



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

Meeting 11-06

**SPECIAL AND REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT**

March 9, 2011

AMENDED MINUTES

BOARD WORKSHOP

I. ROLL CALL

President Hassett called the Special Meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

Members Present: Pete Siemens, Cecily Harris, Nonette Hanko, Yoriko Kishimoto, Jed Cyr and Larry Hassett

Members Absent: Curt Riffle

Staff Present: Planning Manager Ana Ruiz, General Counsel Sue Schectman, Interim Assistant General Counsel James Atencio, Senior Resource Management Specialist Cindy Roessler, Senior Resource Planner Kirk Lenington, Resource Planner I Julie Anderson, and District Clerk Michelle Radcliffe.

II. BOARD BUSINESS

- A. **Agenda Item 1** - Workshop to Review the Resource Management Policies of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (R-11-17)

Resource Planner I Julie Anderson presented an overview of the District's Resource Management Policies and stated that the purpose of the workshop is to complete the review of the policies. The Board reviewed the policies and made changes. Discussion ensued.

No action was taken by the Board.

III. ADJOURNMENT

President Hassett adjourned the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District at 5:35 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

I. ROLL CALL

President Hassett called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Cecily Harris, Nonette Hanko, Yoriko Kishimoto, Curt Riffle (arrived at 7:03 p.m.), Pete Siemens, Jed Cyr, and Larry Hassett

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: General Manager Steve Abbors, General Counsel Sue Schectman, Interim Assistant General Counsel James Atencio, Public Affairs Manager Rudy Jurgensen, Planning Manager Ana Ruiz, Operations Manager David Sanguinetti, Real Property Manager Mike Williams, Administrative Services Manager Kate Drayson, Real Property Specialist Michael Reeves, Assistant Program Coordinator Jennifer Williams, Skyline Area Superintendent Brian Malone, and District Clerk Michelle Radcliffe.

II. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

President Hassett requested to have Agenda Item #6 be heard prior to Agenda Item #5.

Motion: Upon motion by Director Cyr, seconded by Director Hanko, and unanimously passed, the Board adopted the agenda as amended. (Vote: 6-0-0; Absent: Riffle)

IV. ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion: Upon motion by Director Cyr, seconded by Director Kishimoto, and unanimously passed, the Board approved adoption of the Consent Calendar to approve the **FY 2010-11 Annual Claims List; Annual Dedication Report, Minutes of January 26, 2011, as amended; and Revised Claims 11-05.** (Vote: 6-0-0; Absent: Riffle)

V. BOARD BUSINESS

- A. **Agenda Item 6** – Approve the Proposed Purchase of the Powell Trust Property from the Peninsula Open Space Trust as an Addition to Monte Bello Open Space Preserve, located at 17287 Stevens Canyon Road in unincorporated Santa Clara County (Assessor’s Parcel Numbers 351-26-003 and 351-26-004); Approve a License and Management Agreement with the Peninsula Open Space Trust; Adopt the Preliminary Use and Management Plan for the Property; Approve a Funding and Acquisition Agreement with Santa Clara County to support the District’s Purchase; and Approve a Categorical Exemption in Accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (R-11-39).

Real Property Department Manager Mike Williams introduced Marc Landgraf with Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST) and Tim Heffington with Santa Clara County Parks and provided a brief overview of the involvement of each organization in this partnership project. Real Property Specialist Michael Reeves then provided an overview of the proposed purchase of the Powell Trust Property from POST, explaining that POST is serving as the intermediary buyer of the property, and that the County of Santa Clara is contributing \$1,250,000 or 50% in matching funds towards the District’s purchase of the Powell Trust Property as well as the District’s October 2010 purchase of the adjacent Harmon Powell property. He explained that the District and County Parks have been working together for many years to connect public lands within Stevens Canyon for a future sub-regional trail connection between Lower and Upper Stevens Creek County Parks and Monte Bello Open Space Preserve. Mr. Reeves further explained that in exchange for the County’s funding contribution, the District will grant a Conservation Easement to the County that ensures the preservation of the two Powell properties for open space and parks purposes.

Mr. Reeves reported that there are vacant structures on the property and that staff recommends that they be demolished. He also reported that there is a dumpsite located on the property and that \$45,000 will be held in escrow for the dumpsite clean-up. Mr. Reeves also reported that the next step is to enter into a License and Management Agreement with POST to allow the District to manage the Powell Property while under POST ownership until the property transfers to the District. Discussion was held.

Public Comment: Marc Landgraf spoke in favor of the purchase and thanked the Board and staff for the partnership to purchase the property.

Tim Heffington thanked the Board and staff for the partnership.

Motion: Upon motion by Director Hanko, seconded by Director Riffle, and unanimously passed, the Board approved the purchase of the Powell Trust Property from POST, approved the License and Management with POST, adopted the Use and Management Plan, Approved the Funding and Acquisition Agreement with Santa Clara County, and approved a categorical exemption in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act. (Vote: 7-0-0)

B. Agenda Item 5 – District Geocaching Program (R-11-35)

Assistant Program Coordinator Jennifer Williams provided an overview of the District’s geocaching program and explained how the program connects new and existing users to District preserves. Discussion was held on how the program works and how success of the program would be measured.

Public Comment: Mike Beshue spoke in favor of the District’s geocaching program.

No action was taken by the Board.

C. Agenda Item 7 – Field Enforcement Activity Report for Calendar Year 2010 and Ten-Year Field Activity Summary (R-11-23)

Operations Manager David Sanguinetti provided an overview of the District’s Field Enforcement activity for 2010. Brief discussion ensued.

Public Comment: Gordon Baillie thanked the Board for their support during his tenure with the District.

No action was taken by the Board.

VI. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Director Hanko reported that the Strategic Plan Ad Hoc Committee met on March 8th and that the Committee held discussion on the District’s “four big questions” and partner feedback. She stated that the Board will need to have a Strategic Plan Board Workshop to hold Board discussion on the “four big questions”.

STAFF REPORTS

Operations Manager David Sanguinetti reported that there will be two District residences available for rent. He stated that District rangers will have first priority to the residences and if there is no interest, priority will be given to maintenance staff.

Real Property Manager Mike Williams reported that a grant application was submitted to the California Coastal Conservancy for the purchase of the POST Silva property.

Public Affairs Manager Rudy Jurgensen reported that District was featured in a few newspaper articles regarding Cooley Landing, Mount Umunhum, docent led hikes at Russian Ridge Open Space Preserve, and the missing hikers in the Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve.

Planning Manager Ana Ruiz reported that staff had installed new District signage at the Administrative Office.

District Clerk Michelle Radcliffe reminded the Board to submit their Fair Political Practices Commission Statement of Economic Interest forms before March 31, 2011.

General Manager Steve Abbors provided a brief update on the efforts of California Forward and reported that he attended an event entitled “Living Landscape Initiative” hosted by the Moore Foundation and stated that news about funding for preservation efforts in the Santa Cruz Mountains was presented.

DIRECTOR REPORTS

The Directors submitted their compensable meeting forms to the District Clerk.

Director Cyr shared his vacation experience with the Board.

Director Hanko reported that she attended the Open House Event hosted by Assemblymember Rich Gordon on March 4th. She also expressed concerns over Governor Brown’s proposal to ~~close~~ state parks and felt that state parks should be dedicated land and not sold.

Director Kishimoto reported that she is taking representatives of a Chinese newspaper on a hike at one of the District’s preserves.

Director Riffle reported that he attended the Living Landscape Initiative event and stated that he was happy to see numerous agencies collaborate on an issue. He also reported that he attended the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Board meeting.

Director Siemens reported that he attended the Santa Clara County Special Districts Association with Mr. Abbors and that they met with newly elected Santa Clara County Board of Supervisor Mike Wasserman. He stated that a follow-up meeting with Supervisor Wasserman needs to be scheduled so that the District and the Supervisor can discuss partnerships.

President Hassett suggested that the District partner with a local Kaiser medical office to create a program to educate the public on the health benefits of visiting open space preserves.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

President Hassett adjourned the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District at 9:13 p.m.

Michelle Radcliffe, CMC
District Clerk