

TRI-CITY and COUNTY COOPERATIVE PLANNING GROUP
Cities of Benicia, Fairfield, and Vallejo * County of Solano
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CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

July 29, 2009

1. Roll Call

Citizen's Advisory Committee Members (CAC) Present: Eugene Doherty, Harry Englebright, Kathy Hoffman, Karlyn Lewis, Mark Morris, Alice Plutchok

Citizen's Advisory Committee Members Absent: Bob Berman, Teri Booth, Jim Syar, Brian Travis, Bob Webb, Dan Smith

Tri-City and County Staff in Attendance: Brian Miller, City of Fairfield; Matt Walsh, Solano County, Bill Tuikka, City of Vallejo; Lisa Porras, City of Benicia, Sue Wickham, Solano Land Trust, Marilyn Farley, Solano Land Trust

2. Introductions

Members of the Tri-City CAC and other meeting attendees introduced themselves.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Approval of Minutes

The approval of the May 20, 2009 minutes was continued to the next meeting.

5. McIntyre Ranch Plan Status

Matt Walsh stated that the mitigated Negative Declaration was out for comment. He also said that Shane McAfee, GVRD, was planning on giving the Tri-City Governing Board and the Tri-City CAC a status update at the September joint meeting. Kathy Hoffman had a meeting with Mr. McAfee to talk about the staging area. She believed that the Greater Vallejo Recreation District (GVRD) Board had approved the staging area. The Solano Land Trust (SLT) commented on the Negative Declaration and had some issues of concern. The issues included road improvements over a portion of St. Johns Mine Rd.; car pool parking and whether or not to allow dogs in the open space area.

6. Update on SLT Projects and Events

Sue Wickham announced that the SLT had a new events calendar for tours and special events from September thru December at Rush Ranch, Lynch Canyon, King-Swett Ranches and Jepson Prairie. She distributed copies to the meeting attendees.

Marilyn Farley gave an update on lands that the SLT was considering for acquisition with funds from the George Miller earmark. The SLT has \$1,940,000 for property acquisition. The SLT

was working on a draft agreement with Solano County and the Solano Transportation Authority (STA). Solano County has asked the SLT to designate three parcels for the County to put thru the CEQA process. Ms. Farley distributed maps showing lands that they were considering for purchase. There are two properties under consideration near Lynch Canyon – Freeman and Freeman 2. Freeman 2 is a 22 acre parcel that the Bay Area Ridge Trail is interested in because there is a scenic ridge there. The SLT has an appointment to look at the property with the owner. A third property (Signature) is in the Benicia area near Lake Herman. Harry Englebright thought that the environmental document should also include the two properties that initially were not included in the creation of the Tri-City area. Ms. Farley stated that the acquisition process would take between 18 to 24 months as the money goes thru the Federal Highway Administration, to Cal Trans with Solano County acting as the right-of-way acquisition agent. The SLT was trying to identify properties that were available for purchase that would fit into the regional open space plan.

7. Agenda Topics Anticipated for Joint Board/CAC Meeting

Agenda topics under consideration for the September Joint Board/CAC meeting include the McIntyre Ranch Master Plan update from GVRD, an update on the Hiddenbrooke School (pending Vallejo USD participation) and a broad discussion about the roles, responsibilities and the future vision including a regional park district of the JPA Authority and land use projects in the Tri-City area. A discussion on future acquisitions was also suggested as an agenda topic. Other topics for discussion included a “Grand Tour” in the fall, and the possibility of joining with another park district such as the East Bay Regional Park District.

8. Miscellaneous

The Tri-City CAC discussed a letter dated June 25, 2009 from the US Fish and Wildlife Service to the Vallejo USD concerning mitigation for the California Red-legged frog at the Hiddenbrooke School site. The status of the Hiddenbrooke School site was also discussed. The Vallejo USD is looking at school closings and it was thought that the Hiddenbrooke site would be a likely choice for closure. Ms. Hoffman thought that if the residents of Hiddenbrooke wanted to at least save the park they would have to convince the Vallejo USD to agree to swap the site with GVRD. The project would have to start over again but it would not have the mitigation issues that burden the current school site.

Ms. Hoffman announced that on Saturday, August 29th, Cal Trans was having a grand opening of the Benicia Bike-Ped lane on the Benicia Bridge. Brian Miller announced that the City of Fairfield and Solano County were jointly working on the McGary Road bike route.

9. Adjournment

The next Citizens Advisory Committee meeting will be a special Tri-City Joint Board/CAC scheduled for Monday, September 21, 2009.



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Citizens Advisory Committee 2009 Attendance Record X = Attendance at meeting

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	2/18/09	5/20/09	7/29/09 Special Meeting	8/20/09 Cancelled	9/21/09 Special Meeting	11/18/09
Bob Berman	X	X	ABSENT			
Teri Booth	ABSENT	X	ABSENT			
Eugene Doherty	Appointed 4/7/09	X	X			
Harry Englebright	Appointed 3/17/09	X	X			
Kathy Hoffman	X	X	X			
Karlyn Lewis	X	X	X			
Mark Morris	X	X	X			
Alice Plutchok	X	ABSENT	X			
Dan Smith	X	X	ABSENT			
Brian Travis	X	X	ABSENT			
Jim Syar	X	X	ABSENT			
Bob Webb	X	X	ABSENT			