



2950 PERALTA OAKS COURT P.O. BOX 5381 OAKLAND CALIFORNIA 94605-0381
 T. 1 888 EBPARKS F. 510 569 4319 TDD. 510 633 0460 WWW.EBPARKS.ORG

Please Note Special Time and Location

BOARD OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
Thursday, September 16, 2010 – 12:45 p.m.
TILDEN GOLF COURSE
10 Golf Course Drive
(Grizzly Peak at Shasta Road, Berkeley, CA 94708)

The following agenda items are listed for Committee consideration. In accordance with the Board Operating Guidelines, no official action of the Board will be taken at this meeting; rather, the Committee's purpose shall be to review the listed items and to consider developing recommendations to the Board of Directors.

AGENDA

Meet at 12:45 p.m. at Tilden Golf Course - Harry Johnson Conference Room

<u>Status</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Staff</u>
(I)	1:00 p.m.	1. Tilden Golf Course Audubon Certification Process	(Ragatz)
(I)	1:15 p.m.	2. Wildcat Creek Restoration - Golf Course Section	(Gehrett/Graul)
	1:40 p.m.	3. Staff Comment	
	1:50 p.m.	4. Public Comment	
	2:00 p.m.	5. Meeting Break	
	2:15 p.m.	6. Tour of Tilden Golf Course	(TGC Staff)
	3:00 p.m.	7. Adjourn	

Lunch and Course Tour will not be provided for the public

<u>Status</u>	<u>Board Operations Committee Members</u>	<u>Next Meeting</u>
(R) Recommendation (I) Information (D) Discussion	Beverly Lane (Chair), Whitney Dotson, Doug Siden, Carol Severin (Alternate), John Escobar (Staff Coordinator)	October 21, 2010

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 Nancy Kaiser
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 Sergio Huerta
 Matt Graul

Dave Kalahale/Local 2428
 Bill Surges/Cliff Rocha/Local 2428
 Mark Pearson/Local 2428
 Tyrone Davis/Police Association
 Glenn Kirby/PAC
 Jerry Kent
 Norman LaForce
 Judi Bank/PAC
 Steve Soderstrom/PAC

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Doug Siden President Ward 4	Beverly Lane Vice-President Ward 6	Carol Severin Treasurer Ward 3	John Sutter Secretary Ward 2	Whitney Dotson Ward 1	Ted Radke Ward 7	Ayn Wieskamp Ward 5	Pat O'Brien General Manager
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AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, November 2, 2010

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

6. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

c. Operations (9/16/10) (Lane)

Present

Board: Directors Beverly Lane (Chair), Doug Siden

Staff: John Escobar, Jeff Wilson, Anne Scheer, Mark Ragatz, Stephen Gehrett,
Mark Pearson, Matt Graul, Sergio Huerta, Dave Zuckermann, Sylvia Pulido,
Leigh Padmore

Public: John Theilade, Rodney Muller (TPGC), Roger Leventhal (RDG),
Steve Soderstrom (PAC), Mark Pearson (Local 2428)

I. Tilden Golf Course Audubon Certification Process

Parkland Unit Manager Mark Ragatz gave a brief description of the Audubon International certification process, first emphasizing that Audubon International is completely separate from the Audubon Society. Audubon International awards certification to recognize golf courses that are designed and managed to protect the environment, conserve natural resources, and mitigate wildlife habitat impacts. Achieving certification demonstrates leadership by golf course management and a strong commitment to high standards of natural resource conservation.

Mr. Ragatz, introduced Tilden Golf Course General Manager John Theilade, and Golf Course Superintendent Rodney Muller, who provided a summary of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for golf courses. Program goals include managing the golf course in a more natural setting by minimizing the use of pesticides, herbicides, and fungicides, conserving water, and improving wildlife habitat. Completing the certification process will involve documenting all aspects of the current operation, creating an environmental plan for the facility, developing a habitat and wildlife management practices plan, documenting the current level of pesticide use with a plan to reduce such use, and water quality monitoring and conservation. The program also includes an outreach and educational component.

In order to assist in completing the application for certification, staff is working with Human Resources to hire an intern from San Francisco State University with a background in biology, recreation, or natural resource management. Responding to Director Doug Siden's question

about the role of the District in implementing the program, Mr. Ragatz indicated that the program involves a cooperative effort with the golf course operators, Operations Division, and Stewardship staff who will oversee the development of an Integrated Pest Management program for the golf course. Mr. Ragatz assured the Committee that staff would work with the Exhibit Design staff to ensure that all education signage relating to the program meets District standards.

Director Beverly Lane commented that the proposed program is most appealing, particularly since its goals are similar to those of the District, and thanked staff and golf course representatives for an enlightening presentation.

2. Wildcat Creek Restoration – Golf Course Section

Maintenance Superintendent Stephen Gehrett recounted the project background dating back to the year 2000, when a long reach of creek bed and banks within the Tilden Golf Course were restored in conjunction with replacement of several cart path bridges. Broken concrete structures were removed, the creek bed realigned, and banks reinforced with rock, willows and other native plants. Heavy creek flow during an extreme winter storm event in 2005-2006 seriously eroded 800 feet of the creek and undermined one bridge abutment. The District applied for and received FEMA authorization to restore this 800-foot section of the creek and repair the abutment.

After interviewing several firms who responded to the Request for Proposals, Restoration Design Group (RDG) of Berkeley was selected to provide site surveys and hydraulic modeling, engineer the design, and produce construction specifications and plans. RDG will also obtain permits from the Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of Fish & Game, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board, provide engineering support and biological monitoring during construction, and prepare the final FEMA report for reimbursement.

Water Resources Manager Matt Graul outlined why this restoration is needed, citing sediment basins and concrete sills placed in the creek many years ago that modified how the channel was operating, creating sedimentation and erosion that was not a part of the natural process of the stream. This condition was observed by the Urban Creeks Council, Waterways Restoration Institute, and other entities who approached the District in the late 90's about restoration of the area.

Director Lane inquired about the amount of funding available for the project, and Mr. Graul indicated that the original award was for \$180,000; however, the District applied for an amendment and after re-evaluating what was needed, FEMA increased funding to over \$600,000. This amount could be further increased as long as the principles and concept of the design already approved by FEMA are implemented.

Mr. Gehrett introduced Roger Leventhal, a principal of RDG, who described the firm's general experience and gave an in-depth slide presentation highlighting specific restoration projects they have worked on including Cordornices Creek in Berkeley, Baxter Creek in El Cerrito, and Sausal Creek (Dimond Canyon) in Oakland.

Mr. Leventhal indicated that construction will take 4-6 weeks and depending on when permits are issued, the firm's optimistic estimate for construction to begin could be as early as mid-2011. The next step in the restoration process will be to conduct a field survey to build a base map for measuring the morphology of the creek.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

6. Staff Comments

AGM Escobar announced that due to meeting conflicts, the November meeting has been rescheduled for **Wednesday, November 10, 2010**.

AGM Escobar reported that the Mobile Visitor Center (MVC) is now "wrapped" and will be on display in the Peralta Oaks parking lot for the Board to view after the September 21st Board meeting. Mr. Escobar added that the installers were very impressed with the van's graphics, which they described as the best they have ever seen.

Referring to the Wildcat Creek restoration project, Director Siden commented that it is heartening to be associated with a Park District that places such great value on creek restoration, and to know that there are professionals and a large number of citizen groups strongly committed to restoration of creeks.

Director Siden commended American Golf on their maintenance of the golf course and public outreach efforts. Director Lane suggested that RDG provide informational signing for golfers indicating how long construction will take, and that staff consider including information on the golf course Audubon certification.

7. Adjournment

Following conclusion of the agenda portion of the meeting at 2:30 p.m., John Theilade and Rodney Muller of TPGC led the Committee on a tour of Tilden Golf Course.

The next meeting of the Board Operations Committee is scheduled for **2:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 21, 2010** in the Board Room, Peralta Oaks.