

SANTA MONICA BAY RESTORATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF
THE GOVERNING BOARD

June 19th, 2008
Del Rey Yacht Club

1. Welcome and Introductions

At 9:30 AM, Chair Richard Bloom called the meeting to order. Introductions followed.

2. Approval of the April 17th, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Mark Gold moved to approve minutes. Meeting minutes approved unanimously.

3. Order of Agenda

Adjustments: Move Item 9.1, Election to fill Governing Board vacancies, between Items 6 and 7.
Strike Item 9.2. Approved without objection.

4. Reports from the Chair and Executive Committee

The Executive Committee Chair, Laurie Newman announced the formation a sub-committee within the Executive Committee, with two members: Laurie Newman and Mark Gold. The new sub-committee reviewed the performance of the Director of the SMBRC, Shelley Luce, for the past three years. After discussing the performance evaluation with Shelley and the Executive Committee, Shelley was awarded a raise. From now on, Shelley will be evaluated every year, before the end of the fiscal year, July 1st, and be issued a 3% cost of living raise. There is no change to the budget.

5. Reports from the Technical Advisory Committee

The TAC Chair, Richard Ambrose, discussed the last TAC Meeting on. He announced the TAC was reduced in size, which allowed for more progress to be done. The topic of the last TAC Meeting focused on helping develop the State of the Bay report. The TAC will work on the overall structure of the report, content, and indicators. The TAC has started the process for how to select the indicators and want to structure the report around a restoration/water quality plan, with consideration of natural resources and benefits/values to humans, using stories to illustrate the general theme.

Another topic covered was the Prop 84, Clean Beaches Initiative Grant proposals. TAC will be involved in approving the Grants that come through the SMBRC. The State Water Resources Control Board created a resolution to appoint members of the SMBRC when using the TAC to provide technical advice on the grant proposals.

Mark Gold proposed holding a Governing Board retreat.

The TAC identified a need to add a new member from the socio economist field to committee, but has not identified a new member yet. The TAC plans to select the new member before the next Governing Board meeting, at which time the Governing Board members could approve the newly appointed member.

Ambrose briefly discussed the progress of the MTAC, the sub-committee formed from the TAC. The MTAC is concerned with the Marine Life Protection act and identifies the net worth of MPAs. The MTAC was originally formed to anticipate, gather, and distinguish between the required and existing data to best classify MPAs in the Santa Monica Bay.

Mark Gold mentioned the agenda of the next Governing Board meeting, where there will be the creation of a new TAC, populated by MTAC members and members of the stakeholder advisory group. The

Governing Board will nominate Lia Protopapadakis as the SMBRC member sitting on the Regional Advisory Board.

6. Reports from the Executive Director and Staff

Executive Director Shelley Luce discussed working with the City of LA to put together a grant proposal for the West Coast Estuary Initiative. The SMBRC requests \$1.0 million for the Grand Canal restoration (due by August 2008) in Marina Del Rey. The Boater Education program was given a grant which funds two full time employees who survey Southern California vessel sewage pump out stations.

More progress has been completed by the Army Core of Engineers, who researches the Malibu Creek Feasibility Study (Rindge Dam). Luce reports that progress over the last month has increased greatly, where the project manager has arranged to meet with the TAC every 2-3 weeks, and the final report could be ready by next year.

SMBRC has moved to LMU offices and plans to host a welcome party within the next month (invitation to follow).

Scott Valor distributed the new Governing Board rosters.

7. Election to fill Governing Board Vacancies

Valor discussed the need to replace former Governing Board member, Jeff Jennings, who is no longer major or council member of a Malibu Creek watershed city. Valor read a letter from the Las Virgenes Malibu Council of Governments to nominate Andy Stern, representing the City of Malibu.

Motion Washburn, second Cagle to elect Stern to the Governing Board. Motion carried without objection.

Valor then read a letter from Andy Stern that noted Jeff Jennings and Barbara Cameron as his alternates. As Jeff Jennings was present and Stern was not, Jennings was invited to be seated among the Governing Board members to participate in the remainder of the meeting.

8. Consideration of Approval of FY 2008-2009 Budget Ammendments

Luce requested a budget adjustment as a result of \$35,000 surplus funds. Luce requests to move funds to support Special Projects. These funds will be used to host Governing Board meetings, travel expenses, and SMBRC guests. Motion by Dennis Washburn. Second by Mark Pestrella. Approved unanimously.

9. Consideration of Approval of up to \$60,000 from the Santa Monica Bay Habitat Restoration and Enhancement fund to Support the Bight 08 Regional Survey of Subtidal Rocky Reef Resources.

Luce discussed the \$1 million in data collection efforts to research MPAs in Southern California. Luce request to award the survey \$60,000 to research reefs in the Santa Monica Bay that were not selected in the random selection process of the Bight 08 report. Motion by Dennis Washburn. Second by Jeff Jennings. Approved unanimously.

10. Presentation of Dominguez Gap Multi-Use Benefit Project

Mark Pestrella announced the ribbon cutting of Dominguez wetlands by the Flood Control District. Pestrella also discussed examples of projects going on for the Flood Control District.

11. Public Comments and announcements regarding matters not on the agenda

Gary Ost announced the Clean Water Front Redondo Outreach Event. The Water Quality Task Force, started by the City of Redondo Beach, recommended the organizing of educational events for the public about the water quality issues in Redondo Beach. A public outreach event is scheduled for October 11th, 2008.

Dan Murphy, LA County Fire Department, Lifeguard Division, announced the arrival of Ford Hybrid Vehicles which replaced gas powered Nissan Trucks. The agency has noticed an improvement in mileage by 60%.

12. Announcement of next meeting date

The next Governing Board meeting will be held on August 21, 2008.

13. Adjournment

The Governing Board meeting was adjourned at 11:26 am.

Attendance:

Voting Members of the Governing Board:

Richard Bloom, City of Santa Monica (SMBRC Chair)
Fran Diamond, California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles
Alex Fay, Councilmember, LA City Council District 11 (for Bill Rosendahl)
Mark Abramson, Santa Monica Baykeeper, for Tom Ford
Mark Gold, Heal the Bay
Susan Nissman, Office of Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, 3rd District
Marvin H. Sachse, Brash Industries
Mary Small, CA Coastal Conservancy
Dennis Washburn, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Paul Backstrom, for Jack Weiss, City of LA/ President of the Bay Watershed Council
Steve Maguin, LA County Sanitation District
Daniel Murphy, LA County Fire Department, Lifeguard Division
Mark Pestrella, LA County Department of Public Works
Chris Cagle, City of Redondo Beach, for Mike Gin
Jeff Jennings, City of Malibu, for Andy Stern

Non-Voting Members of the Governing Board:

Richard Ambrose, UCLA, Chair of the Technical Advisory Committee
Charles Caspary, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Laurie Newman (for Senator Sheila Kuehl), CA State Senate, 23rd District
Louise Rishoff (for Assembly Member Julia Brownley), State Assembly, 41st District
Catherine Tyrrell, Malcolm Perrie

Commission Staff:

Sean Bergquist
Shelley Luce
Joel Hanson
Grace Lee
Jack Topel
Scott Valor
Guangyu Wang

Other Attendees, including other Bay Watershed Council Members:

Dean Kubani, City of Santa Monica
Fiona Nague, Reef Check CA
Gary Ohst, Clean Waterfront Redondo
Robin Hull, RCD SMM
Dan Pondella, Occidental College
Wing Tam, City of LA Public Works
Bryant Chesney, NOAA-NMFS Southwest Division
John Dorsey, Loyola Marymount University