

AGENDA  
REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

7. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Board Executive Committee (12/11/2014) (Wieskamp)

Present

Board: Ayn Wieskamp (Chair), John Sutter, Whitney Dotson (Arrived at 2:05 pm)

Staff: Robert Doyle, Becky Pheng, Anne Kassebaum, Dave Collins, Erich Pfuehler, Kelly Barrington, Bob Nisbet, Deborah Auker, Larry Tong

Public: Bruce Kern (PAC), Eri Suzuki (Local 2428)

The meeting was called to order at 12:50 p.m.

I. Park Advisory Committee Proposed Goal for 2015

Erich Pfuehler, Government Relations and Legislative Affairs Manager, gave an overview of the Park Advisory Committee's (PAC) 2014 goals and proposed 2015 goals. Mr. Pfuehler commented on the ADA update, youth employment and outreach, and Plan Bay Area ad hoc subcommittee. Director Sutter commented that the PAC is more proactive on reviewing District issues. Mr. Pfuehler and Mr. Kern talked about some of the important 2015 goals including *Healthy Parks, Healthy People* Initiative; *Kids Challenge*; Measure CC; climate change, adaptation, and cap and trade; natural resources; and transportation ballot measures. Staff emphasized the importance of connecting with the youth and undertaking more outreach to this user group. Bruce Kern, PAC Chair 2015, commented that he would like the PAC to focus on the "big picture", and encouraged PAC members to meet regularly with their appointee to keep an open dialogue on issues.

Director Sutter asked if there were any issues that Mr. Kern would like the PAC to take up next year. He also concurred with Mr. Kern's suggestion that PAC members meet regularly with their appointee. Mr. Kern talked about the importance of meeting with staff prior to a meeting to focus on the issues to allow for a more focused presentation. Robert Doyle, General Manager, emphasized the importance of having input from the PAC and appointing people who are interested in the District. Director Wieskamp commented that she communicates regularly with PAC member Ben Yee regarding Mission Peak and that his input is

valuable. She would like to see more minorities and women on the PAC. Director Sutter asked for clarification on the Economic Impact Report and Environmental Education Facilities Upgrade and why it was not considered due to a shift in goal. Staff responded that there was not enough information on the items to forward to the PAC for review and comment. Mr. Pfuehler spoke about bringing in an outside speaker to give a presentation to the PAC. Mr. Doyle gave an example of having an outside speaker to speak about climate change. The Committee concurred with staff.

**Recommendation: By motion of Director Sutter, and seconded by Director Wieskamp, the Committee voted 2-0 to forward this item to the full Board for favorable consideration.**

## **2. Acquisition, Stewardship, and Development Reorganization Update**

Bob Nisbet, Assistant General Manager, provided an update on the merger of the Land Division and Planning, Stewardship, and Development Division. The idea of merging the two divisions was the result of a recommendation from a consultant hired by the District. The new division is now called Acquisition, Stewardship, and Development. The merger of the two divisions was proposed for the following reasons: increase efficiency by sharing administrative resources; combine similar functions together; better integrate priorities; develop consistency in managing projects; and streamline processes, reduce costs, and maximize work output.

Mr. Nisbet provided the Committee with examples of how the merger will increase efficiency and reduce costs. For example, prior to the merger there were two planning departments; the Advanced Planning Department focused on reviewing developments plans/projects and what other jurisdictions are doing, and the Planning Department focused on park planning. Combining the two departments will allow for projects to be distributed evenly between staff and for cross training. He also presented a proposed organization chart of how the various departments will look after the merger. The Advanced Planning, Planning, and GIS Departments were merged as one department titled Planning/GIS. Mr. Doyle gave a short history of why the Advanced Planning Department was created, and commented that the new Planning/GIS Department will provide opportunities for staff to advance and to cross train.

Director Sutter asked if this was presented to the union. Staff responded that this reorganization was presented to the union through the “meet and confer” process. The Committee inquired about the number of vacant positions and when the positions will be filled. Mr. Nisbet responded that recruitment efforts are underway for some positions, with the priority being environmental services manager which was previously held by Matt Gaul. An outside recruiting firm has been retained to recruit for the position of Chief of Design and Construction, which will be vacant after the retirement of Diane Althoff at the end of the year. Staff discussed the importance of project management and creation of a Capital Projects Department. The Committee commented on the importance of having a project manager and asked that this item be discussed at the next Board Workshop.

**Recommendation: None. This was an informational item.**

**3. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky K. Pheng