



**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
CREEKS RESTORATION/WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

REGULAR MEETING

January 18, 2012

DAVID GEBHARD PUBLIC MEETING ROOM, 630 Garden St.

CALL TO ORDER

Paul Bullock called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Committee members present: Chair Paul Bullock, Danielle De Smeth, Lee Moldaver, Betsy Weber, Stephen Macintosh, Natasha Lohmus, LeeAnne French

Committee members absent: none

Liaison members present: Planning Commissioner Michael Jordan

Liaison members absent: Parks and Recreation Commissioner Chris Casebeer

Staff present: Creeks Restoration/Clean Water Manager Cameron Benson, Creeks Administrative Specialist Jen Hollywood, Creeks Planner George Thomson, Creeks Water Resources Specialist Tim Burgess

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion:

Committee Members Moldaver/Weber to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 14, 2011.

Vote:

Voice vote 6/0

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one wished to speak.

COMMITTEE MEMBER AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Motion:

Committee Members Bullock/Lohmus to nominate Ms. Weber as Vice Chair.

Vote:

Voice vote 5/0 Weber abstain

Motion:

Committee Members Weber/Lohmus to nominate Mr. Bullock as Chair.

Vote:

Voice vote 5/0 Bullock abstain

7. BUSINESS ITEMS

Ms. French arrived at 5:45

a. Storm Water Treatment Retrofit Project Grant Proposal

Recommendation:

That the Committee receive a presentation and recommend Creeks Division staff apply for grant funding for a Storm Water Treatment Retrofit Project.

Documents:

Staff Report 01/18/2012

Speakers:

Tim Burgess, Creeks Water Resources Specialist

Committee Questions/Discussion:

Committee members asked questions regarding whether the potential parking lots were already in need of repair, how many sites were considered; and, the criteria for selecting potential lots for projects.

Mr. Burgess reported that none of the potential lots are scheduled for replacement but they are in a regular 5 year maintenance cycle. Installing the pavers will eliminate the need for this maintenance cycle, that 2 to 3 dozen lots within the city were considered and that list was narrowed down by criteria such as slope, visibility, size, depth to groundwater, and that it not drain to the ocean per the grant guidelines.

Motion:

Committee members Moldaver/MacIntosh to approve the 2012 Regular Meeting Schedule.

Vote:

Voice Vote 5/0 French abstain

b. Upper Las Positas Creek Restoration and Storm Water Management Project

Recommendation:

That the Committee receive an update and discuss the Upper Las Positas Creek Restoration and Storm Water Management Project.

Speakers:

George Thomson, Creeks Planner

Committee Questions/Discussion:

Committee members asked questions regarding mosquito control measures, affect on the downstream ecosystem, depth of accumulated sediment, affect of gambusia introduction on tadpoles and other species, benefit in regard to water draining into Arroyo Burro creek; and, whether Earl Warren Showground representatives have been contacted regarding water quality improvements.

Mr. Thomson reported that drainage pools are routinely checked for mosquito larvae and gambusia (mosquito fish) and biological controls are used in the pools help to control potential mosquito issues, no comprehensive monitoring has been done of the downstream ecosystem however before the project all water ended up in the creek within minutes, not much sediment has accumulated but access points were designed into the project to allow for future excavations if necessary, that gamusia were not introduced by the Creeks Division as part of the project but were rather discovered in the pools during research, that currently a 2 inch storm is 100% contained in the pools and that as winter progresses and the basins fill up it will determine the volume that flows into the creek; and, that although there is a working relationship with the Showgrounds and they have taken some measures to improve their runoff the current focus of the Creeks Division has been on the other side of Highway 101.

c. Mason Street Bridge Replacement Project Liaison Report

Recommendation:

That the Committee receive a report and discuss the Mason Street Bridge Replacement Project.

Speakers:

LeeAnne French and Lee Moldaver, Advisory Committee Liaisons

Committee Questions/Discussion:

Committee members asked questions regarding the benefit of removing the abandoned pipeline, the size of the trees required in mitigation, the replacement ratio if the affected Sycamore was removed; and, the spacing of the openings and the height of the bridge railings.

Mr. Benson reported that if the outfall of the storm drain is moved and the pipeline removed there is opportunity for more sloped banks on the upstream side of the bridge, that 15 gallon sized trees were recommended by the landscape architect with the possibility of propagating saplings from the existing Sycamore, that the size of the openings in the railings is approximately 4 inches and the height is approximately 4 feet.

Mr. Moldaver left at 6:54

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

Committee members Bullock/DeSmeth to adjourn.

Mr. Bullock adjourned the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cameron Benson
Creeks Restoration/Clean Water Manager