

**Sacramento Area Creeks Council  
Monday, September 16, 2013  
Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes**

**1. Meeting call to order by Alta at 6:40**

Board members present: Alta Tura, Bonnie Ross, Ed Clark, Sarah Ross, Steve Mayer  
Guest: Gregg Bates of Dry Creek Conservancy

**2. Minutes from June 17, 2013 and July 22, 2013 meetings were approved**

**3. Treasurer's report - No report, Chad is not present. Alta reports some office supply expenditures.**

**4. Old Business & Committee Reports**

**Antelope Tree planting and maintenance** – Activity on Thursday, October 17.

Gregg Bates has presented a yearly progress report to the County with notification of the October activity.

**Creek Week** – First planning meeting is Thursday, September 19

**Sub-committee reports – None for this month**

**5. Business Items 6:45– 7:00**

- a) **Fall cleanups** – Formalize our partnership with Delta Conservancy and Laguna Creek Watershed Council. Equipment loans and purchases. Motion by Ed Clark, 2 by Sarah Ross approved 4 -0: SACC is a partner with Delta Conservancy and Laguna Creek Watershed Council for the September Coastal Clean-up activities. As a partner, SACC will loan and purchase needed supplies and services to help support these Sacramento County waterway cleanups.
- b) **NatureFest** –Help needed with SACC exhibit at the Nature Center on Sunday, October 6 Event runs from 10 until 3 <http://www.sacnaturecenter.net/nf2013.html> Alta will set up the exhibit. Ed and Bonnie will help. SACC is an event sponsor.
- c) **Cruise the (Laguna) Creek** is Saturday, November 16 Time TBD - Approve SACC as a partner. All agree to continue our partnership with Laguna Creek watershed Council for this twice-yearly bicycle tour of Laguna Creek. Bonnie will do aquatic insect station again if the conditions are good for it.

**Remainder of meeting devoted to discussion led by Gregg Bates regarding Adopt A Creek program proposal. See notes in italics on Gregg's outline below.**

**6. Next Board Meeting Date – Monday, October 21, 2013 at 6:30.** Guests: Gregg Bates & John Williams.

**7. Adjournment (7:50)**

## Regional Adopt-a-Creek Proposal

SACC September 16, 2013 *Discussion notes are in italics*

A loosely knit *regional* collaboration of local efforts joined together *using economies of scale* for

- Cleanups
- Invasive removal
  - *Sesbania – Various efforts (volunteer and governmental) scattered around the region with little or no coordination. Other invasive plants could be targeted by these volunteer groups, and efforts could be coordinated/better organized to strategically address the problem.*
- Creek restoration
  - *Erosion management –Erosion is recognized as a serious and widespread condition through-out the urbanized stream systems of the Sacramento region. A comprehensive program would allow for experienced staff to manage multiple projects. Collaboration could include using City/County equipment and crews to recontour banks.*
  - *Revegetation – The Antelope planting project along Sierra Creek is an example of how collaboration can work.*

*The City of Roseville Adopt A Creek, as it is being run by John Williams, could serve as a base model for the regional collaboration. Volunteer groups and projects could be folded into Creek Week, beefing up the event while streamlining the planning.*

Benefits -

- Mutual planning
  - *Permitting – Roseville has been able to more easily accomplish restoration and erosion control projects due to stream maintenance agreement with State FWS that allows more leeway*
  - Project organization
- Mutual fundraising
  - *Marketing - An organization serving a defined region (e.g. greater Sacramento) and having a more inclusive environmental vision will be able to demonstrate significant impact on the region and will be more attractive to donors &partners.*
- Sharing technical resources

Funding for sustainable organizations and programs – *We only touched on funding sources. This discussion will continue at our next board meeting.*

- Government grants
- Fee for service
  - Stormwater permits - Provide service to both regulators and regulated communities
  - Landscaping retrofits
  - Park and OS management
- Bequests
- Foundation grants
- Government partnerships
- Restitution funds (fines)
- Business partnerships
- Other donations

*See next page*

Maintain a staff

- Director - fulltime
- Field manager - fulltime
- Admin support – half time

Vision - Recognize urban areas as systems. *Gregg and John are invited to our next board meeting to discuss this vision.*

- Define sustainability as the goal of meeting current human needs while conserving natural life support systems
- Ask how we can develop sustainable urban systems that provide healthy, safe and affordable environments for residents of the Sacramento metropolitan area?
- Move beyond analyses devoted to single disciplines and sectors to systems-level thinking and effective interagency cooperation.

*Other suggestions coming from our discussion:*

- *Formation of a steering committee to work in earnest on this proposal*
- *Use of prison labor that will be more available as a result of prison realignment*
- *Make a list of potential organizations that would benefit and might want to be a part of this new umbrella group*
- *Flesh out the services this group might provide and types of in-kind service donations that might be contributed*