

Sacramento Area Creeks Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 18, 2010

1. Call to order, review agenda: Present were Alta Tura, Peter Tucker, Chad Rinde, Darlene Eaton, Betty Cooper, Jane Steele, Frank Wallace, Steve Mayer, Bill Templin, Eric Berntsen, Sarah Ross, Bonnie Ross. Introductions were made to Darlene.

2. Treasurer's report: Chad is working to implement a method to reconcile bank statement with records, hope to have all resolved by next board meeting; also working to get access to online banking. Current statement shows most expense from newsletter and there are donations that came in that are not reflected on the report. We are getting a post office box business mail because Jane is retiring and there is no guarantee that our partnership with Arcade Creek Parks and Recreation will continue. Tax forms are also in process.

3. Old Business

Newsletter: Lia was not present but she is requesting a call for volunteers for the next newsletter. She also asked how we will get email addresses for an electronic newsletter. Peter suggested a service, but requests will have to wait for the next newsletter. We also have an existing database. We will hold off on requesting email addresses until we know how we will handle the lists. Lia would like to do a graphic on how we spend our money, ie: Creek Week, newsletter, administration, office expenses, education, outreach, grants. It was decided that Chad would make a chart based on IRS categories and email to the group for review, then send to Lia.

SRCS D permit renewal: Alta decided that a neutral position would be best and to stay under the radar. She did not write the letter because she thought we should have more information.

Everyone is invited to the CW planning meetings, the next meeting will be 11/18 at 7:30 am.

Subcommittee reports:

- a) Water quality monitoring: Bill (chair) said the online database is working pretty well; you can click on a map and get more information, there are many sites in the Sacramento area.
- b) Website –Peter (chair) contacted Bob Buckley to see if a CSUS student would be interested in helping with the website, but got no answer. Peter is looking for a website developer/designer. Betty will find out who did ARNHA's. Peter will also check with Sac City College, Frank will contact the CSUS environmental organization.
- c) In the next few months we need to set up structure for our committees.
- d) SRCS D partnership starting slowly and will be limited because they must have one of their employees supervise.

- e) Arcade Creek Invasive Plant Removal Grant: Frank reported on the arundo and sesbania removal project with City of Sacramento and Jones and Stokes; 90 clusters to be removed, almost all on private property or access challenged. A team of Americorp workers will be helping. It's an extremely short-term grant so it will be tiring and difficult.

Working Session 7:10

Identified volunteer roles: staffing exhibit, dip kit loans to teachers, website, maintaining contact list (data entry), Dipping In To Creeks programs (would have to be promoted).

Darlene suggested Scouts could be a resource and also a prospect for our education program use.

Frank suggested that we need volunteer coordinators for different programs such as water quality monitoring.

Steve suggested a stewardship program like Adopt a Creek, where volunteers take an active role in stewardship of a specific section of creek. There is an old program that could be looked at and revamped. He also suggested: newsletter article writing; grant writing

Eric suggested a volunteer landscaping group for creek friendly landscaping and demonstration gardens. He volunteered his landscape contracting skills to help with the program. He cited the garden assistance program done by other organizations.

Betty suggested that we need to have a volunteer that is in charge of making sure that the things we have already started doing get done more regularly and efficiently, like an education coordinator or outreach coordinator.

Chad suggested that the email list should be gotten up and running so we can recruit the volunteers to head the committees; he then volunteered to do the data entry work to get the list going.

Alta suggested for the list in the newsletter we would proceed with looking for groups for the Adopt a Creek idea but Chad suggested we need to be prepared with information and support and coordination. Eric will proceed with the Creek Friendly Garden program.

Betty suggested that we need to start with a volunteer coordinator and Darlene suggested that she might be interested in doing this once there is more clarification of the jobs available, etc.

Alta feels that the website needs to be worked on as well.

The group decided we would focus on the Adopt-A-Creek idea (Jane, Bonnie), Garden project (Eric), website (Bill & Peter).

Respectfully submitted by Betty Cooper, Secretary