

**Sacramento Area Creeks Council**  
**Monday, January 24, 2011**  
**Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes**

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1. Call to order, Review agenda & minutes (6:41) Present: Alta Tura, Frank Wallace, Jane Steele, Betty Cooper, Peter Tucker, Janette Bowker, member and prospective volunteer Ed Clark, Mira Loma students Donna Davami and Vrinda Agarwal, Steve Mayer, Bill Templin.

2. Approve minutes from previous meeting- December 20, 2010: approved as submitted

3. Treasurer's report – More money has come in since the report was written, including money for the arundo removal. Chad was not present.

**4. Old Business 6:47 – 7:00**

- a) Newsletter –Article deadline is Feb. 15. Lia couldn't be here. Alta wondered if we should warn people that this will be the last print newsletter unless people notify otherwise, since we will go to electronic delivery soon. Peter and Alta will work on an article describing this and Peter will be contacting the members also for emails. The Creek Week brochure and bookmark will be inside the next newsletter. We won't be able to talk about Adopt-A-Creek because not enough work has been done on it yet. Frank will do an Arcade Creek Invasive Plant Removal update. Jane will follow up with the people on the AAC committee.
- b) Creek Week – Next planning meeting is Thursday, Feb 10, 7:30 am, everyone is invited. Sponsor money may be a little less than last year, but there shouldn't be any major cuts.
- d) Sub-committee reports:
  - Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring – Bill has been working with Anne Littlejohn on the map, which was emailed to members before this meeting. He noted that the number of sites being monitored has grown in the last few months and that these are all professional monitoring efforts mostly as a requirement of permits. His hope is to have a link from our website showing where data is being collected. Perhaps eventually the monitoring information from some volunteer groups could be made available. There is an effort to get the professional data submitted digitally, which could also help to provide more details. Vrinda asked Bill if he could come to the school to talk about this assessment work. He agreed and also suggested that Anne Littlejohn might be interested in talking about how the database is set up. He said there is no process for learning whether it is healthy for people to be entering creeks to do clean-ups.
  - Web site – Janette has incorporated most of the input to the Creek Week site and everyone has agreed that it is beautiful and everyone loves it. Peter reported that the Creek Week site has priority and the hope is to make it live by February. The rest of the site will be done after that is ready. Frank suggested that he could provide some volunteer opportunities for posting on the website and Peter suggested that a meet-up site could be used for this as well. Frank complimented Mira Loma's website for their creek study work and suggested how Mira Loma might help with Creek Week. The photo gallery link on the current site goes to the Flickr Gallery that Peter had set up. Now that the design is finalized Janette will start on the other pages. There will be slide shows at the top of each page; we might possibly change them quarterly. The Mira Loma tech team will give some feedback as well and send photos. Janette invited everyone to send photos. Janette asked where we were on the CW activities and Alta said they are all scheduled but she is waiting for specific descriptions for a couple of them. Alta is also

working on the sponsor list. Peter will contact sponsors for logos. Janette said she will organize the photos better after the website is done and Vrinda suggested we check out Photo Bucket, which Peter will do.

- Arcade Creek Invasive Plant Removal Grant – Reimbursement check has been received from Jones & Stokes for the first of 2 invoices we submitted. Frank will defer most of his reimbursement so that the 2 student leaders and herbicide applicator can be paid. Frank will check with Jones & Stokes on the progress being made with our 2nd and final invoice. Frank reported the background of the project for those who haven't been here before. He said he will pay off the cost of the 8-9 dumpsters which have been charged to a credit card. He was thanked by Alta for all his hard work on the project.
- Habitat 2020 – Co-chairs for 2011 are Rob Burness and Sean Wirth. Member organizations are asked to make their yearly contribution of \$500. A letter will be sent shortly and we will decide then whether or not to make the contributions.
- Hydromodification Management Plan – Alta passed out copies of the plan. The cities and County have decided to press forward with their plan despite concerns raised by the watershed groups, especially in areas like Citrus Heights. The concern is that too many new developments would be exempt from the hydromodification regulation. She explained that watershed groups do not want direct piping into creeks because it causes erosion; a plan that includes a holding basin before release into creeks is the best prevention. Discussions will continue.

#### **5. New Business 7:00 – 7:15**

- a) Resolution for SACC to be fiscal agent for \$2,000 Weed Management Area Steelhead Creek Project to be managed by Frank Wallace. Frank will manage approximately 10 volunteer work groups in red sesbania removal this spring. As fiscal agent, SACC will retain 5% of the \$2,000 grant. Jane moved we support this project and act as fiscal agent, Steve Mayer second, approved by a vote (F. Wallace abstained).

#### **6. Working Session: Adopt-A-Creek 7:15 to 8:00**

Most of the group hadn't done their work and were not present. Steve was present and said he had done some work to report. He and Jane decided to discuss his work at a committee meeting rather than try to present it tonight. A meeting will be held on Thursday at Jane's house. Steve noted that most of these types of programs across the country are web based and asked when we might be able to have this information on our website. We can state in the newsletter that this program is being developed since more specific information won't be ready yet. Frank talked about the way we can lead volunteers for this program. He also mentioned the difficulties in having such a broad geographic area with such diversity (urban, riparian woods, agricultural, etc.) Alta has got the suggestion from Gregg Bates (Dry Creek Conservancy) that there might be educational money from the County for a coordinator and she invited anyone to follow up on investigating this.

Additional discussion: Ed said that he felt it was important to remind people when their membership comes due. Alta suggested that part of the problem is that we don't have a membership chairman and invited Ed to do so. He said maybe after July 1<sup>st</sup>. He asked some questions as to where we get our funding and was impressed at how much is donations that go directly to the activities of the group rather than administrative costs. Alta noted that we are not a membership organization, so we don't have to hold annual meetings, have members vote on the bylaws or elect board members.

Vrinda said that she could do some additional outreach to Girl Scout groups for Creek Week volunteering and Adopt-A-Creek volunteering.

**6. Next Board Meeting Date – Monday, February 28 at 6:30.** (February 21 is a holiday.)

**7. Adjournment (7:54)**