

SANTA MONICA BAY RESTORATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF
THE GOVERNING BOARD

December 17th, 2009
Del Rey Yacht Club

1. Welcome and Introductions

At 9:45 AM, Chair Richard Bloom called the meeting to order. Introductions followed.

2. Approval of the October 15th, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Bloom asked for approval of the meeting minutes. Minutes approved without objection (M: Washburn, S: Ford).

3. Order of Agenda

No changes.

4. Reports from the Chair and Executive Committee

Shelley Luce, Executive Director, noted that at the last Executive Committee meeting the Governing Board elections and the State of the Bay report were discussed.

5. Report from the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Luce explained that Richard Ambrose, TAC Chair, was absent from the Governing Board meeting due to finalizing the State of the Bay report. No additional updates to report from the TAC.

6. Reports from the Executive Director and Staff

Luce announced the publication of SMBRF's first scientific journal, *Urban Coast*. *Urban Coast* is a report compiled by The Center for Santa Monica Bay Studies, a joint effort between SMBRF and Loyola-Marymount University. *Urban Coast* was initially considered for annual publication, however due to popular demand, the SMBRF is considering a semi-annual production. Washburn suggested adding an agenda item for a future Governing Board meeting discussing options for funding of printing our next *Urban Coast* journal.

Luce also described the recent work to complete the State of the Bay Report. She noted the significant amount of time and effort staff and TAC members have put into the report, with work beginning over a year ago. Hard copies of the report will be available at the State of the Bay Conference, on January 13th, 2010. The conference, which takes place every five years, will be held at Loyola-Marymount University from 8:30am to 4:00pm. Luce described her excitement over the keynote speaker, Majora Carter, and many Governing Board members who will be speaking on panels, serving as break-out session leaders, and introducing speakers at the conference.

Lastly, Luce announced stimulus money received from the Resource Recovery Fund which will be used for a project along Ballona Creek, in Culver City. Luce thanked Micheal O'Leary, City of Culver City, and Mark Pestrella, LA County Department of Public Works, for their help in making the project possible. Luce also announced the involvement of Mark Abramson who will be leading the project. The project involves developing rain gardens, which will treat runoff water from parking lots in Culver City that drain directly into Ballona Creek.

Scott Valor, SMBRC Director of Government Affairs, distributed the sign-in sheet, and requested members make necessary changes to contact information.

7. Consideration of Approval of 2010 Governing Board Meeting Calendar

Bloom announced the calendar for Governing Board Meetings in 2010. Approved unanimously with no changes. (M: Pestrella, S: Zaldivar)

8. Election of Nine (9) Members of the Bay Watershed Council to the Governing Board for 2010-2011 Term

Valor coordinated the vote for nine members of the Bay Watershed Council to the Governing Board for 2010-2011 term. The following members were elected and approved unanimously (M: Zaldivar, S: Diamond):

Richard Bloom, President of the Bay Watershed Council
Dennis Washburn, At-Large Member (City of Calabasas)
Portia Cohen, At-Large Member (City of Manhattan Beach)
Mark Gold, Public Member (Environmental/Public Interest)
Tom Ford, Public Member (Environmental/Public Interest)
Mike Gin, South Bay Cities (City of Redondo Beach)
Micheal O'Leary, Ballona Creek Watershed Cities (Culver City)
John Sibert, Malibu Watershed Cities (City of Malibu)
Marvin Sachse, Public Member (Business/Economic Interest)

Valor announced that at the next Governing Board meeting on February 18th, 2010, we will hold elections for the Chair and Vice-Chair positions.

10. Member Comment

Mark Gold commented on work performed by the SMBRC on the superfund site located on the Palos Verdes Shelf. The EPA awarded the Environmental Justice Award for advancements in education and outreach for prevention of consuming contaminated fish to the Commission. The Award Ceremony will take place on February, 2010, coordinated by the EPA Region 9. Gold also announced the involvement of the Fish & Game Commission in reviewing the MPA network in Santa Monica Bay. The expectation is to include the area around Point Dume in addition to Palos Verdes. Gold discussed the approval of storm drain basins for requirements to meet TMDL for trash in the LA River by the Regional Board. Lastly, Gold announced that today, December 17th, 2009, is Day Without a Bag. He encouraged everyone to avoid using plastic or paper bags today and announced his excitement regarding the commitment of over 70 cities to ban plastic bags.

Rorie Skei commented on modifications made on Ballona Creek, including planting of native plants and placement of a new gate.

Enrique Zaldivar commented on developing work by the City of Los Angeles for TMDL's in Ballona Creek.

Susan Nissman announced Supervisor Zev Yaroslavky's newly updated website with interactive maps of the Santa Monica Mountains from 1990s to the present. The site includes how much money has been spent on restoration of the Santa Monica Mountains over that time period, and the cumulative growth of the greening projects of the Santa Monica Mountains.

11. Public Comment

Marcia Hanscom commented on her interest for the SMBRC to allow the Ballona Institute to work alongside the Commission to bring new views for restoration in Ballona Wetlands.

12. Announcement of next Governing Board Meeting

The next Governing Board meeting will be held on February 18th, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.

The Governing Board meeting for the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation will follow promptly after

this meeting at 12:00 pm.

13. Adjournment

The Governing Board meeting was adjourned in memory of Stephen Cain, Regional Water Quality Control Board, at 10:42 am.

Attendance:

Voting Members of the Governing Board:

Richard Bloom, SMBRC Chair, At-Large Member BWC (City of Santa Monica, Mayor)
Fran Diamond, California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles
Tom Ford, Public Member (Environmental/Public Interest), Santa Monica Baykeeper
Phil 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
Micheal O'Leary, Ballona Creek Watershed Cities (Culver City)
Mark Pestrella (alternate for Gail Farber), LA County Department of Public Works
John Sibert, Malibu Watershed Cities (City of Malibu)
Fran Spivy-Weber (alternate for Linda Adams), California Environmental Protection Agency
Sara Wan, California Coastal Commission
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:

Charles Caspary, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Stephanie Molen (alternate for Fran Pavley), State Senator, 23rd District
Rorie Skei, (alternate for Joe Edmiston) Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Catherine Tyrrell, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation, President

Commission Staff:

Sean Bergquist
Karina Johnston
Michelle Kearney
Shelley Luce
Jack Topel
Scott Valor
Guangyu Wang
Sarah Woodard

Other Attendees, including other Bay Watershed Council Members:

Lindy Coe-Juell, City of Manhattan Beach
Marcia Hanscom, Sierra Club & Ballona Institute
Dean Kubani, At-Large Member (City of Santa Monica)
Randal Orton, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Chris Sellers, Department of Beaches and Harbors
Wing Tam, LA City Department of Public Works