

Presidio Trust Board of Directors Meeting
May 14, 2014
Minutes

Attending:

Nancy Bechtle
Paula Collins
David Grubb
Charlene Harvey
Bill Hambrecht
Alex Mehran
John Reynolds

Michael Boland
Steve Carp
Karen Cook
Jeff Deis
Bart Ferrell
Mollie Matull
Craig Middleton
Mike Rothman
Joshua Steinberger

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Bechtle at 10:09 a.m.

Actions taken:

- Approval of Minutes of [April 24, 2014 \(Resolution 14-15\)](#). By motion duly made and seconded. Vote: 7-0.
- Approval of Formation of Board Committees ([Resolution 14-16](#)). By motion duly made and seconded. Vote: 7-0.
- Approval of Adoption of Revised Operating Budget Forecast for Fiscal Year 2014 and Approval of Remediation Funds ([Resolution 14-17](#)). By motion duly made and seconded. Vote: 7-0.

Discussion items:

- Ms. Bechtle said that the Board should consider addressing the Trust's outstanding debt to the Department of the Treasury. She also said that the Trust should focus on consolidating the Trust's maintenance buildings.

- Mr. Middleton reported recent conversations about the renovation of the Presidio Theater and suggested that the Programs Committee discuss options.
- Ms. Harvey and Ms. Collins updated the Board on the Park Youth Collaborative (PYC). The Trust, working with the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy (Conservancy) and the National Park Service, is in the process of developing measures and quality standards for youth programs in the Presidio. Ms. Collins said that involving school children in environmental education and stewardship is important so they feel invested in such issues. Ms. Bechtle asked about the funding level for the PYC in the next year's budget. Mr. Boland said that the total cost for education programs was approximately \$1M a year, including staff costs, campground operation and other programs. He reminded the Board that the S. D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation awarded the PYC a \$1M grant and this grant funded, among other things, two PYC backbone staff positions. Mr. Boland also said that it was an opportune time to expand the capacity of youth programming in the Presidio and that the Trust was working with the San Francisco Unified School District's "Vision 2025" project through participation in educational opportunities linked to state school standards.
- Mr. Middleton reported that the Trust was moving forward in three key areas – stewarding, welcoming, and advancing learning and leadership. In the area of stewarding, today and for the future, he cited the Trust's remediation program, the restoration of Mt. Lake and El Polin Spring, infrastructure improvements, and the plan to address deferred maintenance. Welcoming initiatives include continuing and expanding the "Off the Grid" weekly picnics and "Twilight at the Presidio" events, partnering with Traci Des Jardins to open the Commissary restaurant, reopening the Officers' Club in September, developing ideas for the Gateway Project, and engaging focus groups to identify ways to attract visitors to the Presidio. Measures for advancing learning and leadership involve continuing work on the PYC, boosting history programming, promoting volunteerism and the docent program, and developing cross sector leadership.
- Mr. Middleton said that Mr. Grubb will coordinate issues related to the Doyle Drive tunnel tops.
- Ms. Collins left the meeting (10:45 – 11:15) while the Board discussed a potential donation to fund the development and operating costs of a complex at 937 Mason Street along Crissy Field. Mr. Reynolds said a comprehensive traffic and parking study was needed for the length of Crissy Field.
- Mr. Middleton said that at the next Board meeting he anticipated proposing a policy for the placement of future war memorials in the Presidio.
- Mr. Hambrecht and Mr. Rothman presented the revised fiscal year 2014 (FY2014) budget forecast. Mr. Rothman reported that operating revenue remained strong. He also said that the Finance and Audit Committee recommended approval of the revised FY2014 forecast and recommended increasing FY2014 budget authority in the amount of \$944K to address remediation of sites unidentified in 1999.

- Mr. Boland updated the Board on the status of the Gateway project, a new area of parkland that will reconnect Crissy Field with the Main Post. The Gateway is anticipated to be the welcoming portal where the Presidio visitor experience can begin. Mr. Boland reported that the Trust had received 25 high-quality responses to the Gateway Request for Qualifications. The Trust selected five experienced interdisciplinary teams to engage in a two-month Gateway ideas charrette. In early May, the five teams participated in site visits, a meeting with Trust and Conservancy Board members, and a forum with over 300 interested members of the public. A group of program advisors from well-respected national cultural institutions was an additional resource for the teams during their site visit. Mr. Boland said that design and program concepts from the teams are due in mid-July and would be discussed at the Board meeting in July. Mr. Mehran said it was important for the landscape architecture to be compatible with the programmatic elements of the final design. Ms. Collins cautioned against stitching together components from each proposal, saying that the designers were of such a caliber that each will have thought through the whole picture and developed an integrated, holistic proposal.
- The Board discussed the possible use of the West Letterman site.
- Executive Session: 12:48 p.m. – 1:14 p.m.

Meeting adjourned by Chairperson Bechtle at 1:14 p.m.