MARIN COUNTY

PRESERVATION · RECREATION

MINUTES FOR BOLINAS LAGOON ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 16, 2020

www.marincounty.org

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ben Becker (Point Reyes National Seashore)

Maria Brown (Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary) Arrived

9:08 a.m.

Ralph Camiccia (Bolinas)

Rudi Ferris (Bolinas Rod and Boat Club)

Alison Forrestel (Golden Gate National Recreation Area)

Gwen Heistand (Audubon Canyon Ranch)

Jeff Loomans (Stinson Beach)

Mischon Martin (Marin County Parks/Open Space District)

Joe Mueller (College of Marin) left early 11:24 a.m.

Kiren Niederberger (Seadrift)

Lynne Stenzel (Pt. Reyes Bird Observatory)

Ed Ueber (At-Large) Arrived 9:04 a.m.

STAFF PRESENT: Max Korten, General Manager

Samantha Haimovitch, Superintendent

Veronica Pearson, Bolinas Lagoon Project Manger

Jason Olivotti, Chief Ranger Craig Richardson, Senior Planner

Rosemary Passantino, Communications Specialist

Michala Roan, Communications Intern

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

Public Comment

Open time for public expression, up to three minutes per speaker, on items not on today's agenda. The Committee will hear items without return comment or discussion.

There were no comments from the public.

Approve Minutes for Meeting May 3, 2019 (Action Item)

M/S Ueber/Loomans Motion to Approve Minutes as submitted for May 3, 2019 meeting. The minutes were approved as submitted.

AYES 12 NAYS 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 0

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Presentation of Letter Property project – 3 conceptual designs Notes

MCP staff Veronica Pearson, Bolinas Lagoon Project Manager and Craig Richardson, Senior Planner provided a presentation of 3 conceptual designs for the Letter property site on Olema-Bolinas Road. The concept choices included restoration, parking, walking path, seating, and signage elements in various combinations. Each of the concepts is responsive to sea level rise considerations as well as environmental concerns. Each concept is also based on the assumption that the house and other structures existing on the site will be removed. The comments from Council members were that a path of some sort is preferred, because the public will create a path if one is not provided, that there are potential safety concerns with parking included so close to the roadway, that the presence of a rare plant community would suggest a restricted pedestrian access option. Councilmember Ueber liked the signage option. Councilmember Stetzel asked if ADA compliance is required on the project. Councilmember Martin stated there is no timeline for the project due to current lack of funding. Councilmember Brown asked how the project will affect the shoreline north and south of the site, and if the project would need a Sanctuary permit for placement of log groins and material in the lagoon.

Bolinas Wye Project Update Notes

MCP staff Veronica Pearson and Brian Bartell, Project Manager at WRA provided a presentation on the Bolinas Wye Wetlands Resiliency Project. Veronica first demonstrated where to find the project updates on the Marin County Parks website. Veronica and Brian then provided an overview of the project's 30% design. Councilmember Camaccia commented that Caltrans should provide input on the design, and asked if private land is involved. All land involved is currently County land. Councilmember Ueber asked if the goal is for the project to be completed by 2025, to which the response was yes. Ueber also mentioned safety considerations at the roadway. Councilmembers Loomans and Ferris both praised the project and stated they are in favor of its implementation.

State of the Lagoon Conference Notes

Greater Farallones Association staff member Kate Bimrose presented an update on the annual State of the Lagoon conference and requested an item on the next meeting's agenda to convene a subcommittee to plan and implement the next conference in 2021.

Lagoon Concerns during COVID Update Notes

Councilmembers Ferris (Rod and Boat Club) and Camaccia (Town of Bolinas) provided an update on recent activity and issues negatively impacting the lagoon during the COVID pandemic. Specific issues mentioned were increased use of water-craft and kayaks, poor clamming and fishing practices exacerbated by YouTube videos, increased speed limit infractions by water craft, and increased surf and beach use, and generally increased visitation, causing parking issues, increased trash and human waste, and street drain pollution. The Council requested that an Action item be brought to the next meeting, preferably a Special Meeting, to convene a subcommittee who would be tasked with composing a letter to California Department of Fish and Wildlife strongly advocating for increased patrols and enforcement of codes.

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Agency Reports

Notes

Veronica Pearson (MCP): Provided memos on County project updates on Agency Partnership Meetings, Kent Island, eucalyptus tree removal at Olema-Bolinas Road, and the completion of the removal of two pine trees which previously fell across the lagoon. She also provided a report on the possible removal/reduction of Cape Ivy in the site area of the Bolinas Wye project using a biocontrol, that of the Cape Ivy gall fly. MCP is proceeding with a test of this biocontrol in the project site. Martin (MCP): The Bob Stewart trail bridge is failing and a presentation on removal will be brought to a future meeting. There were no other agency reports.

Council Member Comments

Notes

Brown (GFA): The conversation regarding moorings is proceeding between the Sanctuary, County and community. An update will be brought to a future meeting. Forrestel (GGNRA): Shared the 30% plans for the Stinson Beach parking lot rehabilitation project. GGNRA is hoping for a 2021 construction but it may not happen until 2022. The channel will not go through the North parking lot. Forrestel also gave an update/briefing on the Woodward fire. Heistand (ACR): ACR got a Coastal Conservancy grant to map coastal prairies and potentially do proscribed burns on their land. Their upcoming educational programs have been stalled due to COVID, but they are doing online programming for schools. Becker (PRNS): An addition to GGNRA overview of the Woodward fire area, clarified that the area North of Bear Valley and South of Limantour will be closed through winter. Also, PRNS's General Management plan was released last month, guiding their operations. People should also be aware they may be affected by roadwork occurring on Sir Francis Drake Road out to lighthouse. No other Council Member Comments.

Next Meeting Date (Action Item)

M/S Ueber/Brown Motion to Approve the date for the next BLAC meeting. Staff recommended Friday April 16, 2021 as the date for the next meeting.

AYES 12 NAYS 0 ABSTAIN 0 ABSENT 0

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

Below is the BLAC Zoom Meeting Recording Link.

https://zoom.us/rec/share/FLIaSQZ-CCi5he5-o9O1 RtPdvY2FsFEJBfe7h5UK1Ys-IIbBwkqJKN8mbf4J I6.JJLQP3spLdxX5hvz

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