

**San Francisco Bay Trail
Fall 2016 Board Meeting Minutes
San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters
October 6, 2016**

Call to Order

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

Attendance

Board Members

John Woodbury, <i>Chair</i>	Ellen Johnck
Julie Bondurant, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Karen Langdon
Leo DuBose	Bill Long
Bruce Beyaert	Judy Malamut
Corinne DeBra	Antoinette Romeo
Jim Foran	Linda Stonier
Cecily Harris	Don Weden

Guests

Julian Meisler, Sonoma Land Trust	Ethan Lavine, BCDC
Meg Marriott, San Pablo Bay Refuge	Kelly Malinowski, Coastal Conservancy
Moira McEnespy, Bay Area Ridge Trail	Nance Donati, PG&E

Staff

Laura Thompson	Bay Trail
Lee Huo	Bay Trail
Maureen Gaffney	Bay Trail
Ben Botkin	Bay Trail / Water Trail

Introductions / Agenda

Woodbury brought the Board meeting to order and introductions were made.

Agenda/Minutes

ACTION: **Beyaert moved, Weden seconded adoption of the 10/6/16 agenda and the 3/30/16 minutes. The agenda and minutes were approved unanimously.**

Yes Votes:

Board Members

John Woodbury, <i>Chair</i>	Ellen Johnck
Julie Bondurant, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Karen Langdon
Leo DuBose	Bill Long

Bruce Beyaert
Corinne DeBra
Jim Foran
Cecily Harris

Judy Malamut
Antoinette Romeo
Linda Stonier
Don Weden

No Votes: None
Abstentions: None

Announcements

Board Announcements

- Beyaert Announced that there are 6 active Bay Trail planning and construction projects underway that will result in 6 new miles of trail as part of Richmond's 30 total miles. He emphasized the importance of the private sector's role in building trails. Seven out of 20 miles have been built by the private sector, and 3 more miles are conditioned as part of development projects. The city's new zoning and subdivision ordinance could be a model for other communities in that developments are required to build trail as condition of permit approval.
- Weden Thank you to staff/board for Bay Day support on October 1.
- Harris Three board members have formed a sub-group made up of Harris, LaClair and Raigoza to address gaps in San Mateo County. Using the gap analysis spreadsheet, they are taking a closer look at the remaining gaps and developing strategies for completion. This could be a model for board members to get involved in completing the gaps in counties they represent.
- Bondurant The East Bay Regional Park District is moving forward on several high profile gaps: Pinole Shores Bayfront Trail is at 100% design, \$10.5 million total cost starting in 2017; Doolittle Drive is at 30% design, BCDC coordination is critical, \$9.5 million project; Pt. Molate is at 35% design, NEPA/CEQA underway with construction starting in 2018; Breuner Marsh and Atlas Road Bridge are under construction.

Staff Announcements

- Thompson Provided the committee with an update on the ABAG-MTC merger process. Recognized board members who helped organize Bay Day resolutions and events on October 1. Announced that the Bay Trail Project received a \$15,000 grant from Google as part of their Resilient Silicon Valley Sponsorships to support a new smart phone tour near the Google campus. Also received a \$4,000 grant from PG&E to help support *Migrations*. The *Rails-to-Trails Conservancy* magazine will

feature an article about the Bay Trail in their winter issue, special thanks to DeBra and Beyaert for meeting and walking with the reporter.

-Gaffney Announced the new Bay Trail jersey, now available for sale on the Bay Trail website. A successful Bay Day event in Benicia was held in partnership with the Ridge Trail and the Water Trail, including a ride around the Carquinez Scenic Loop Trail, taking in the George Miller Trail, where East Bay Regional Park District staff were handing out safety materials. At a recent BCDC Commission meeting a Treasure Island plan with a robust Bay Trail alignment around the entire island was presented. Vista Point Trail on the north side of the Golden Gate Bridge is moving forward with funding from OBAG, perhaps complete in 2017. An Active Transportation Program grant application to complete Bay Trail and Vine Trail in American Canyon and northern Vallejo, was submitted by the Solano Transportation Authority. A new Explore the Coast grant application was submitted as a joint Bay Trail/Water Trail marketing campaign with original art work on public transit and other forms of media to increase awareness. Later today during the walk, Arthur Bart-Williams will unveil the new Sears Point smart phone audio tour.

-Huo Caltrans District 4 has formed a Bicycle Advisory Committee for a new regional plan that includes Bay Trail representation. The Richmond-San Rafael Bridge plan was approved unanimously by BCDC and is still on track for the end of 2017. This has been a team effort with TRAC, both bike coalitions and Bay Trail. Pt. Molate trail planning is moving forward with East Bay Regional Park District on the trail alignment and signage. In May, the Steering Committee approved a trail realignment in Alameda related to Alameda Point as a new alignment around the old naval base. Huo has been part of the Active Transportation Program funding review with MTC, with announcements expected before the end of year. A few Bay Trail projects were considered for this funding source. San Pablo Avenue complete streets study by Contra Costa Public Works is underway to create a bike/ped facility separated from traffic as one of the options and has faced opposition from Rodeo residents. Contra Costa Transportation Authority is proposing Measure X, an extension of transportation tax, and four Bay Trail projects are on the list. The Bay Trail Design Guidelines have been released online and hard copies sent to partners.

-Botkin The Canogle smart phone audio tours are well underway with site visits completed for 4 of the 5 tours. The Hayward tour is ready to go and we will see one at Sears Point today. Next summer will bring a targeted re-introduction of the Water Trail at about the time that Measure AA funds will be allocated. The Water Trail now has 29 designated sites distributed around the bay with six approved at the last meeting in September. Richmond will be next at the end of year. The Bay Day event in Benicia was a success featuring outrigger canoe and paddleboard

access. The Water Trail grants are moving forward, and the path to the water at Ferry Point in Richmond was recently completed by the East Bay Regional Park District.

Sonoma Land Trust & San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge Welcome

Julian Meisler of Sonoma Land Trust and Meg Marriott of the San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge reviewed the history and progress of large-scale wetland restoration at Sears Point.

Bay Trail Update in Sonoma County

Gaffney provided an update on the North Bay status of the Bay Trail. In the last 6-7 years there has been a great deal of progress. She walked through all the complete and planned segments in Sonoma County.

Board member comments included thoughts about increasing leverage for planning projects, showcasing Bay Trail at Kaiser's North Bay Science Discovery Day and creating digital packets or wellness packages for new employees of corporations located along the Bay Trail.

Bay Trail Board Officers/Candidates

Thompson introduced **Ethan Lavine**, Principal Permit Analyst for the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) as a candidate for board and steering committee membership. Lavine gave the board of directors an overview of his work and interest in serving the project.

Thompson recognized **Hanna Miller**, a Permit Analyst with the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) who was not in attendance, as a candidate for alternate to Ethan Lavine on the Board and Steering Committee.

Thompson recognized **Kelly Malinowski**, a Project Manager with the Coastal Conservancy, as a candidate for an alternate member of the board and steering committee membership. Malinowski gave the board of directors an overview of her work and interest in serving the project.

Thompson recognized **Brenda Buxton**, Deputy Bay Program Manager for the Coastal Conservancy who was not in attendance, as a primary candidate on the Board and Steering Committee.

Thompson recognized **Nance Donati**, environmental policy director with PG&E, as a candidate for primary member of the Board of Directors. This action will shift Diane Ross-Leech of PG&E to alternate status on the Board of Directors. Donati gave the board of directors an overview of her work and interest in serving the project.

ACTION: Weden moved, Harris seconded confirmation of Ethan Lavine, Brenda Buxton and Nance Donati as new members of the Bay Trail Board of Directors; Hanna Miller and Kelly Malinowski as new alternates of the Bay Trail Board of Directors; and Diane Ross-Leech shifting to an alternate to Nance Donati. The vote was approved unanimously.

Yes Votes:

Board Members

John Woodbury, *Chair*

Julie Bondurant, *Co-Chair*

Leo DuBose

Bruce Beyaert

Corinne DeBra

Jim Foran

Cecily Harris

Ellen Johnck

Karen Langdon

Bill Long

Judy Malamut

Antoinette Romeo

Linda Stonier

Don Weden

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

Silicon Valley Trail Loop Study

Thompson introduced Moira McEnespy of the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council. McEnespy gave an overview of the Silicon Valley Trail Loop Study, a partnership between the Bay Trail and the Ridge Trail made possible through a Climate Ready grant from the Coastal Conservancy.

The following comments were provided by the Board:

As a next step, consider showing costs to illustrate that trails are a relatively cheap way to achieve greenhouse gas emission reduction goals. In order to compete for cap and trade funds, we have to show that trails are cost effective. In addition, use of trails can result in health care cost reductions by encouraging more healthy lifestyles.

The report shows that 75% of trips are not commute trips. Also consider that the population of aging California residents, 65 and older, is growing, i.e., not many commuters. Suggest we focus on the trips to the grocery store, and other forms of transport like tricycles, that benefit an aging population that wants to remain active.

Every transportation agency or congestion management agency (CMA) should integrate a trails/transit program into the transit system as a way to build awareness of the trail system. If a Regional Measure 3 is passed, try to create a source of funds for regional trails to complete the gaps.

Consider working with employers to create itineraries for commutes that include timeframes and suggested commute routes to guide people to and from major destinations. Employers could provide new employee packets that include information

about the Bay Trail and the Ridge Trail as an education tool about active transportation around their work/home environments.

Regarding the job map graphic

The map should include a housing component so we understand how the 15-minute trip is calculated. The graphic doesn't show how far people are riding to get to the employers.

Most of the high density housing is in Santa Clara, San Jose and Milpitas and the vast majority of new jobs are outside of the study area, closer to Bay Trail.

On the job graphic, add an overlay of housing density to show where people live in relation to the trail. The Santa Clara County Parks Master Plan addressed this, and expanded the width of trails in denser areas anticipating heavier trail use for commute stretches of trail. The Valley Transportation Authority conducts a survey each year to gather information about how people get around the region.

In the context of Plan Bay Area, there may be an opportunity to encourage dense housing near regional trails and not just transit.

It would be helpful to create a similar map showing distances for walkers, including a time based reference.

Exploring New Funding Sources

Thompson led the Board through a list of potential funding sources that could potentially provide support for Bay Trail and/or Water Trail projects, including Measure AA, Priority Conservation Areas, Regional Measure 3 and a proposed State park bond.

Board members offered their knowledge of county sales tax measures that provide funding for public access and suggested that the spreadsheet add another column for private funding contributions.

Adjourn Meeting

Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Sears Point Bay Trail Stroll

Board members, Bay Trail staff, Sonoma Land Trust and Refuge representatives walked along the Eliot Trail, recently designated as a new section of Bay Trail along the edge of the Sears Point Wetland Restoration Area. Arthur Bart-Williams led the group through a portion of the smart phone audio tour.