

**San Francisco Bay Trail
Spring 2014 Board Meeting Minutes
Novato Arts Center at Hamilton Field
May 15, 2014**

Call to Order

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

Attendance

Board Members

John Woodbury, Chair
Bruce Beyaert
Julie Bondurant
Ann Buell
Corinne DeBra
Leo DuBose
Jim Foran

Tom Huening
Bill Long
Judy Malamut
Pat Mapelli
Dave Mitchell
Rick Parmer

Guests

Arthur Bart-Williams, Canogle
Galli Basson, ABAG/Water Trail
Bill Keene, Sonoma County Agricultural
Preservation and Open Space District

Karen Langdon, Kaiser Marin-Sonoma
Maggie Wenger, BCDC
Betsy Wilson, State Coastal Conservancy

Staff

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

Introductions / Agenda / Announcements

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

Agenda/Minutes

ACTION: Beyaert moved, Buell seconded adoption of the 05/15/14 agenda and 12/12/13 minutes. The agenda and minutes were approved unanimously.

Yes Votes:

Bruce Beyaert
Julie Bondurant
Ann Buell

Bill Long
Judy Malamut
Pat Mapelli

Corinne DeBra
Leo DuBose
Jim Foran
Tom Huening

Dave Mitchell
Rick Parmer
John Woodbury

No Votes: None
Abstentions: None

Board Announcements

- Parmer The State Parks Commission recently released the draft *Parks Forward* report for public review. The report addresses parks management, governance structure and policies and is potentially a model for the entire state.

- Beyaert Of the 10 miles of Bay Trail left to complete in Richmond, about half are between Pt Richmond and the Pt San Pablo Peninsula. The City of Richmond recently opened Pt Molate Beach Park and Chevron has committed to two more easements. About five miles of gaps are currently under discussion. Along Richmond's southern shoreline, UC Berkeley issued the final Richmond Bay Campus EIR that dismisses all comments with regard to the Bay Trail. WETA has issued a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Richmond Ferry Terminal, and no Bay Trail improvements are included as part of the project.

Staff Announcements

- Thompson Provided an overview of the 25th anniversary events taking place this year, including Kurt Schwabe photo exhibits, Bike to Work Day promotion, Richmond Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front National Historical Park event, June 26 opening of Bay Trail at Hamilton, launch of four smartphone tours and East Bay Regional Park District opening of Carquinez Scenic Drive in the fall. Announced the Bay Trail's winning of the American Planning Association, Northern CA Section, Planning Landmark Award with special thanks to Judy Malamut for compiling the application. Announced that a new Bay Trail block grant will be considered by the State Coastal Conservancy Board of Directors on May 29th.

- Gaffney As part of our 25th anniversary year, we had a commemorative Bay Trail fold-out map placed in all 37,000 bags for Bike to Work Day, as well as 500 map sets. On June 26, 4-6 pm the official opening of the Bay Trail at Hamilton will take place, working with Marin Community Foundation, several speakers. On June 6, National Trails Day, two events along the Bay Trail will be held at Benicia State Recreation Area and the Mill Valley-Sausalito path. A Regional Measure 2 recommendation of \$70 million was authorized to implement the path on the RSR Bridge; within

the same allocation was funding for a new trail segment in the Greenbrae interchange area.

-Huo Kicked off the Lake Merritt to Oakland Estuary feasibility study with a public workshop highlighting this important connection between the Oakland neighborhoods and the shoreline. The city plans for a one-year planning process with additional public workshops. More information is available on the Measure DD website. In Richmond, we celebrated a Chevron Bay Trail Easement dedication last month, located between the 580 corridor and Point Molate Beach Park. The groundbreaking for the Breuner Marsh restoration and the Bay Trail project was held on April 22. Working on the potential for allowing bike/ped access on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. TAM plans to open up a lane to traffic, requires connections at both sides of the bridge. Plays into the gap on the Richmond side, working with Chevron, Richmond and TRAC on a southern alignment. Now looking at which alignment makes sense and funding. May 24 Richmond event will be held with NPS. Launching the smartphone application covering the history of the area. Join us for food trucks, live music and a scavenger hunt. Finally, congratulations to TRAC for receiving an historic preservation award on preserving the Richmond shoreline. TRAC also received the Comcast Hometown Heroes award and video.

City of Novato Welcome

Pam Shinault welcomed the board on behalf of the City of Novato. She described community support as very high for the new Bay Trail and the wetland restoration project at Hamilton. The trail and the restoration area have become part of the Hamilton neighborhood. The City of Novato strives to promote "HEAL" (Healthy Eating Active Living) to enhance opportunities to increase active living. The City has had a presence here since 1996, through new development and hangar renovations, and has developed a robust recreation facility for this community and all of Novato. The Bay Trail is a destination and a great amenity for local residents and visitors.

San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Update

Ann Buell and Galli Basson provided an overview of the San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Program, including major board themes such as safety, outreach, partnerships, publicity and local support.

Sea Level Rise and the Bay Trail

Maggie Wenger provided an overview of Adapting to Rising Tides (ART), addressing the future of Bay Area communities, infrastructure, ecosystems and economy. ART is focusing on the shoreline area between Emeryville and Union City, encompassing 74

miles of Bay Trail. There are three focus areas in the East Bay: 1) Bay Bridge touchdown; 2) Oakland/Alameda, Oakland airport area; and 3) Hayward shoreline, including part of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project. Wenger described the vulnerabilities of the Bay Trail as well as other land uses in this area. She emphasized the importance of connectivity in order for the Bay Trail to continue as a functional transportation corridor. The governance structure for Bay Trail is complex and maintenance is key for the regional functionality. A collective effort is necessary to address the impacts of sea level rise and preserve recreation and transportation areas. Several strategies have been put forward to preserve a high quality Bay Trail. 1) Traditional levee, at least 15-16 feet high, with Bay Trail on top; 2) Horizontal levees, shallow levees that preserve habitat on one side, not as high above developed area; and 3) Make room for the Bay, retreating inland to get out of the way of the bay and incorporating the Bay Trail along the new shoreline.

Wenger emphasized the importance of Bay Trail leaders participating in conversations about how to protect communities and preserve shoreline access, and to keep track of what is happening around the bay as jurisdiction make decisions.

Bay Trail Board Candidate

Thompson introduced Betsy Wilson, a project manager with the State Coastal Conservancy, as a candidate for board membership and a member of the Steering Committee. Wilson gave the board of directors an overview of her work and interest in serving the project.

ACTION: Huening moved, Bondurant seconded confirmation of Betsy Wilson as a member of the Bay Trail Board of Directors. The vote was approved unanimously.

Yes Votes:

Bruce Beyaert
Julie Bondurant
Ann Buell
Corinne DeBra
Leo DuBose
Jim Foran
Tom Huening

Bill Long
Judy Malamut
Pat Mapelli
Dave Mitchell
Rick Parmer
John Woodbury

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

Bay Trail staff presented Ann Buell with a gift and thanked her for four years of service to the Bay Trail Project as a Bay Trail Steering Committee member and as our project manager for the Conservancy grant program.

Walking Tour of the Hamilton Field Bay Trail

Arthur Bart Williams, CEO of Canogle, led a group of board members and staff on a walking tour of a portion of the Hamilton Bay Trail to showcase the new companion smartphone audio tour, developed by Canogle and Doug McConnell of Convergence Media.