

Sacramento Audubon Society
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
Meeting Date: May 28, 2013
Approved: August 27, 2013
SMUD Meeting Rooms

Call to Order: Meeting called to order: 7:15 p.m.

Role Call: Present: Don Schmoltdt, Sally Walters, Keith Wagner, Cathie LaZier, Karen Zumwalt, Tim Fitzer, Jonilynn Okano, Darryl Mohr, Gary Fregien, Linda Pittman, Subhash Chand. Absent: none.

Approval of Minutes: Draft April 2013 Board Meeting Minutes approved as circulated by consensus.

Presentation - Sutters Landing Park: Presenters - Dale Steele / Laurie Ward. (map and arial photo distributed at meeting, attached.) Friends of Sutters Landing (“FSL”) was formed in 2009, when the City of Sacramento was proposing first a zoo, and then a solar farm, on the ‘mound” (area “H” on arial photo).

FSL has a nature based vision for the Park. The City is engaging in piecemeal development for various active uses. The City has set aside the mound for open space/wildlife forage uses, supposedly. But FSL observes that the City often doesn’t follow its plans. Instead plans change as rapidly as random proposals for development or alternative uses come forward that have political support or funding.

Latest inconsistent proposal for Sutters Landing Park is the proposed McKinley Village project. Proposed to located in Area G of the aerial photo, the project consists of a 400 unit residential subdivision development. The access route to the proposed project site is proposed to go through Sutters’ Landing Park. If approved, the project would result in about 1500 vehicle trips per exit point (only two of them planned for the entire development), but it is anticipated that most of the vehicles would seek to access through the Park.

FSL is concerned that active uses are increasingly being given priority at the Park at the expense of wildlife values which is not consistent with the City’s master plan. As an additional example, FSL is concerned by councilmember Steve Cohen’s most recent expression of interest in potentially establishing a BMX track at the Park. The problem is that the area for the proposed track is the same area that is the subject of a habitat restoration grant.

There will be a Town meeting on June 19, 2013 at the skateboard park. FSL would prefer to see more consistent uses that support the Park’s open space and wildlife forage uses, perhaps a nature education center.

Request to SAS: FSL is seeking to put together a coalition that will stand up for the Parks' natural resources and would like SAS' support, and also is requesting that SAS appear at the town hall meeting to support FSL's concerns and vision for the Park.

Public meeting will be held on June 19, 2013 in the Baylor building (skateboard park) 7pm – 8:30pm at the Park.

President's Report (Don Schmoldt): No substantive matters to report.

Treasurer and Outreach (Cathie LaZier): Cathie circulated a petition from Sierra Club, Sean Wirth, seeking to stop clearcutting for the Board members present to review and consider personally signing.

- **Treasurer's Report:** Cathie reported that Audrey Kidd donated \$1,000 for Bobelaine, which has been set aside for that use. Cathie notes that over the past few years costs at Bobelaine have been greater than anticipated.
- **Outreach Report:** SAS recently participated in Walk on the Wild Side and the California Green Fair.

2014 Calendar Update (Jonilynn Okano): Sharon Wisecarver has sent electronic draft of calendar around by e-mail for review. Linda provided some minor corrections. SAS is considering printing 500 to 750 for sale at Sept-December membership meetings. Will also sell calendar at bookstores and at the CVBS. For website sales, Subhash notes he won't be here in October and November, and so we'll need a volunteer to handle the shipping. Jonilynn volunteered to handle receiving the online orders and mailing them out.

Conservation (Keith Wagner):

- **AB 881 (Oil Spill Funding)** - At the request of Audubon CA to chapters, Keith has contacted the offices of Assemblymembers Cooley & Pan to support AB 881 and continued funding.
- **Ballona Wetlands** – At the request of Audubon CA and L.A. Audubon, Keith intends to send letter concurring in Audubon CA and L.A. Audubon's concerns about proposals to build and operate a domestic pet center at Ballona Wetlands, due to precedent that such decision would set at other wildlife sanctuaries across the state, including many within SAS' area (Stone Lakes, Cosumnes River, etc.)
- **PCLF Donation for CEQA Education/Protection** – Keith requested a one time donation to the Planning and Conservation League Foundation to match a similar donation made by California Native Plant Society—Sacramento Valley Chapter, to support PCLF's California Environmental Quality Act education and protection work. Keith notes that CNPS and SAS local chapters rely heavily on CEQA and its public participation process as the means to learn of projects that may

adversely impact wildlife or habitats of significant import, and to participate in the process of formulating alternatives or mitigation measures that will ensure proposed projects do not incur impacts to such resources that could otherwise be feasibly avoided. **MOTION (Wagner/Moore): \$1,000 donation for CEQA education/protection PCLF.** Motion passed by assent.

Board Member Reports:

- **Gary Fregien:** Gary reports a new threat to California State Parks: Sonoma County is proposing to open State owned park lands to grazing. Madrone Audubon is the local chapter affected. However, the precedent, if set, could be statewide, adversely affecting all chapters including SAS.
- **Linda Pittman:** Linda reported the following items:
 - **Central Valley Bird Club Symposium Support:** Central Valley Bird Club seeks \$1,000 donation to support symposium. **MOTION (Pittman/LaZier): \$1,000 donation to CVBC to support 2013 CVBC Symposium, payment to be made in July 2013.** Motion passed by Board assent.
 - **Farallon Pelagic Trip:** Linda reports that reservations for the Farralon Pelagic trip are filling up fast, only 8 spots left.
 - **Bobelaine Trail Map Update:** Linda reports that the GIS based Bobelaine trail map updated was circulated by Linda for review on or about April 27, 2013. The updated map is a work in progress, and Linda would appreciate any feedback that boardmembers may have. Linda notes that replacement marker signs on the trails are needed. The Board discussed the potential of partnering with other groups (e.g., boy scouts) to help fund, construct and install new trail marker signs.

E-Communications / Webmaster (Subhash Chand):

- **Posting of SAS Board Minutes at Website:** Subhash proposes to post SAS Board meeting minutes at website. Board consensus: minutes should be posted after review and final approval by full Board.
- **SAS Group Presentations:** Subhash reports that Soil Born Farms has requested a beginning birder presentation in August or September 2013 with an onsite beginning birder walk. Cathie notes that time of year and day significantly affect species present, noting that significantly more birds are present in the fall (September / October) and that morning walks are most productive.

Subhash conducted SAS group presentation for Elk Grove Gardeners. In appreciation, the Gardeners donated \$100 to SAS asking that the funds be directed toward hands-on nature programs/education for inner-city children.

Programs (Sally Walters):

- **November 2013 Membership Meeting/Program:** Sally notes that the November membership meeting and conflicts with CVBS, suggests that November meeting might be used as a preparatory meeting for SAS Christmas Counts. Cathie notes that SAS has dedicated past November meetings to this topic, but attendance has been low.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Exhibit 4 - Sutter's Landing Area Land Ownership Map



Map	Property Name	Acreage
A	Dellar Family Trust	25 acres
B	Harbor Sand & Gravel (Bell)	16 acres
C	Cannon Family Trust	2 acres
D	Scollan Family Trust	2 acres
E	Blue Diamond / Almond Growers Exchange	38 acres
F	SMUD	11 acres
G	McKinley Village	47 acres
H	Sutter Regional Park	172 acres



To see all the details that are visible on the screen, use the "Print" link next to the map.

