

TRI-CITY and COUNTY COOPERATIVE PLANNING GROUP
Cities of Benicia, Fairfield, and Vallejo * County of Solano
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**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Special Meeting of April 25, 2007

1. Roll Call

Citizen's Advisory Committee Members Present: Bob Berman, Kathy Hoffman, Eva Laevastu, Mike Palmaffy, Alice Plutchok, Brian Travis and Jim Syar

Citizen's Advisory Committee Members Absent: J.B. Davis, Karlyn Lewis, Monica Brown and Bob Webb

Tri-City and County Staff in Attendance: Matt Walsh, Solano County; Brian Miller, City of Fairfield; Bill Tuikka, City of Vallejo; Xzandrea Fowler, City of Benicia, Marilyn Farley, Solano Land Trust (SLT), Shane McAfee, Greater Vallejo Recreation District (GVRD)

Brian Miller introduced Brian Travis as the new Fairfield representative to the Tri-City and County Planning Group CAC. Mr. Travis replaces Linda Schrupp.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes

The November 15, 2006 CAC minutes and the February 5, 2007 Joint Governing Board and CAC minutes were approved.

4. Update on Proposed School at Orchard Site – Mel Jordan (Information Item)

Mel Jordan, Vallejo Unified School District, began his update on the progress of the Orchard School site by introducing Rob Hanley, TLCD Architecture, Shaun O'Brian, LSA Associates and Shane McAfee, GVRD, who are also working on the Orchard School project. Mr. Jordan distributed the project schedule, revised project impacts and mitigation chart and site maps. The project scope consists of 18 modular classroom buildings including 12 K thru third grade classrooms: 4 forth thru fifth grade classrooms; 1 resource special program/intervention room; and 1 preschool/after school program room. A modular multipurpose facility will contain a library, kitchen, custodian room and restrooms. Another modular unit will serve as the administration building. The final component of the project is the community park.

Mr. Hanley reviewed the site plan and discussed fire access requirements, traffic flow, parking and park access. Cordelia Fire District has jurisdiction over the Eastern Swett

property which is adjacent to the school site and has asked for fire access to the Swett property thru the school site. Mike Palmaffy thought that an easement from the City of Vallejo would be needed for the fire access to the Eastern Swett property.

Mr. Jordan reviewed the net usable acreage breakdown. The net usable acreage for the project design was 8.20 acres for the VCUSD site and 2.65 acres for the GVRD site for a total of 10.85 acres.

Mr. O'Brian reviewed onsite mitigation for wetlands habitat, the maximum extent of grading and seasonal wetland features. There are jurisdictional features of wetlands and drainage identified by the Core of Engineers on the site. The total area of wetlands and drainage features on the site comprise about 0.11 acre. The total amount of upland habitat comprises 14.94 acres. Three to one mitigation will be provided for impacts to these features. Based on a three to one mitigation ratio, a total of 44.82 acres of upland habitat preservation will be needed to mitigate for project impacts. The project proposes to preserve 10.63 acres of upland habitat on-site and 34.19 acres off-site. The proposed off-site mitigation is a 34.2 acre preservation area located on the Northgate property (owned by the City of Vallejo) which is adjacent to St. John's Mine Road. There was concern whether the Fish and Wildlife Service would allow trails on the preservation area.

Ms. Hoffman asked if conservation easement land could be used for mitigation. Mr. O'Brian stated that there is an existing conservation easement on the entire Orchard subdivision. And one of the uses incorporated into the easement was for a school and park site. He believed that the Fish and Wildlife Service would accept the mitigation because it provides additional habitat protection.

Ms. Farley asked how the unstable hillside above the school site will be stabilized. Mr. Hanley replied that they were waiting for a final geo-technical report to be completed. Mr. Jordan noted that the State Administrator will be making recommendations on the project on May 2, 2007.

Mr. Berman stated that a determination needs to be made on whether the project is consistent with MOU.

5. CAC Goals for 2007 (Discussion Item)

This item was continued until the August Tri-City and County CAC meeting.

6. Trail Issues at PG&E Property (SLT) (Information Item)

Marilyn Farley, Executive Director of the Solano Land Trust (SLT), stated that the Resource Management Plan for the King-Swett ranches was a complicated process that was continuing to move forward. The baseline study has been approved by the SLT and PG&E. The grazing plan has been approved by the SLT. The public access plan has been reviewed. Its final approval is pending discussions with PG&E, the Fish and Wildlife Service and Fish and Game regarding a proposal for public access thru Vallejo Swett.

7. Lynch Canyon Opening and Spring Event (Discussion Item)

The Lynch Canyon Opening and Spring Event will be held on May 11, 12, and 13 (Friday, Saturday and Sunday). The opening ceremony will be held on Friday. Spring Event activities will be held on Saturday and Sunday. Equestrian, biking and walking/hiking events are planned. Information is available to the public on the SLT

website. Ms. Hoffman asked staff to be sure to invite their City and County officials to the event.

8. Nomination of CAC Representative to STA Pedestrian Advisory Committee (Action Item)

Brian Travis volunteered to be the CAC representative to the Solano Transportation Authority (STA) Pedestrian Advisory Committee. Mr. Travis replaces Linda Schrupp as the CAC representative to the STA Pedestrian Advisory Committee.

9 Staff's Role to the CAC and Board (Discussion Item)

Brian Miller, City of Fairfield, referring to a memo regarding staff's role to the Tri-City CAC affirmed the need for better communication between staff and the CAC. Recommendations for improvement included improved coordination with the CAC and the Governing Board by having one clearly defined point of contact. Currently Matt Walsh is the point of contact for the CAC and Brian Miller is the point of contact for the Governing Board. Another recommendation was to involve a member(s) of the CAC in agenda topic planning meetings.

Mr. Berman stated that he would like to see County and City managers allow their staff more time to work on Tri-City and County Planning Group matters. Ms. Hoffman suggested that two CAC members meet with County and City managers to discuss the issue.

Staff's roll regarding Regional Park advocacy was discussed. Matt Walsh stated that he had discussed the issue with Birgitta Corsello, Director of Resource Management. Ms. Corsello will provide Mr. Walsh with the highlights of past discussions on Regional Park formation in Solano County and he would meet and brief Supervisor Spering on the issue.

Increasing public awareness and attendance at existing open space areas will be a way to show the County that there is a need to fund public access to for these areas. Ms. Farley thought that it might be beneficial to ask how they would define success at Lynch Canyon. Success could be one school group visiting a week or that plus 500 visitors every week. Now is the time to think about what the group wants for the area and how to make those activities happen.

10. Miscellaneous Discussion Items/Future Agenda Items (Discussion Item)

Alice Plutchok commented on an open space area in Sonoma County where one of the ways they deal with access has been to have orientation meetings where people can obtain a permit for activities such as hiking, biking, etc... in the open space area.

11. Adjournment

The next regular Citizens Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 16, 2007 in the Multi-Purpose Room, County Administrative Center, 675 Texas St., First Floor, Fairfield, CA 94533.

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Attendance 2004 - 2006

	3/29/04	5/19/04	8/18/04	11/17/04	10/12/05	5/17/06	8/16/06	11/15/06
Bob Berman	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
J.B. Davis	X	X	X	absent	X	X	X	
Kathy Hoffman	X	X	absent	absent	absent	X	X	X
Eva Laevastu	X	X	absent	X	absent	X	X	X
Karlyn Lewis	absent	X	X	absent	X	X	X	X
Mike Palmaffy	absent	absent	absent	absent	X	X	absent	X
Alice Plutchok	X	X	absent	X	absent	absent	X	X
Linda Schrupp	absent	absent	X	absent	absent	absent	X	
Jim Syar	X	X	absent	X	X	absent	absent	X
Bob Webb	X	absent	X	absent	absent	X	X	

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Attendance 2007

	2/21/07 Cancelled	4/25/07 Special	5/16/07 Cancelled	8/15/07 Cancelled	10/10/07	11/21/07 Cancelled	11-28-07 Special
Bob Berman		X					
Monica Brown		X					
J.B. Davis		absent					
Kathy Hoffman		X					
Eva Laevastu		X					Resigned
Karlyn Lewis		absent					
Mike Palmaffy		X					Resigned
Alice Plutchok		X					

Linda Schrupp

Brian Travis

Jim Syar

Bob Webb

x

x

absent

Resigned

DRAFT