

**San Francisco Bay Trail
Spring 2010 Board Meeting Minutes
Coyote Point Yacht Club, San Mateo
June 24, 2010**

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

Attendance

Board Members:

Co-Chair: Tom Huening
Bruce Beyaert
Julie Bondurant
Sean Co
Jim Foran
Cecily Harris
Dan Hodapp

Judith Malamut
Moira McEnespy
Julia Miller
Elish Ryan
Don Weden
Cathy Woodbury

Guests:

Antoinette Romeo, Santa Clara County Parks
Jon Jainga, Sonoma County Regional Parks
Elizabeth Tyree, Sonoma County Regional Parks
Kevin Scott, San Mateo County Parks
Steve Kreamer, San Mateo County Parks
Matt DelCarlo, San Mateo County Parks
Kim Weden

Staff:

Laura Thompson, Project Manager
Lee Huo, Bay Trail Planner
Maureen Gaffney, Bay Trail Planner

Introductions / Agenda / Announcements

Huening brought the Board meeting to order. Harris welcomed Board members and guests to Coyote Point Park and provided an overview of the trail project currently under construction.

Agenda/Minutes

Beyaert made a motion to adopt the agenda; Miller seconded.
Hodapp made a motion to adopt the previous meeting's minutes; Woodbury seconded.

The agenda and minutes were adopted unanimously.

Board Announcements

- Miller Informed the Board that the Moffett Field Bay Trail segment is close to being completed after many years of work; the opening ceremony could be held this September.

- Beyaert Informed the Board that TRAC's Richmond Bay Trail Mid-Year Report has been released with news of significant progress; trail development bids have been

advertised by the Port of Richmond for Shipyard III; the East Bay Regional Park District selected a contractor to conduct the wetland habitat restoration at Breuner Marsh; and the West County Landfill Loop Trail will be complete by the end of the year.

- Foran Announced public review of the San Jose / Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant Master Plan. The plant expansion is an opportunity to close a significant Bay Trail gap in San Jose between Alviso and Milpitas.
- McEnespy Announced that the freeze has been lifted on Conservancy-managed bond funds and all projects are now operating with full allocations.
- Ryan Announced that on June 5, Santa Clara County Parks celebrated the opening of a new boat launch at Alviso Marina County Park. This is a popular access point for the Bay Trail and trail signs have been updated and installed.
- Hodapp Informed the board that numerous Port waterfront improvements along the San Francisco shoreline are underway with funding from a local general obligation bond. These projects include improvements to the Bay Trail and waterfront access: new cruise terminal, Pier 43 promenade, Fisherman's Wharf connection, and the BlueGreenway in the southeast shoreline neighborhoods.
- Jainga Informed the Board that he is filling in for Mary Burns, and as the new park planning manager for Sonoma County Regional Parks, he looks forward to collaborating with the Bay Trail Project.

Staff Announcements

- Thompson Announced that Bay Trail and Ridge Trail staff are wrapping up the second phase of funding from the Goldman Foundation; funding has helped move forward with promoting the loop trail and closing gaps along the route; the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory will update the popular Birding the Bay Trail Brochure focusing on birding sites along the Strait, to be released later this summer. On June 6, *the Bike the Bridges* event was held along the Carquinez Strait Scenic Loop Trail; over 350 bicycle riders crossed the Carquinez and Benicia-Martinez Bridges along the Scenic Loop Trail, over \$60,000 raised for the Special Olympics.
- Gaffney Informed the Board that the Sonoma County Planning Commission will soon consider a major realignment of the Bay Trail bringing the route closer to the shoreline and separated from major roadways.
- Huo Informed the Board that two East Bay grant projects are moving forward: Cryer Site and Derby to Lancaster along the Oakland Estuary; a new grant was approved in Richmond by the Steering Committee to complete trail between Brickyard Cove and Shipyard III; Richmond and Alameda County are both making revisions to their bicycle plans.

California State Parks and Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund Act of 2010

Thompson introduced the California State Parks and Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund Act of 2010 as a potential funding source for State Parks. The proposal will be on the November 2010 ballot requiring an \$18 charge on annual vehicle license fees. The Bay Trail passes through or connects to five state parks: China Camp State Park, Candlestick Point State Recreation Area, Benicia State Recreation Area, East Shore State Park and Angel Island State Park. Closure of these parks or continued deferred maintenance will directly impact the continuity and experience of the Bay Trail.

ACTION: Woodbury moved, Malamut seconded Bay Trail Board support for the California State Parks and Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund Act of 2010. The item was unanimously approved.

Bay Trail Grant Program Update

Thompson provided an overview of the Bay Trail Grant Program. The map in the packet identified completed and active planning and construction grants that were awarded as part of the Proposition 40 and Proposition 84 block grants from the Coastal Conservancy. The second phase of Proposition 84 is currently underway and proposals will be brought to the Steering Committee for review and approval.

City of San Jose Trail Count Program

Thompson introduced Yves Zsutty, Trail Program Manager for the City of San Jose. Yves provided an overview of the Trail Count program, now in its third year, as a valuable resource for supporting general plan policies, promoting trails as an economic benefit and strengthening grant applications. The program operates with no budget and a team of dedicated volunteers. Trail counts, conducted in person and through an online survey, have documented a 9% increase in use system-wide since 2009 and an 86% increase in trail use along segments that closed a gap. This program serves as a model for a regional trail count along the Bay Trail.

Bay Trail Bicycle Ride

Thompson introduced the topic of a board / staff bicycle ride around the Bay Trail. A third option was proposed to allow for those interested in riding the entire Bay Trail to be joined by others interested in shorter rides along the way. In general, the pre-ride was supported as a first step in planning a larger fundraising effort. Go-Greenbelt, Ridge to Bridge, and Isle of Wight Walk were mentioned as possible models and Board members emphasized the importance of sponsors, publicity, liability, establishing goals and building love for the Bay Trail as important components of the future event.

Board Recognition

Bay Trail staff recognized Moira McEnespy for her commitment and dedication to the Bay Trail Project since joining the board as the Coastal Conservancy representative in January 2008. Moira was presented with a gift and a card, and the board thanked her for her hard work ensuring our grant program was a success, helping us launch a new grant \$6 million block grant, assisting us through the bond freeze, closing out the \$3.8 million Prop 40 grant program, working with us through controversial projects, and supporting the project at trail dedications.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Coyote Point Park Bay Trail Walk

Board members and guests joined Cecily Harris and several San Mateo County rangers for a walking tour of the new Coyote Point Park Bay Trail.