

Sacramento Area Creeks Council
Monday, October 21, 2013
Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

1. Meeting called to order by Alta at 6:40

Board members present: Alta Tura, Bonnie Ross, Chad Rinde, Ed Clark, Peter Tucker, Sarah Ross-Arrouzet, Steve Mayer

Guests: Gregg Bates of Dry Creek Conservancy and John Williams, City of Roseville Adopt-A-Creek.

2. Minutes from September 16, 2013 approved

3. Treasurer's report – Chad reports available cash balance of \$48,663.83. A financial statement will be needed as part of the Rose Foundation grant application (deadline 11-1-2013)

Special Adopt A Creek/Regional Watershed Effort presentation and discussion –

Gregg Bates and John Williams. John gave an overview of the Roseville Adopt-A-Creek program started in April 2011. It covers all creek reaches for the Dry Creek and Pleasant Grove Creek watersheds in the City of Roseville (approximately .5 miles of both sides of each creek). Adopters sign up for one year with a 2 project minimum.

Projects can be: trash cleanup, invasive plant eradication, native plantings, seeding, bank stabilization, bird houses, habitat enhancement, curriculum or monitoring.

10 day notice is required for the City to approve projects (MOU & permitting). The program has a State Fish & Wildlife MOU for 1601 permit. The MOU covers a 200 foot bank stabilization project.

Right of entry/Hold Harmless Agreement, Insurance Certification and an Application are required.

There are currently 14 adopters which include environmental non-profits and corporations, neighborhood associations and some local businesses. Over 50% of the Dry Creek watershed reaches have been adopted. Currently pursuing partnerships with schools and businesses using water quality monitoring grants to, for example, restore and study the Maidu Park fire site. John is also doing CRAM and getting a collection permit for macro invertebrates.

Roseville's Open Space Department manages 4,000 acres of land and is a heavy lifting partner on restoration projects (chippers, backhoes, etc.)

The City benefits from the program because it satisfies NPDES requirements, has a strong public outreach component, etc.

There are no good models of existing programs that John is aware of.

Roseville's model differs from Sacramento County in several ways. The County contains various municipal jurisdictions; streams and their banks/corridors are not managed by an open space entity but various flood control entities and park districts.

Sacramento County creeks contain plenty of invasive plants that could serve as Adopt A Creek projects. Red sesbania may be too entrenched a problem on some creeks for volunteers to tackle. City of Rancho Cordova will be taking over from the County in managing its own stormwater quality program, so this could be an Adopt A Creek opportunity.

Dry Creek Conservancy is planning a business start-up that could receive grants and fees for services provided. This could be the beginnings of a regional watershed group of which SACC might be a part.

4. Old Business & Committee Reports

- a. Creek Week Report. Next planning meeting is November 21. Although we do not have a co-chair, committee members are taking the load off of Alta and the chunking process is in motion. Be sure to like us at www.facebook.com/CreekWeek.Sac Bill is trying to get

- more volunteers interested in WQ monitoring on April 12. Creeks recommended to Bill: Antelope's Sierra Creek restoration site, Arcade Creek at Garfield/ARC/Auburn Blvd. To increase our effectiveness at publicizing Creek Week, Alta, Susan Roberts and Jamie Cameron-Harley attended a Rose Foundation convening on messaging October 11.
- b. Hydromodification Plan for Sacramento Region – No updates. Alta will check with Gen Sparks at WRCB.
 - c. South Sacramento HCP update – Review of the draft chapters by the agencies and environmental advocates continues.
 - d. Friends of Dry Creek Parkway update – The group had a September 22 work party. They will resume red sesbania removal in the late spring/early summer.
 - e. Citrus Heights Creek Corridor Trail Project – See <http://www.citrusheights.net/home/index.asp?page=1570> Alta attended a Trail Advisory Group field trip to Folsom http://www.citrusheights.net/docs/citrus_heights_tag_field_trip_2_summary_9.11.13.pdf Alta commented on the Background Analyses Summary Report at the October 2 TAG meeting. The TAG will meet one more time in December. It is anticipated that there will be a community outreach meeting in January and that the feasibility plan will go to City Council in February/March. Although there is a real need for a connected trail system in Citrus Heights, unavoidable impacts to the creek ecosystem will occur.
 - f. Antelope Sierra Creek restoration area update – Ed & Alta. Acorn planting, etc on November 14 or 21.
 - g. Cruise the Creek report – Next event will be November 16 from noon until 2:00. SACC, as a partner, will provide liability coverage and refreshments. Because of the colder temperatures and likely low diversity of creek critters, Bonnie will not do wetland invertebrate sampling and identification this time. We will advertize on our Facebook page and Alta will send an eblast to our Elk Grove email list.
 - h. Fall clean-ups – SACC provided equipment and helped to publicize two clean-ups. The Delta Conservancy organized a clean-up at lower Morrison Creek at the Bufferlands and Laguna Creek Watershed Council led a clean-up of Laguna Creek. Photos on our Facebook Page.
 - i. Exhibit – Alta and Ed set up and helped man the exhibit at the October 6 Nature Fest. Mira Loma shared our space and the students ran our exhibit. SACC was a sponsor of this very successful event.
 - j. Plan for recruiting new SACC president – Alta did not send a Constant Contact newsletter inviting all on our mailing list to become more involved in SACC. After meeting with Jamie and Susan, Alta proposes a more targeted search for new board members with a strategic message. This should be developed for use by the nominating committee which will be activated in November. Mailing list must be updated before the email newsletter goes out. We also need to review & prioritize our scope of work and consider what work might be jettisoned.

Sub-committee reports – None for this month

5. Business Items 6:45– 7:00

- a) Tim Vendlinski is organizing a November 2 grasslands planting at Arcade Creek east & west of Watt Avenue along Longview Drive. SACC offers support for this activity. We will lend needed tools and equipment and some refreshments for volunteers.
- b) Board member recruitment – We agree to work on strategic messaging. Branding SACC with an authentic story that will hook prospective board members on an emotional level. Emphasize our values over program features. Make the message positive using vibrant and visionary vocabulary while being brief and precise. Ask for one action. (Attend the next board meeting, attend the next Creek Week planning meeting or meet with Alta to learn more) The group agrees the following is a good opening for script: “A loyal board and planning committee have been working for 24 years to make Creek Week one of our region’s premier volunteer stewardship events. Several members are preparing to retire over the next few years. We seek new leaders who want to sustain Creek Week’s success and shape its future.” Bonnie will check with some CNPS members to see if there is any interest. Other potential board members: KC Sorgen, Roger Jones, Mary Maret, Sarah (SAFCA intern), Susan Roberts, Christy Probst and other Creek Week committee members.

6. Next Board Meeting Date – Monday, November 18, 2013 at 6:30.

7. Adjournment (8:00)