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**CITY OF SAN RAMON
OPEN SPACE TASK FORCE**

February 11, 2013
Regular Meeting

Approved March 11, 2013

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE

3. ROLL CALL

Present:

Chair David Ernest, Vice Chair Dominique Yancey, Donna Kerger, Phil O'Loane,
William Meine, and John Youngblood

Staff:

Jeff Gault, Maintenance Operations Division Manager; Shinei Tsukamoto, Assistant Planner;
Robin Bartlett, Engineering Division Manager, and Cristi Toman, Recording Secretary

Absent:

Dennis Viers

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

5. CONSENT ITEMS

None

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

6.1 Summary of Actions from December 10, 2012 Meeting

Summary of Actions from the December 10, 2012 meeting were approved with no changes by
Ms. Kerger; Mr. Youngblood seconded the motion; Mr. Meine abstained, motion passed with no
opposition.

48 **7. TASK FORCE BUSINESS**

49
50 **7.1 Re-cap of September 26, 2012 Policy Committee Meeting**

51
52 Mr. Gault gave a re-cap of the September 26, 2012 Policy Committee Meeting and stated that
53 there was a discussion at the December meeting in regards to the matrix that lead to the question
54 if there were any other properties to identify by the environmental groups. Mr. Gault contacted
55 the environmental groups, sent a letter to Beverly Lane, and East Bay Regional Park District
56 explained the completed work, the properties that were identified, and attached the map.

57
58 Mr. Gault stated that staff from East Bay Regional Park District commended the work done by
59 the Open Space Task Force. Staff from East Bay Regional Park District did not have anything
60 to add but would be interested in working with the City of San Ramon in the preservation of
61 land.

62
63 Mr. Gault stated that he received an e-mail from Seth Adams with Save Mt. Diablo stating that
64 Mr. Adams was on vacation until January 7, 2013 but received no further communication.

65
66 Mr. Gault stated that the Tri-Valley Conservatory thanked Mr. Gault for the information they
67 received that they had the information under review but Mr. Gault received no further
68 communication.

69
70
71 **8. TASK FORCE BUSINESS**

72
73 **8.1 Potential Funding/Acquisition Opportunities**

74
75 Mr. Bartlett gave an update on the potential funding and acquisition opportunities:

- 76 • City could purchase the property
- 77 • City could purchase the development rights
- 78 • City could act or endow to acquire conservation easements
- 79 • City of third party can do any of the above
- 80 • City could encourage third party to acquire development rights or conservation easements
- 81 on open space parcels

82
83 Mr. Bartlett stated that sources of funding to facilitate the open space preservation:

- 84 • Bond measure
- 85 • General fund
- 86 • Negotiation
- 87 • City could work with third parties to encourage them to fund the purchase or acquisition
- 88 of development rights or conservation easements

89
90 Mr. Meine stated that the Task Force was set up to identify the undeveloped properties within the
91 City limits, those adjacent to the City limits and present those to the City Council for approval.
92 Mr. Meine expressed concern that the Task Force was operating beyond its ability.

93
94 Mr. Meine suggested submitting the plans as they were, identify the properties, present it to City
95 Council and City Council would set up an ongoing open space committee with the authority to

96 do investigations. Ms. Kerger concurred.

97
98 Ms. Kerger stated that the Task Force was an informational gathering group not charged to make
99 decisions and that the Task Force should set the groundwork for City Council to make a decision
100 on moving forward.

101
102 Mr. Youngblood stated that his expectation of the Task Force charge was that they would
103 develop a list, names of properties in some sort of order and at that point a presentation and
104 further direction. Mr. Ernest concurred.

105
106 Mr. Ernest suggested presenting what they have to the Parks and Community Services
107 Commission, and the Parks and Community Services Commission could scale back information
108 before forwarding it onto the City Council. Ms. Kerger stated that City Council should receive
109 all of the information and that scaling back information should be up to the City Council.

110
111 (Ms. Yancey enters 6:03pm)

112
113 Ms. Yancey stated that the charge was to advise City Council through the Parks and Community
114 Services Commission regarding opportunities and resources available for establishing a secure
115 funding source for open space preservation, acquisition and maintenance and that the funding
116 source was asking generally for identified sources. Ms. Yancey stated that anything more
117 specific than that would be beyond the charge of the Task Force. Mr. Ernest stated that
118 Mr. Bartlett's information presented was comprehensive and answered that particular part of the
119 charge.

120
121 Mr. Gault discussed Items B, C and D in the bylaws and stated that the Task Force had not gone
122 outside the boundaries of the bylaws. Mr. Youngblood stated that in order to achieve what
123 Mr. Gault read from the bylaws, the Task Force would need to be called something other than a
124 task force. Ms. Yancey stated that it was the City Council's discretion to determine what the
125 Task Force would be called.

126
127 Mr. Ernest stated that City Council could consider a dedicated sales tax.

128
129 **8.2 Review of Identified Properties**

130
131 Mr. Youngblood stated that the matrix showed the listing of properties and across the top were
132 characteristics that the focus group tried to formulate. Mr. Youngblood stated that the focus
133 group set up a goal to develop a process to prioritize properties for preservation and stated that a
134 process was needed as they consider each property. Mr. Youngblood stated that the scoring
135 system was not complete and that the focus group was attempting to identify the sources so they
136 could make a decision. Mr. Youngblood stated that Mr. Tsukamoto found a source for the
137 biological significance and ecological significance and stated the focus group would do the same
138 thing for the historic significance waterways.

139
140 Mr. Tsukamoto stated that once the properties were evaluated and given a number, the numbers
141 could be tallied together. The Task Force could give a priority list to the Parks and Community
142 Services Commission that was not just based on property values.

143
144 Mr. Ernest suggested the Task Force give a consensus if it was one to five.

145
146 Mr. Gault suggested a heat map and stated that something might be a 32, something else might
147 be a 12 and stated that the Task Force would need to determine why the property received that
148 rating.

149
150 Ms. Yancey suggested sending this back to the focus group to work on the numbers, do the
151 Google map overlay and then just come back to the Task Force numbered. Mr. Youngblood
152 stated that the focus group would like to identify the sources, identify the weights, score all of
153 the properties, do a heat map, and bring that to the Task Force for consideration and
154 recommendation.

155
156 Ms. Yancey asked how many staff hours are needed. Mr. Tsukamoto stated approximately 16 –
157 20 hours of staff time.

158
159 Ms. Yancey suggested sending this material back to the focus group to complete the scoring of
160 the properties. Mr. Ernest requested to participate in the scoring of the properties.

161
162 Mr. Meine commended the focus group and stated that he was impressed with the work
163 accomplished up to now and that the work is beyond recognition.

164
165 **8.3 Review of Open Space Task Force Accomplishments and Presentation to the**
166 **Parks and Community Services Commission**

167
168 Mr. Ernest stated that he would give an update report at the next Parks Commission meeting.

169
170
171 **9. ADJOURNMENT**

172
173 The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

174
175 Submitted by Cristi Toman, Recording Secretary