

**San Francisco Bay Trail
Spring 2019 Board Meeting Minutes
Mersea Restaurant, Treasure Island
April 19, 2019**

Call to Order

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

Attendance

Board Members

John Woodbury, Chair
Julie Bondurant, Co-Chair
Brenda Buxton
Corinne DeBra
Leo DuBose
Jean Finney
Ellen Johnck
Ethan Lavine

Joe LaClair
Bill Long
Judy Malamut
Steve McAdam
Julia Miller
Rick Parmer
Antoinette Romeo
Don Weden

Guests

Shannon Fiala
Andrew Fremier
Shalini Kannan
Peter Lee
Mirian Saez
Leo's mom

BCDC
Bay Area Toll Authority
State Coastal Conservancy
Bay Area Toll Authority
Treasure Island Development Authority

Staff

Laura Thompson
Lee Huo
Maureen Gaffney
Ben Botkin

Bay Trail
Bay Trail
Bay Trail
Water Trail/Bay Trail

1. Call to Order / Introductions / Confirm Quorum

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

2. Adoption of Agenda and Approval of Minutes

ACTION: McAdam moved, Johnck seconded adoption of the agenda and the 06/14/18 minutes with one correction. The agenda and minutes were approved unanimously.

Yes Votes:

Board Members

John Woodbury, Chair
Julie Bondurant, Co-Chair
Brenda Buxton
Corinne DeBra
Leo DuBose
Jean Finney
Ellen Johnck
Ethan Lavine

Joe LaClair
Bill Long
Judy Malamut
Steve McAdam
Julia Miller
Rick Parmer
Antoinette Romeo
Don Weden

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

3. Announcements by Board Directors, Guests and Staff

Board Announcements

- DeBra Announced the completion of the reconstructed boardwalk at Lucy Evans Interpretive Center in the Palo Alto Baylands.

- Miller Updated the board on the Sunnyvale Bay Trail resurfacing financed by Google and the planned ribbon cutting on May 7, 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. at Sunnyvale Baylands Park. An email invitation has been sent. A section of the trail in Sunnyvale did not get resurfaced because of planned work related to the wastewater treatment plant expansion.

- Finney Caltrans District 4 is embarking on a Pedestrian Plan to improve safety and connectivity on state owned infrastructure, as a companion to the recently completed D4 Bike Plan. The first stakeholder meeting was held this month and there will be more opportunities for public input. She distributed a fact sheet about the plan.

- Johnck Announced that she is working with the developers of a biotech campus along Sierra Point in Brisbane that will include completion of a Bay Trail segment.

- Parmer Announced that he is planning a trekking trip in Nepal if anyone is interest in joining him.

- Long Announced that 2019 is also the Bay Area Ridge Trail's 30th anniversary year.

- Buxton Provided details about a Capital Corridor rail study in Alviso that proposes a rail realignment passing through the salt pond restoration project area and impacting proposed Bay Trail alignments.

-Romeo Commented on the same rail study noting that one of the proposed alignments goes through Alviso County Park, affecting the Bay Trail and Water Trail.

Staff Announcements

-Thompson Informed the board that the following members had stepped down: Karen Langdon, Cecily Harris, Ina Gerhard and Hanna Miller. Reported on a successful 30th anniversary launch event on March 8 to kick-off an exhibit of Kurt Schwabe's photographs that will be on view at the Metro Center lobby through September. Announced plans in the works for an upcoming NBC Bay Area Open Road with Doug McConnell episode entirely focused on the Bay Trail, made possible through the \$5,000 Bay Trail nonprofit and \$20,000 BATA sponsorships. Also working with Bay Nature on an 8-page summer issue supplement highlighting accomplishments and future openings. Funding update: Bay and Water Trail staff applying for Prop. 68 funds from the Coastal Conservancy, OBAG2 \$10 million Priority Conservation Area funding decisions will be made this summer/fall, Regional Measure 3 lawsuit has been dismissed, will hold tight for 60 days before decisions are made on \$150 million Bay Trail / Safe Routes to Transit. Finally, the May 9 Steering Committee need to be rescheduled because of Bike to Work Day.

-Huo Announced work with the Alameda County Transportation Commission on pedestrian crossing improvements near Hwy 80 and Gilman Street. Informed the board that a consultant has been hired to assist with 30th anniversary outreach in combination with Bike to Work Day through a social media campaign to improve our presence on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat. Activities and events are planned with a social media-oriented context that includes activities with prizes.

-Gaffney Announced that a Bay Trail map update is coming soon. Reminded the board about the planned Skaggs Island bike ride on May 18 with a chance to see this remote area and learn about the work that has been happening there. Bay Trail staff led 25 planners as part of the American Planning Association (APA) conference along the Bay Trail from Fisherman's Wharf across the Golden Gate Bridge to Sausalito, ferrying back to San Francisco. Also announced that the Highway 37 corridor public access study has started and design is progressing on a joint Bay Trail/Vine Trail segment in Vallejo.

-Botkin Informed the board that the Water Trail now has 45 official sites. He also led a Water Trail mobile workshop as part of the APA conference. Working with the Canoe Mobile program supporting their plans to expand into the Bay Area. Also noted that he filmed a video of his bike ride to the meeting from Richmond that will be posted on the website.

4. Big Plans for Treasure Island

Mirian Saez, Director of Island Operations for the Treasure Island Development Authority (TIDA) provided an update on development plans for the 365-acre Treasure Island, including Infrastructure work, geotechnical preparations, transportation, circulation, open space, and shoreline public access. The island served as a naval base until 1997 when TIDA was created to guide the transition. Master developers Wilson Meany + Lennar were selected and in 2011 environmental review was completed. This \$5 billion project will roll out in phases over 20 years, including 8,000 housing units. The master plan includes habitat restoration, elevation for sea level rise and 300 acres of open space. The Bay Trail will be constructed as a perimeter trail around the island as well as a board sailing and kayak launch, a large waterfront park and art installations.

5. BCDC Bay Plan Environmental Justice Policy Amendment Discussion

Shannon Fiala, Long Range Planning Manager with BCDC reviewed work currently underway to update the Bay Plan, which guides permitting decisions for BCDC, to include environmental justice policies. The last amendment added climate change policies about 8 years ago and now equity and social justice as well as fill for habitat is under consideration. The Commission will hold a public hearing on July 18 at the Metro Center. Focusing EJ + shoreline access, shoreline protection and mitigation.

Board comments included emphasizing the importance of connecting shoreline public access to the community, not just along the shoreline, allowing for cross-connection and use to avoid creating isolated areas. A suggestion was made to develop joint policies with shoreline jurisdictions to develop connections to the Bay Trail.

Board members emphasized the importance of free access to the Bay Trail, suggesting conditions on develop to require free access.

The importance of community involvement in shaping shoreline access areas was emphasized, suggesting a regional approach to encourage youth involvement in stewardship. Resilient by Design work could be built upon.

Perhaps someday in the future a Bay Trail ranger program will be in place to ensure the security and well-being of users.

6. MTC Planning Program & Bay Trail Nonprofit Funding Overview

Thompson provided an overview of the Regional Planning Program structure and funding needs as well as a review of the Bay Trail nonprofit budget.

Board comments included considering how to spend down the nonprofit balance, publicizing how it is spent and generating more dollars. Endowments and another golf tournament fundraiser were encouraged as well as soliciting donations through health care organizations. As social media awareness of the Bay Trail is activated, consider a PayPal button on the Bay Trail website for donation. Another mechanism to generate

funds is to identify the nonprofit as a charity in employer donation programs, which already occurs for major employers such as Apple and Google.

The board requested a discussion at a future Steering Committee meeting about the purpose and goals of the nonprofit funds.

7. Bay Trail Strategic Plan Update

Thompson reviewed the proposed Bay Trail staff updates and additions to the Bay Trail Strategic Plan. The board agreed that the existing objectives will continue to serve the program well, with the following comments emphasizing the goals already outlined in the plan:

activating private sector funding partnerships, such as Google (Objective 2c); participation in sea level rise discussions and decisions (Objective 3a), leveraging and strengthening creative partnerships with trail-related organizations, i.e. Columbia, Mtn. Hardware, and public agencies (Objective 4f); analyzing the economic benefits of the Bay Trail recognizing the challenge of identifying specific dollar amounts contributed to the local economy (Objective 3h); the need to better publicize our Bay Area trail system, citing a nationwide trail website in Switzerland, possibly through the creation of a Bay Area regional trail plan (Objective 3i and Objective 5all); and recognizing the challenge of not having the staff capacity to conduct robust promotion and outreach, instead focus on tasks with the most impact, consider additional staff and leverage other agency work (Objective 5b and Objective 6b).

The board moved forward with adoption of the Bay Trail Strategic Plan with staff revisions requesting an additional week to provide feedback.

ACTION: Malamut moved and Romeo seconded the motion to adopt the Bay Trail Strategic Plan as amended by staff with additional revisions incorporated by board members recorded at the meeting and received by email by April 26. The motion passed unanimously.

Yes Votes:

Board Members

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Ethan Lavine

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Don Weden

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

8. Bay Bridge West Span Pathway Update

Andrew Fremier, Bay Area Toll Authority, provided an overview and status update on the proposed pathway across the West Span of the Bay Bridge, emphasizing the importance of the pathway as part of the regional commute network, not just for recreation purposes. Preliminary engineering and design has been completed and now MTC/BATA is looking for capital funds to advance the project. Currently, they are seeking to secure \$180 million from a variety of funding sources, including RM3 Bay Trail / Safe Route to Transit, SB1 funds such as Active Transportation Program (ATP) Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (SCCP), County Transportation Agency funds, corporate dollars, crowdsourcing, etc. These funds would advance The Link in Oakland, from Mandela Parkway over railroad tracks to Gateway Park and engineering money for the remainder of the project, addressing existing connectivity and future links.

9. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Walk on the Bay Bridge East Span Pathway

Board members and Bay Trail staff enjoyed a walk along the Bay Bridge East Span pathway.