

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, July 3, 2018

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

7. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Board Executive Committee (6/7/2018) (Waespi)

Present

Board: Dennis Waespi, Ayn Wieskamp, Beverly Lane

Staff: Robert Doyle, Ana Alvarez, Becky Pheng, Juliana Schirmer, Sean Dougan, Suzanne Wilson, Jim O'Connor, Bob Nisbet, Glenn Gilchrist, Matt Graul, Lisa Goorjian, Debra Auker, Mimi Waluch, Carol Victor

Public: Kelly Abreu, Dave Worley

Board Executive Committee Chair Dennis Waespi called the meeting to order at 12:40 pm.

I. Renaming of the North Woods Loop Trail in Pleasanton Ridge to the Philip Scholz Memorial Trail

Sean Dougan, Regional Trails Manager, and Juliana Schirmer, Foundation Development Director, presented this agenda item. Mr. Dougan spoke about Philip Scholz, who passed away while trying to rescue a suicidal man on the Caltrain tracks in Santa Clara. His wife Emily Scholz created the Philip Scholz Memorial Foundation (Foundation) to raise funds to support communities and causes that were important to Philip who was an avid hiker of the regional parks. In 2016, the Foundation donated \$80,000 to the Regional Parks Foundation towards the construction of a trail at Pleasanton Ridge. The trail project is estimated to cost \$125,000. The Foundation will be holding a fundraiser in October 2018 to celebrate Philip's birthday and to raise additional funds for the project. Trails Department staff and Regional Parks Foundation staff proposed renaming the *North Woods Loop Trail*, which is identified in the Pleasanton Ridge Land Use Plan, to the *Philip Scholz Memorial Trail* in honor of Philip. Renaming the trail does not conflict with the Park District's naming policy.

Mr. Dougan showed a map of the park and proposed trail. General Manager Robert Doyle talked about the proposed Devany Canyon development and a future northern staging area. Staff will be negotiating a staging area with the developer. Director Beverly Lane asked if there is public access to Devany Canyon. Staff responded that currently there is no public access; that section

of Pleasanton Ridge is in landbank status. Director Ayn Wieskamp commented that this is a positive memorial and inquired about the status of permits for this project. Matt Graul, Chief of Stewardship, commented that staff is working on obtaining permits and anticipates construction to start fall of 2019. Director Dennis Waespi also commented that this was a fitting tribute to Philip Scholz. He asked if the name will be officially called *Philip Scholz Memorial Trail* or *Philip Scholz Trail*. Staff responded that they will research past practice and will also get feedback from the Park Advisory Committee before bringing the final recommendation to the full Board. Director Beverly Lane recommended that when this item is brought to the full Board for consideration, the resolution should clearly spell out what the name will be and how it should appear on brochures, maps, etc.

Recommendation: By motion of Director Ayn Wieskamp and seconded by Director Beverly Lane, the Board Executive Committee voted 3-0 to approve the renaming of the *North Woods Loop Trail* in Pleasanton Ridge to the *Philip Scholz Memorial Trail* and to forward a favorable recommendation to the full Board.

2. Bay Area Ridge Trail: Garin Regional Park to Niles Canyon

Suzanne Wilson, Senior Planner, presented this agenda item. Ms. Wilson gave an overview of the acquisition history, which started in 1996 with the purchase of the Gelderman property, DeLuchhi property (2000), and Louie property (2002). In 2014, the Park District recorded a recreational trail easement and emergency vehicle and maintenance access easement over private property connecting Garin Regional Park to Vallejo Mills Park at the west end of Niles Canyon. Ms. Wilson talked about the project scope which consists of trail construction, retaining walls, trail gates, wayfinding signs, and at-grade crossing of the Niles Canyon Railway, which is owned by the Pacific Locomotive Association (PLA). The PLA operates the train 85-90 times per year, moving less than 25 mph. The Committee discussed having an overcrossing, undercrossing, and at-grade crossing, and railroad safety measures such as signage, fencing, and cross guards. There is strong support from Alameda County for an at-grade crossing. Mr. Doyle talked about the legislative history of transferring the railroad to Alameda County. He suggested that staff look at the history before submitting an application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) for the at-grade crossing. Staff anticipates the CEQA document will be certified in summer of 2018, submittal of the CPUC application in winter of 2018-2019, and construction to begin in spring of 2019.

Director Ayn Wieskamp inquired about the number of users who will use the trail. Staff responded that it will probably be a popular trail for the mountain biking community. Director Beverly Lane asked staff to show the name "Harlan" on the Gelderman property. The Harlan family was very active and prominent in the community. The project is estimated to cost \$900,000, with funding from Measure WW and a grant from the Coastal Conservancy. Director Dennis Waespi asked about the CPUC approval timeline.

Public Comment: Kelly Abreu commented that he supports the creation of trails, the history of Vallejo Mills, and recommended that the trail should be expanded to Vargas Plateau and Mission Peak.

Recommendation: None. This was an informational item.

3. Dumbarton Quarry Campgroup on the Bay – Project Update

Glenn Gilchrist, Design Manager, presented this agenda item. Mr. Gilchrist gave an overview of the project, including the original proposed park which included a lake. The lake was determined not to be feasible, and in 2013, the Park District and Dumbarton Quarry Associates (DQA) reached an agreement over a revised park plan to be developed in two phases. The terms of the agreement also included “tipping fee” revenues from DQA to help fund park improvements. Mr. Gilchrist talked about the development of a new service yard, which the Park District will be responsible for building; convenience camping cabins; and restoration of a ridge. Director Ayn Wieskamp asked how much tipping fee has been received from DQA and commented on the ridgeline. Mr. Gilchrist responded that so far, the Park District has received approximately \$4.2 million in tipping fee. Jim O’Connor, Assistant General Manager for Operations, commented that Phase I is moving forward, and Phase 2 is on hold pending more information. Staff stated that they are working closely with DQA representatives and are very much involved in this project. Director Beverly Lane inquired about the project budget and whether costs are being paid out of the tipping fees or Measure WW. General Manager Robert Doyle responded that no Measure WW funds have been used; project costs are primarily paid from tipping fees. Director Dennis Waespi recommended that the next Board tour should include a site visit and members of the City of Fremont City Council should be invited to attend.

Public Comment: Kelly Abreu complimented the Park District for providing a clear project schedule and detailed information about the project. He provided a handout to the Committee and commented on Alameda County’s interim ordinance adopting a moratorium on dirt importing within unincorporated area of the County.

Recommendation: None. This was an informational item.

4. Open Forum for Public Comments

Kelly Abreu commented on an upcoming June 19, 2018 City of Fremont meeting concerning Morrison Canyon Road, not receiving adequate notice of the meeting, and dumping along this road.

5. Board Comments

Director Dennis Waespi congratulated Mr. Doyle on the passage of Prop. 68.

There being no further business, Chair Dennis Waespi declared the meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky K. Pheng

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