorporate the Bay Trail into transportation sales tax measures, using the Gap Analysis as a tool for setting strategic priorities. Also working through the One Bay Area Grant program and the shoreline PDAs.

Board Composition. Recruit new board members to help find funding. Ideas included non-government organizations, such as Transform, CMA representatives, public health representatives such as Kaiser and Sutter. Discussed repurposing board members, perhaps as part of organizational capacity rather than funding objective 1a. It was pointed out that well-organized nonprofits are clear about board members with contacts to money but also that nonprofit are different than our board. Ours serve a different role with ties into political entities, etc. Important to inspire existing board members by giving them a range of opportunities and the ability to contribute in different ways. Staff could provide a list of ways board members can contribute, such as transportation, health and private funding to ensure an active board. A “Board Gap Analysis” was suggested as a way to assess additional board capacity to meet the funding challenges we currently confront.

Gap completion. The primary mission of the organization is to complete the trail gaps and the Gap Analysis is a critical tool. BCDC is interested in activating shoreline public access areas which could elevate the importance of linking to local bicycle networks in order to improve access to the Bay Trail from inland areas. Sea level rise presents a major challenge for us to balance the future and focus on our mission. Important to understand the sea level rise issues and integrate strategies into our design guidelines.

Public education. Emphasized the importance of public awareness and the reality that many people do not know what the Bay Trail is. A higher level of public awareness could help us close gaps and bring more people to the trail. Suggested promoting events like Kurt Schwabe’s walk around the Bay Trail and coordinating with schools.

Bay Trail Board of Directors Approval Process

Thompson provided an overview of the process for bringing new board members into the organization: 1) introduced and voted in at the same meeting, or 2) introduced at a meeting and voted in at the following meeting several months later.

Concern was expressed that new board candidates and existing board directors are not given much time to meet each other at one meeting and when the introduction and vote are split between meetings, 3-4 months separate those meetings.

Proposal for future board candidate nominations:

- Existing board directors should have an opportunity to name their successor.
- The candidate will be invited to attend a steering committee meeting to meet board members and learn about the organization. This would be structured as an orientation, not an evaluation.
- At their following meeting, the Steering Committee would vote and make a recommendation to the board. The full board would then vote on the candidate at their next meeting.

Thompson also indicated a need to assign board directors to the roles of vice chair, secretary and treasurer.

The committee discussed a framework for recruiting future board directors to expand our capacity and meet strategic goals. There was consensus about using the strategic priorities and the gap analysis as tools for soliciting new board membership.

Existing board directors may be empowered by serving as officers such as program chair, finance chair, event chair or on regional committees that could result in increased involvement, but would need to be balanced with staff work loads and capacity.

The Steering Committee directed staff to bring the proposed board nomination process and officer assignments to the board for a discussion and vote at their spring meeting.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.