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MEMBERS PRESENT: Gwen Heistand (Audubon Canyon Ranch)
Ed Ueber (At-Large)
Ralph Camiccia (Bolinás)
Rudi Ferris (Bolinás Rod and Boat Club)
Joe Mueller (College of Marin)
Alison Forrestel (Golden Gate National Recreation Area)
Maria Brown (Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary)
Mischon Martin (Marin County Parks/Open Space District)
Lynne Stenzel (Pt. Reyes Bird Observatory)
Dave Press (Point Reyes National Seashore)
Kiren Niederberger (Seadrift)
Jeff Loomans (Stinson Beach)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Max Korten, General Manager
Jon Campo, Principal Open Space Planner
Griffin Anderson, Acting Supervising Park Ranger

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 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.

NO COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Approve Minutes for April 29, 2022 Meeting (Action Item)

Motion

Approve Minutes as submitted for April 29, 2022 meeting.

M/S LOOMANS/EUBER

AYES 11

NAYS 0

ABSTAIN 0

ABSENT 0

Bolinas Lagoon Advisory Council Meeting Format and Frequency Changes (Action Item)
CARRY OVER ITEM FROM JUNE 2022 SPECIAL MEETING

The Bolinas Lagoon Advisory Council will review the existing format and frequency of its annual meeting structure and consider adjustments to improve efficiency and community participation.

Background: At the April 29, 2022 meeting Councilmember Camiccia recommended increasing number of meetings to at least three per year if not four per year as a way to increase engagement of community, and the recommendation from the Council was to have meeting structure be an action item at a special meeting. That meeting, scheduled for June 23, 2022, did not convene due to lack of a quorum. This Action Item was therefore deferred to the October 29, 2022 Regular Meeting.

Discussion: Councilmember Camaccia mentioned the evolution/reorganization for the BLAC group, that there used to be more meetings before the Agency representatives met outside of the BLAC, and that he would like to see 3 meetings per year as an opportunity for increased engagement of the community regarding Lagoon related topics. Vice Chair Loomans brought up concerns that it is challenging to have enough items for even the current 2 meetings per year, but that a format that provides a field trip as one of the meetings would be a great way to educate and engage the community. Vice Chair Loomans also pointed out that special meetings are appropriate to call at any time if there is a topic that requires timely discussion or action. Councilmember Ferris and Chair Nierderberger mentioned that topics can be suggested by any Councilmember for inclusion to the agenda. Councilmember Forrestel pointed out that agency representatives struggle to be able to make 2 meetings per year.

Motion: The Council will convene 3 meetings per year, of which one may be a field trip.

M/S UEHER/NIERDERBERGER
AYES 7
NAYS 3
ABSTAIN 1
ABSENT 0

Bob Stewart Bridge (Informational Item)

Update from MCP Principal Planner Jon Campo on Bridge status and potential direction.

Discussion: Marin County Parks Principal Planner Jon Campo made a presentation as outlined in the handout included in the October 28, 2022 agenda packet. The Bob Stewart Trail is a .25 mile hiking only trail that goes from the road out to the bridge. That is the only portion that is designated, all other trails in the area are undesignated and unmaintained by the County. The trail is named after MCP Naturalist Bob Stewart. The bridge is very old. County has completed maintenance over time as possible but due to degradation of the bulkheads, which support the ends of the bridge, it will not be repairable forever. Additionally, sea level rise will mean the current bridge height will be inadequate in the future. Mr. Campo's presentation was intended to solicit questions or comments from the Council or the community in order to guide future planning efforts.

Councilmember Cammaccia commented that the bridge was originally designed to be removable. Councilmember Ueber asked if it is possible to start looking into the feasibility of replacement of the bridge. Director Korten said that MCP is currently fact-finding to understand how widely the bridge is

used. Councilmember Mueller said the whole area is a sensitive wildlife area and would like to see the bridge remain as-is as long as possible, to protect wildlife. Mr. Campo suggested that it is better to do nothing until the situation changes, at which point the County will come back to the BLAC for further discussion. Vice Chair Loomans suggested contact with adjacent landowners in order to see if access to the area could continue even if the bridge is removed at some point. The group agreed that protection of wildlife habitat is the primary importance.

Environmental Action Committee of West Marin Docent Program at Duxbury Reef (Information Item)

A presentation of docent program and partnership with Marin County Parks was made by Leslie Adler-Ivanbrook, Program Director at EAC West Marin, as outlined in the document included in the October 28, 2022 Agenda packet.

Discussion: Councilmember Ferris was gratified to hear about EAC's oversight and stewardship of reef. Councilmember Cammacia would like regular reports on Duxbury Reef even though it is outside the scope of the BLAC. Ms. Adler-Ivanbrook mentioned that the EAC is going to have an advisory board so there will be a venue for the community to hear updates on the reef. Councilmember Brown asked if designations are mentioned in the docent training? Councilmember Brown also mentioned that the Sanctuary's advisory council will be looking at Duxbury Reef oversight for better stewardship, so she can report out to the BLAC on Duxbury issues at future meetings. Director Korten clarified that the County land is limited to the Agate Beach parking lot and restrooms, the cliffs above the beach, and the pathway down to the beach. Vice Chair Loomans wants better signage.

College of Marin Lab Project Update (Information Item)

An update on the College of Marin Marine Laboratory Project was made by Joe Mueller, College of Marin representative, as outlined in the presentation slides included in the October 28, 2022 agenda packet.

Discussion: Councilmember Mueller says the project is now finally moving forward after many years of planning and preparation. There will be tanks both inside and outside the facility where visitors can touch the sea creatures. Parking considerations and impacts to the town are being considered. The facility will not just be for the College, but for all of the community to enjoy. There are a lot of changes in the Lagoon which are accelerating with climate change, and the new lab facility will be able to track these changes. Additionally they found data from the past in the old lab that they will be able to use as baseline information. The project will cost \$5.2M and all but \$1M has been secured from various sources. They are working to get help from the community so are holding a symposium to raise awareness and fundraise to meet the final goal. May 23, 2023 is the anticipated start of construction date.

Councilmember Ueber commented that the project would not have gotten off the ground and be becoming a reality were it not for the efforts of Councilmember Mueller.

Agency Reports Notes

MARIN COUNTY PARKS: Martin -- Bolinas Wye Project – the bridge design will be completed in Jan 2023. Other updates as in memo included in the October 28, 2023 agenda packet.

GFNMS: Brown -- Green Crab work has continued for 13 years. This year, 7154 were removed. Also 2 native rock crabs were sighted! There are now Green Crabs in the Lagoon proper. At next meeting there will be a more comprehensive Green Crab update report. The South End project proposal went out for competitive bid and a consultant was selected to do the feasibility study. Councilmember Brown would like to see other members of the Council bring topics to the meetings in future. She would like to discuss updates to the region's vulnerability reports and would also like Cal Academy come to the group to report on the iNaturalist app and its impacts.

GGNRA: Forrestel – There is an Air Tour management plan update upcoming, which includes Muir Woods, PRNS and San Francisco areas. The plan is going before the coastal commission on November 17. Also, they are sharing the GGNS Biosphere Network Designation (which has been in place since the 1980's). the climate change study is the first big project. Stinson Beach update: They are replacing the lifeguard tower. Parking lot repairs to follow in summer of 2024.

PRNS: Press – Their agency is working on relationship building with FIGR (Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria).

Council Member Comments Notes

FERRIS (Rod and Boat Club) – There are Pacific Spiny lobsters washing up on the beach. Also mentioned the anchovy die-off event, which was followed by increased smelt in the Lagoon all summer.

CAMMACIA (Bolinas) – Terrace Avenue was repaired 10 years ago, they are now engaging a consultant to assess the conditions on the bluff.

MUELLER (College of Marin Lab) – Noticed a plummet in invertebrates and increase in green crab lately – Lagoon is changing. Lab is currently raising funds for construction – have \$1.3 million funding gap. Received funding to do transects in same locations as Gordon Chan 30 years ago, website for project will be developed.

HEISTAND (Audubon Canyon Ranch) – The Coastal Commission is partnering with ACR and the County to assess the Caltrans culverts adjacent to ACR property. Also, there will be Fire Foundry teams at ACR burn sites again upcoming. There will be a field trip at ACR to talk about fire ecology. The Conservation Science for girls program is launching again. ACR is also working on a relationship and connection with FIGR. Recently there were cultural resources that had long been housed at the ACR facility that were returned to the tribes, and they are collaborating on a hazelnut program.

NO OTHER COUNCIL REPORTS.

Discussion: Director Korten will reach out to FIGR to see if they are interested in joining the BLAC.

Next Meeting Date (Action Item)

Motion: Approve the date for the next BLAC meeting. Staff recommended Friday April 28, 2023 as the date for the next meeting.

Discussion: With the new format of 3 meetings per year, the Council felt that the Chair should develop a schedule and send out a Doodle Poll to decide upon the next meeting date, so no action was taken.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.