

Environmental Council of Sacramento

Minutes for Board Meeting, January 17, 2007

Breathe California, 909 12th Street, Sacramento

Call To Order

Andy Sawyer calls the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

I. Approval of Minutes

November 16, 2006 minutes: two sets of minutes, closed session minutes will be approved later at end of meeting. Confidential closed minutes will be kept in separate minute book. Sawyer sent spelling and technical changes to secretary.

Sawyer; changed handicapped to people w/ disabilities. Andy had changes in portion of minutes referring to closed session. Add to description item #7 Earl Wythecombe no longer on board.

Brownstein amends minutes to include Hamann, Matt's last name; Chipps (Donna) updating website; minor grammatical corrections.

The minutes were approved by unanimous consent

II. Introductions

Janis Heple (Sierra Club Sacramento Group), Tom Higgins (guest), Anne Rudin (guest), Dan Gorfain (guest), Teri Duarte (guest), Dave Defanti (guest), Brandon Roberts (guest), Karl Stoffers (Gray Panthers), Betsy Weiland (Save the American River Association), Jude Lamare (Friends of the Swainson's Hawk), Melinda Bradbury (at-large board member), John Deeter (Treasurer), Owen Howlett (at-large board member), Andy Sawyer (President), Jim Pachl (at-large board member), Barry Wasserman (Co-Vice President, Land Use Committee), Curt Mackey (Sacramento Old City Association), Keith Seegmiller (guest), Eric Davis (Vice President, Transportation/Air Quality Committee), Cynthia Garcia (at-large board member), Tara Hansen (Save Our Sandhill Cranes), Mike Eaton (at-large board member), Grantland Johnson (guest), Graham Brownstein (Executive Director), Beth Barker-Hidalgo (Secretary)

III. General Plan

Brownstein: in touch with several board members for comments on 5-8 elements on sac County Gen. plan. Number of Board already working on elements. No luck getting real momentum. Where we are; we need a mechanism for sharing who's doing what, need a method to ensure we are not duplicating effort and to achieve consensus. Different

strategies needed for commenting on elements. Exec Comm. Agreed to have agenda item tonight to discuss what's been done what needs to be done time line to compile work and submit, or sending in specific elements.

Dave Defanti-here to comment on some elements of gen. plan; here to answer substantive questions how the county is moving along.

Sawyer-How do we organize ourselves to respond affectively? Get comments together b/4 next land use mtg.

Lamare- Tara's done a fabulous draft

Wasserman-land use element is over 100 pgs long. Get names of people interested in participating. Add Sawyer to list of people to work on land use.

Hansen-SOS cranes

Weiland-a couple things ECOS needs to look at.

Brownstein-what's mechanism for that happening? Email phone conference call? If workshop on 31st is half as important as Dave is saying we need to get something out Monday for talking points.

Weiland-interested in working on comments that serve/place emphasis on public input.

Sawyer-with respect to other areas of comment it seems like we have a little more time. By Feb other comments need to be submitted on other areas, transportation.

IV. Committee reports

Graham-org development-very light mail this month-response from members to renewal mailing still finishing tallying, membership looks to little more than doubled since a yr. ago, still have relatively few members. Goal is to have 5-600 by next yr. 3 interns on board working well, excited about opps. Earth Day-next months bulk of time going to be consumed planning/coordinating Earth Day/planning Hurley project. Will be approaching a few of you for fundraising Earth Day, need to capitalize. Sunday April 22nd @ Sac State. Considering a range of other activities including Spring art auction, speaker series/film series. Tomorrow evening-first planning mtg. for Earth Day-nail down basics, theme, components, make sure we have identified committed people to spearhead events-6:30-8 Mogavero Notestine Assoc. 2012 "K" st.

Pachl-chasing Earth Day when we have so much-focus Earth Day on local issues, Gen. plan, Natomas

Brownstein-theme-"living it local" grounding earth day thematically. Started to think about which orgs we may want to engage to convey those messages.

Lamare-we have board members that couldn't come on third Wed. Email board alert about tomorrow night's mtg.

Wasserman-earth day theme-local options in framework of global issues

Brownstein-meeting with groups Boys & Girls club, interfaith service bureau to help earth day be more relevant locally. Finally, getting business cards for anyone on board that would like to have them. Exec comm. Wants them, interns; fit onto back of card member sign-up

Davis-what's contact info going to be?

Brownstein-it can be whatever you want it to be, raise your hand if you want cards (Eric, Andy, Beth, Cynthia, John D.)

Sawyer-check with absent officers

Brownstein-do any of you have extra office chairs willing to donate to ECOS?

Garcia-two chairs? What color?

Wasserman-those interested in dealing with land use hang out afterwards to discuss. Paul out of picture for a short time, regrouping, organize to get comments for gen. plan

Davis-transp. /air quality-US 50 expansion GEIR came out in Jan-in process of preparing comments-workshop provided no opportunity to ask Cal trans to respond to comments-comments in name of ECOS/NAST. Associate with release of DEIR NAST media press why we oppose-channel 13 interview-Tony Bijak working on article hwy 50 expansion-press conference today with Dave Jones/Rob Fong-trans mtg. tonight-how to approach MTP-variety of perspectives-solidify

Sacramento River Greenway-Anne Rudin-Tom Higgins-Dan Gorfain-Friends of Sac river greenway-found common ground to provide multi-purpose trail to provide continuous access to the river-part of more extensive systems of trails in whole urban area-intent a long time ago never got around bend of old sac-we are working to complete that task-bicyclists recreational and commuters-3 major plans-sac river parkway plan, greenway plan includes Yolo county beyond sac city/cty, So Natomas to Freeport in South will work to close gaps-Tom Higgins-mission-update plan purpose of group to insure pub access to sac river, levees banks and connect to other trails, places in community-regional trail, long park for city, shortage of park space-transportation link-energy and conservation air quality improvements-overlapping jurisdictions create a barrier along with lack of commitment-set short med long-term goals-working on short term goals-"R" St. crossing widening of Tower bridge are being achieved-Dan Gorfain-laundry list of items involved with-major advocate for sac river greenway plan 1990-work to include greenway/parkway trail into City/County bikeway plan-participated in sac river floodway planning-organized pub access caucus forum

banding to form pub access along river-riverfront master plan-testified opposed construction of fence across river-reclamation board denied fence opposing blocking pub access along levee-actively involved in several projects-docks area project involves variety of issues-what kind of development will take place-riverfront master plan calls for regional destination and celebration along river we want to make sure that happens-have expressed concerns to planning commission being met with receptive ears-two areas working on right now focus of activity for the next yr or two-one is docks project-other is starting to look at little and big Pocket areas, private in holding areas along there-what is required to open up to public-pressure city council to open areas to public-

Weiland-remind everyone California heartland map showing this project-linkages that we want-

Sawyer-I assume you're aware of ECOS alert system

Higgins-love that, we haven't done that as of yet; loosely organized but committed

Rudin-we are ECOS members committed to this project

Weiland- Anne is right there is a map showing the original plan

Higgins-we are trying to seize on current momentum-railyard, bill passed Torletsen bill

Sawyer-we will be submitting comments on Gen plan if you want us to submit comments In relation to this project let us know

Gorfain-idea we had sac river transcends many neighborhoods maybe there ought to be a riverfront element of gen. plan with set of policies to guide development along river-define guidelines regarding ensuring pub access to river

Deeter -what's the connection to two rivers trail?

Higgins-not sure I get your point-

Deeter-overlaps existing bikeway

Higgins-City couldn't focus on that trail because they were working on the other trail-smaller connections build momentum

Deeter-You're dealing with homeowners

Higgins-would love to refer to ECOS as endorsing our efforts

Brownstein-get us some language we'll bring it back

Lamare-Betsy and I agreed to give a report-successful forum on LAFCO-discussion basic framework of LAFCO-agreed to bring back workshop cancelled previously-Betsy-review of heartland project-reworking powerpoint-broadening powerpoint to take to community-rollout of rough idea-received a lot of feedback from audience-back to drawing board-

Janis Heple-solid waste committee-Sac city/cyt-require businesses to recycle not to exempt county run buildings from ordinance-will keep us updated on progress

Sawyer-we will have complete budget at Feb mtg.-need some expenditure authority during month until detailed budget is out for approval-

Brownstein-skeleton budget to set targets-how much \$ able to raise Earth day/what's friends of ECOS/ECOS-all people continue to help sign people up

Lamare-recommend raising member dues

Brownstein-pushing org members to do more-not fair to go back to orgs that have already paid dues and ask for more-avg. member is giving \$40.

Deeter-moved approval of interim budget.

Lamare-second

None opposed/abstentions

V. Announcements-

Brownstein-Karl Stoffers-Jim Sanford passed away-Graham will send email tomorrow, Memorial this Sat. 1:00 pm @ P.I. auditorium

Sierra Club score card-

Lamare-will send sec report

Closed Session

Mtg. Adjourned 9:00 pm