

SANTA MONICA BAY RESTORATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF
THE GOVERNING BOARD

February 18th, 2010
Del Rey Yacht Club

1. Welcome and Introductions

At 9:47 AM, Chair Richard Bloom called the meeting to order. Introductions followed.

2. Approval of the December 17th, 2009 Meeting Minutes

The December meeting minutes were approved unanimously. (M: Zaldivar, S: Gold)

3. Order of Agenda

No changes.

4. Reports from the Chair and Executive Committee

Bloom discussed the last EC meeting (January 21st, 2010) and the State of the Bay Conference, specifically what the SMBRC can do to improve for the next conference in 2015. Gold commented on SMBRC's involvement with a program to educate the public of the hazards of consuming local fish contaminated with DDT & PCBs. The EPA awarded five national environmental justice awards, two of which were awarded to this program. Recognition was given to SMBRC staff, Guangyu Wang, for his continuing commitment to the progress of this education program.

5. Report from the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Shelley Luce, Executive Director, presented in the absence of Rich Ambrose, the TAC chair. Luce discussed the progress of the TAC. The State of the Bay report (2010) and conference is finished but the TAC is starting work on the next State of the Bay report (2015). The TAC will work on the data collection and methods for the next five years for the 2015 State of the Bay report. The MTAC subcommittee is starting work on monitoring planning of the marine protected areas that are established in Southern California.

John Sibert complimented SMBRF staff on the work completed to establish marine protected areas in Southern California. Sibert questioned whether the Department of Fish & Game would hinder the process of creating protected areas in Southern California. Gold commented that attending the Fish & Game Commission meetings between now and the final vote would be the best strategy.

6. Reports from the Executive Director and Staff

Luce distributed copies of the SMBRF/C Annual Report to all Governing Board Members. It lists financial figures, projects completed, and new projects to come. In addition, *Urban Coast*, our first scientific journal, was featured as well as educational programs such as Honey Pot Day by the Boater Education Program. Luce explained that next week she will travel to Washington DC to meet with the Nation's National Estuary Program Executive Directors to discuss the progress of our Commission. In addition, Luce will try to bring more federal stimulus funding to our region and watershed.

Luce also discussed acquisition of \$2.3 million in federal stimulus funding which was used to implement a pollution prevention program in Culver City. The program includes the installation of rain gardens in various Ballona Creek banks in Culver City. Luce thanked Mark Pestrella, LA County Department of Public Works, for approval of permits, and Mark Ridley-Thomas and the City of Culver City for helping with the project. She also thanked Mark Abramson for starting the project and enabling us to break ground in December 2009. In one year GB members will be invited to take a tour of the project to review its progress.

Lastly, Luce commented on the Commission's first state audit on our financial portfolio. The Commission completed the audit with no recommendations to adjust policies. Marvin Sachse commented on the success of the audit.

Scott Valor, Director of Government Affairs, distributed the sign-in sheet, and requested members make necessary changes to contact information. Valor also announced that GB members should be aware that next week a Form 700 memorandum will be distributed and that all voting and non-voting members and their alternates need to fill out this form by April 1.

7. Election of Governing Board Chair and Six Vice-Chairs

Valor announced the consideration of Richard Bloom to serve as GB Chair. Approved unanimously. (M: Nissman, S: Gold)

Valor announced the consideration of election of six Vice-Chair nominees: Fran Diamond, Tom Ford, Mike Gin, Mark Gold, Senator Pavley, and Mark Pestrella. Approved unanimously. (M: Caspary, S: Bloom)

The chair serves a two-year term and the vice-chairs serve one-year terms. There are no term limits for these positions. All seven of these members comprise the Executive Committee.

8. Consideration of Approval of 2009-2010 Work Plan Amendments

Luce requested approval by the Governing Board of the proposed Work Plan Amendments of the SMBRC. The SMBRC prepares objectives, tasks, funding sources, and resource allocations for the work to be performed. The annual work plan is also used by US EPA to track our expenditures of the Federal Section 320 of the Clean Water Act grant that provide major operational funding to the National Estuary Program, including the SMBRC.

Luce highlighted the changes and additions to our Work Plan. These changes include:

- Item B: 1) Add: Participate in EPA development of nutrient criteria for estuaries. Participate in EPA development of Ballona wetlands TMDLs. Participate in LARWQCB development of marine debris TMDL.
- Item C: 2) Add: Finalize greenway plan
- 3) Add: Complete Ballona Wetlands baseline data collection and reporting
- 4) Add: Initiate and oversee CEQA for Ballona Wetlands Restoration Plan
- 5) Add: Build three rain gardens on Ballona Creek
- Item D: 6) Add: Apply for new funding source including ARRA and MSRP

Marvin Sachse and Angus Alexander asked questions about the Tree Wells program and the Rocky Reef PV shelf projects. Wing Tam, Dennis Washburn, Charles Caspary, and Tom Ford discussed their successes and failures.

Approved unanimously. (M: Sibert, S. Mullin)

9. Update on Development of Santa Monica Bay Marine Debris TMDL

Dr. Eric Wu, Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, presented TMDL work by LARWQCB to regulate plastic trash in our watershed. Wu discussed the TMDL background in the Los Angeles region, sources of discharges from municipal sewer system, plastic pellets & fragments, implementation of full capture devices, partial capture devices for point source, manual collection of trash, and integration with BMPs, and non-point sources. Wu mentioned work by the Algalita Institute, SCCWRP, and the amount of plastic pellets in Santa Monica Bay, including fish dying from malnutrition or poison from ingesting plastic.

The LARWQCB and Wu welcome comments and questions regarding work with TMDLs and plastics in Santa Monica Bay. Wu also discussed the upcoming schedule regarding a CEQA scoping meeting, and the tentative regional hearing meeting.

Enrique Zaldivar and Catherine Tyrell asked questions regarding the possible manual collection techniques and permits required to regulate TMDLs. Wu, Sibert, Pestrella, Gold, and Nissman commented on these issues, successes of several cities, and projects completed by SCCRWP to reduce plastic trash in Santa Monica Bay.

Marvin Sachse commented on current bills in legislation and questioned whether this TMDL could be in a new bill. Gold asked the GB to direct SMBRF staff to create a list of legislation and policy recommendation to get this progress started. Staff directed to do so without objection.

10. Presentation on Malibu Parks Public Access Enhancement Plan

Joe Edmiston and Rorie Skei, Santa Monica Mountain Conservancy, presented on Malibu Parks Public access enhancement plan. The project spent \$25 million dollars on land acquisition in the City of Malibu for this Enhancement Plan. Edmiston presented on watersheds that are affected and the intent to use Malibu bluffs to enhance and install campsites.

11. Member Comment

Barbara Cameron commented about plastic bag bans in several cities, and the achievements made by the City of Malibu. Mike Gin commented on the success of the State of the Bay Conference by SMBRF/C staff. Portia Cohen discussed Environmental Impact Reports in the City of Manhattan Beach and other cities.

12. Public Comment

None

13. Announcement of next meeting date

The next Governing Board meeting will be held on April 15th, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.

14. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:27 am.

Attendance:

Voting Members of the Governing Board:

Paul Backstrom (alternate for Bill Rosendahl), Councilmember LA City Council District 11
Richard Bloom, SMBRC Chair, President, Bay Watershed Council (City of Santa Monica, Councilmember)
Portia Cohen, At-Large Member BWC (City Council Member, City of Manhattan Beach)
Fran Diamond, California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles
Tom Ford, Public Member (Environmental/Public Interest), Santa Monica Baykeeper
Philip Friess (alternate for Steve Maguin), LA County Sanitation District
Mike Gin, South Bay Cities (City of Redondo Beach, Mayor)
Mark Gold, Public Member (Environmental/Public Interest), Heal the Bay
Michael Mullin (alternate for Antonio Villaraigosa), Office of the Mayor, City of Los Angeles
Susan Nissman, (alternate for Zev Yaroslavsky) Office of Supervisor, 3rd District, County of Los Angeles
Mark Pestrella (alternate for Gail Farber), LA County Department of Public Works
Marvin Sachse, Public Member (Business/Economic Interest), Brash Industries
John Sibert, Malibu Watershed Cities (City of Malibu)
Dennis Washburn, At-Large Member BWC (City of Calabasas, City Council Member)
Enrique Zaldivar, LA City Department of Public Works

Non-Voting Members of the Governing Board:

Angus Alexander, LA County Fire Department, Lifeguard Division
Charles Caspary, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Joe Edmiston, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Kathline King (alternate for Santos Kreimann), LA County Department of Beaches & Harbors

Kara Seward (alternate for Fran Pavley), State Senator, 23rd District
Louise Rishoff (alternate for Julia Brownley), State Assemblymember, 41st District
Catherine Tyrrell, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation, President

Commission Staff:

Mark Abramson
Karina Johnston
Joel Hanson
Michelle Kearney
Grace Lee
Shelley Luce
Lia Protopapadakis
Scott Valor
Guangyu Wang
Sarah Woodard

Other Attendees, including other Bay Watershed Council Members:

Michael Blum, Malibu Surfing Association
Barbara Cameron, Malibu Creek Watershed Cities (City of Malibu)
Patrick Glick, Public
Bob Godfrey, Marina del Rey Anglers
Stefanie Hada, LA Regional Water Quality Control Board
Adel Hagekhalil, LA City Department of Public Works
Sona Kalapura, At-Large Member (City of Manhattan Beach)
Randal Orton, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Kevin Powers, Charles Abbott Associates
Rorie Skei, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Wing Tam, LA City Department of Public Works
Eric Wu, LA Regional Water Quality Control Board
Kaden Young, Culver City PW