



Advisory Committee

MEETING MINUTES

October 13, 2017, 10:00 am – 12:30 pm

Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale Street, Yerba Buena Room, First Floor
San Francisco CA 94105

1. Call to Order

Luisa Valiela, Advisory Committee (AC) Chair, called the meeting to order.

AC Member Attendance: Dr. Ana M. Alvarez (Vice Chair), Brian Benn, Bruce Beyaert, Erika Castillo, Steve Chappell, Francesca Demgen, Nahal Ghoghaie, Letitia Grenier, Beth Huning, Andrea Jones, Mike Mielke, Anne Morkill, Erika Powell, Marina Psaros, Ana Maria Ruiz, Laura Tam, Laura Thompson, Luisa Valiela (Chair), Bruce Wolfe, Sarah Young

Staff Attendance: Sam Schuchat, Caitlin Sweeney, Jessica Davenport, Kelly Malinowski, Karen McDowell, Anna Schneider

2. Determination of Quorum

AC Clerk Anna Schneider determined that there was a quorum.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Announcements

Anne Morkill announced National Wildlife Refuge Week events on October 14, 2017 at the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge in Fremont. Mike Mielke announced that he is part of a group looking at leveraging Measure AA funding. Bruce Beyaert announced that the migratory birds have arrived. Chair Valiela noted that several AC members were unable to attend the meeting because of the fires in the North Bay and our thoughts are with them. She also notified the AC that two important meetings just occurred, the State of the Estuary Conference and the Regional Monitoring Program (RMP) Annual Meeting. The RMP's *Pulse of the Bay* report (<http://www.sfei.org/rmp/pulse>) is now available and presentations from the State of the Estuary Conference will be online soon.

5. Approval of Meeting Minutes of August 11, 2017

Decision: Bruce Beyaert moved and Mike Mielke seconded the motion to approve the minutes. There was consensus to approve the minutes.

6. Chair's Report from September 8, 2017 Governing Board Meeting

Chair Valiela reported that the Board approved the Measure AA Proposal Solicitation or request for proposals (RFP), which staff released on September 15, 2017. She noted that the Board also discussed the SFBRA Oversight Committee, but has not yet taken action to recruit and appoint members.

7. Bay Restoration 101: Baylands Goals Science Update

Letitia Grenier, Resilient Landscapes Program Director and Senior Scientist for the San Francisco Estuary Institute, gave a presentation on the report *The Baylands and Climate Change: What We Can Do*. The AC discussed various wetland restoration and climate adaptation issues, such as prioritization of restoration sites based on their relative resilience to sea level rise, the political sensitivities around prioritization, and the pros and cons of fragmented governance, i.e., needing a diverse set of agencies and groups to implement the Baylands Goals. Opportunities to reconnect creeks to wetlands to enhance sediment supply and the use of treated effluent to provide fresh water inputs to wetlands were also discussed.

8. Brainstorming Session: Set AC Goals for Coming Year

The AC engaged in a brainstorming session about additional activities in which they would like to engage. Topics included advising the Governing Board on measures of success for the Measure AA grant program; monitoring at the project and regional levels; developing a communications strategy; assessing accomplishments and opportunities related to public access and flood protection in restoration projects; assessing needs related to environmental justice; consideration of public health issues, such as vector control; and many other ideas. Next steps include categorizing the ideas generated and determining which tasks are 1) already being worked on by another group that AC members may wish to join; 2) more appropriate for staff to do; and 3) most suitable for the AC to undertake and what ad hoc subcommittees therefore may be needed.

9. Restoration Authority Grant Reviewer Selection Process

Jessica Davenport, Project Manager, reminded AC members that staff will be requesting volunteers who do not have a conflict of interest to serve as grant application reviewers. Conflicts include not just one's employer submitting an application, but also if one significantly contributes to writing a partner's application. Providing letters of support would also reveal bias. Giving general advice is permitted. Staff will be assessing the need for reviewers after reviewing what kind and how many applications are received. The tentative time commitment is 6-10 hours in the months of December and January. AC members interested in serving as reviewers should email Kelly Malinowski (Kelly.Malinowski@scc.ca.gov) and save the date and time of November 28, 2017, 2-4 pm, for a reviewers meeting at the State Coastal Conservancy.

10. AC Meeting Dates for 2018

AC members reviewed the proposed 2018 AC meeting dates. AC members were asked to email Chair Valiela and Jessica Davenport if they have conflicts with the proposed dates. The AC will need to take action at its next meeting to approve the dates.

11. Meeting Process Check-In: What's Working, What's Not

AC members provided feedback on the meeting process. They felt that the interactive discussions with presenters and brainstorming sessions worked well. There was a request to expand the public comment procedure to include an opportunity for time-limited public comment on each agenda item; speakers would be required to sign up to speak on a given item before the Chair opened that item for discussion.

Reminder: Advisory Committee's Remaining 2017 Meeting Dates and Locations

December 8, 2017: Harris State Office Building, 1515 Clay St, Oakland

12. Public Comment

There was no public comment.