



City of Santa Barbara
Parks and Recreation Department

DATE: December 12, 2012

TO: Creeks Restoration/Water Quality Improvement Program
Citizen Advisory Committee

FROM: Cameron Benson, Creeks Restoration/Clean Water Manager

SUBJECT: **2013 SUBCOMMITTEES**

COMMITTEE DIRECTION – FOR ACTION

The purpose of this item is for the Committee to review the existing subcommittees, identify the need for, and interest in, subcommittees for 2013, and allow the Chair to appoint new and/or continuing members to those subcommittees. (Note: With a seven member Committee, subcommittee membership cannot exceed three members.) It is recommended that for 2013, the Committee maintain the Budget Subcommittee, create an Outreach and Education Subcommittee, and dissolve the Watershed Subcommittee.

DISCUSSION

Since its creation, the Creeks Advisory Committee has formed subcommittees to assist with the development of specific water quality improvement, education, and creek restoration projects and programs. With the exception of the budget subcommittee, the subcommittees are considered “ad hoc” because they are formed for a specific purpose and have a specific outcome and duration. Each year, Creeks Division staff and the Committee identify and determine the purpose of the subcommittee’s work for the year. The Budget Subcommittee is considered a “standing” subcommittee because it continues to exist from year to year. The Budget Subcommittee generally meets twice a year to review the proposed budget prior to Committee recommendations and City Council action.

Subcommittees provide Committee members with specific expertise or interests an opportunity to become more familiar and provide assistance with Creeks Division projects and programs. Participation in a subcommittee requires additional meetings during the work week. Each subcommittee meets with specific Creeks Division staff and meetings are held in public facilities. Subcommittee membership cannot exceed three Committee members due to the Brown Act.

Subcommittees and Members

Budget: The purpose of the Budget Subcommittee is to review and discuss the annual Creeks Division budget proposals prior to Committee consideration and recommendations to the City Council. This subcommittee currently meets two to three times per year. This subcommittee could also meet at mid-year if new budget appropriations are proposed. As a standing committee, meetings of this subcommittee are noticed in accordance with the Brown Act.

2012 Subcommittee Members: Paul Bullock, Betsy Weber, Lee Moldaver
Staff: Cameron Benson

Watersheds: The purpose of the Watersheds Subcommittee was to assist with the review and analysis of creek and ocean-related policies during the General Plan update process. That process concluded with the City Council's adoption of an updated General Plan.

2012 Subcommittee Members: Natasha Lohmus, Danielle DeSmeth, Vacant
Staff: Cameron Benson

Outreach & Education: The purpose of the Outreach and Education Subcommittee is to advise and assist with the follow-up public opinion survey, and subsequent modifications of the Creeks Division Public Education Plan.

2012 Committee Members: N/A
Staff: Cameron Benson, Liz Smith

Recommendation

For 2013, it is recommended that the Committee maintain the Budget Subcommittee to work on the fiscal year 2014 and 2015 budgets as described above, and that the Watershed Subcommittee be dissolved since its work on the General Plan update is complete. Moreover, since the Creeks Division will be conducting a water quality public opinion survey this year as required by the City's Storm Water Management Program, staff recommends creating an ad hoc Outreach & Education Subcommittee. Staff further recommends that the Creeks Advisory Committee Chair appoint Committee Members to serve on those subcommittees.

cc: Jill E. Zachary, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director