



Meeting of the Board of Directors

Sacramento Public Library Galleria

828 I Street, West Meeting Room

Sacramento, CA

March 25, 2010

1:30pm to 5:00pm

PUBLIC MEETING (1:30pm to 5:00pm)

1. Welcome and Overview – Council Co-Chair Art Baggett

- Call to order; Council members introduce themselves; declare quorum.
- Art Baggett will introduce new board members and will recognize current board members for recent accomplishments.
- Provide opportunity for conflict of interest disclosure
- Discuss agenda for this meeting and opportunity for public comment

2. Public Comment – Members of the public may address the Board relating to any matter within the work of the Stewardship Council. The Council asks people wishing to speak to 1) fill out speaker cards; and 2) turn in speaker cards to staff. Speakers will be limited to 3 minutes.

3. Remarks from the Executive Director - Allene Zanger, Executive Director, delivers remarks about the meeting agenda and recent work progress.

4. Board Development Committee – Randy Livingston, Chair of the Board Development Committee, provides an update on committee work over the last few months including a report on the annual performance evaluation of the committee and an update on initial plans for the board's annual retreat on May 20. Mr. Livingston will then present several actions for board consideration including: a request to appoint Art Baggett as the Council President for the remainder of 2010 (*ACTION*); a request by the Youth Investment Committee to appoint Mike Schonherr as its new Co-Chair (*ACTION*); and a request by the Board Development Committee to adopt a formal Media Protocol (*ACTION*).

5. **Youth Investment Committee** – Rich Gordon, Chair of the Youth Investment Committee, will provide an update on the work of the committee over the last few months including a report on the annual review of the committee charter. Steve Hagler, Director of Youth Investment, will provide a staff report detailing technical work progress for the Youth Investment Program as well as the start-up activities for the new Foundation for Youth Investment.
6. **Fiduciary Committee** – Truman Burns, Chair of the Fiduciary Committee, provides an update on the work of the committee, including a report on the annual performance evaluation of the committee. Mr. Burns will request adoption of a revised committee charter which includes oversight responsibility pertaining to the Foundation for Youth Investment (*ACTION*). Mr. Burns will also provide an update on the Intercompany Agreement between the Stewardship Council and the Foundation for Youth Investment. Joel Wagner, Director of Finance, will provide a financial update, including current budget compliance.
7. **Watershed Planning Committee Report** – Truman Burns, a member of the Watershed Planning Committee, provides an update on the work of the committee including a report on the annual performance evaluation of the committee. Ric Notini, Director of Land Conservation, will provide a staff report detailing progress on the Land Conservation Program including an update on Round 1 planning units. Finally, a representative of PG&E will brief the board on an opportunity for participation of PG&E forested watershed lands in the Climate Action Reserve carbon offset program.
8. **Public Comment** – Members of the public may address the board relating to any matter within the work of the Stewardship Council. The Council asks people wishing to speak to 1) fill out speaker cards; and 2) turn in speaker cards to staff. Speakers will be limited to **3 minutes**.
9. **Board Member Announcements and Items** – Council members are given the opportunity to raise issues or communicate news or topics of interest.
10. **Adjourn Public Meeting**



STAFF REPORT

To: Stewardship Council Board of Directors
From: Steve Hagler, Director of Youth Investment
Date: March 18, 2010
RE: Youth Investment Program Activities Update

FOUNDATION FOR YOUTH INVESTMENT

On November 19, 2009, the Stewardship Council Board of Directors approved the creation of the Foundation for Youth Investment (FYI) to help bring more resources into the much under-resourced field of outdoor youth programming. The creation of this nonprofit organization is an outgrowth of the success of the Stewardship Council's Youth Investment Program, which has received strong praise from grantseekers and award winners alike. As the board explored ways to sustain the youth program, it became very clear that a new organization would be in a better position to continue the program into the future. The Foundation for Youth Investment will be able to receive other sources of support and will be able to fund in areas beyond the geographic and programmatic areas of the Stewardship Council's current grantmaking efforts.

The Foundation for Youth Investment was incorporated on February 1, 2010 and the initial board members, appointed by the Stewardship Council, held their first meeting on February 22, 2010. The members are Chuck Bonham, Luis Arteaga (both members of the Youth Investment Committee), and Larry Goldzband, (PG&E Charitable Giving Manager). The first meeting focused primarily on legal and technical issues necessary to get FYI up and running. We expect that the Form 1023 to obtain tax exempt status will be filed with the IRS by the beginning of April 2010. Notice of approval from the Internal Revenue Service typically takes anywhere from one month to six months.

2010 GRANTS PROGRAM UPDATE

Impact Fund Round 1

For the Impact Fund Round 1, we received 82 proposals totaling almost \$3 million in requests, and according to their applications, their programs involve over 17,000 youth. 62 percent of the organizations had previously applied to the Stewardship Council and of those 26 percent had received a grant award. Of the 82 applying organizations, about 40 percent have annual budgets of over \$1 million per year and 38 percent have annual operating budgets of under \$500,000. About 46 percent of proposals come from the Bay Area and 30 percent from the Central Valley. The average project size was about \$133,000 and the average request for funding asked was for about 46 percent of the project.

The External Advisory Panel (EAP) will have met prior to the March 25, 2010 board meeting and will forward a pool of recommended applications to the Youth Investment Committee (YIC). The YIC will meet on April 22 and will report back to the full board on May 20 regarding the grant awards approved by the committee. The Impact Fund Round 1 grants will be awarded at the end of April.



Catalyst Fund Round 1

For the Catalyst Fund Round 1, we received 33 proposals totaling \$450,445 in requests. 39 percent had applied to the Stewardship Council in previous years and of those 15 percent received a grant. The Youth Advisory Panel will have met just prior to the March 25, 2010 board meeting and their recommendation will be sent to staff for due diligence and for final consideration. These awards will be announced at the beginning of April.

PROGRAM INITIATIVES AND EVENTS

Evaluation

At the request of some of our grantees, the staff held a meeting of grantees and interested grantseekers and other stakeholders to discuss evaluation and the potential for greater coordination among outdoor program providers. Our first meeting attracted over 35 participants who explored ways to find common measurements and assessments. The group agreed to continue the discussion at future meetings. Staff will be coordinating a follow up meeting in April.

Native American Best Practices in Outdoor Youth Programming

We will be hosting a gathering of youth providers who provide outdoor experiences to Native American youth. The purpose of the meeting is to explore the key characteristics of effective programs and best practices for working with Native youth. Participants will also be able to conduct an assessment of their programs using these criteria and explore ways to improve their programs.

Yosemite Site Visit and Program Meeting – April 12, 2010

On April 12, 2010, we will be conducting a site visit to WildLink, a grant award winner that takes underserved youth from the Central Valley backpacking in Yosemite. We will be meeting with program staff, youth participants and other WildLink stakeholders. We will also have a meeting with Shelton Johnson, a Yosemite ranger who will discuss some of the successes, issues and challenges facing programs such as WildLink. Ranger Johnson was recently featured in the Ken Burns documentary “The National Parks: America’s Best Idea”. We look forward to a very engaging day.

Grand Opening of Literacy for Environmental Justice (LEJ) Eco-Center - April 18, 2010

The Eco-Center at Herron Head Park will have its Grand Opening on April 18, 2010. The Eco-Center was a recipient of a 2007 Infrastructure grant for \$200,000. For more information, please contact Stewardship Council staff.

Environmental Education Funders of the South Bay

Staff has been actively involved in coordinating a meeting of South Bay funders and environmental education providers. The meeting will focus on the issues affecting nonprofits and funders who are focused on environmental education. During the meeting, environmental education staff will address some of the key issues facing their programs and engage funders in a dialogue on how they might better support each other.



Land/Youth Synergies Work Group

Land Conservation Program staff has conducted background research into potential youth projects on the PG&E lands. The memo has been forwarded to the Land/Youth Synergies Work Group. In addition, staff is preparing a survey to be sent to youth providers on their interest in opportunities on PG&E lands. The group will be meeting in April to discuss the memo and to explore next steps.

Creation of a Youth Advisory Panel

Every year, the Youth Investment Program recruits advisors to help read and evaluate prospective grant proposals. The External Advisory Panel (EAP) has been critical to ensuring a fair and respected grant review process. Though our advisors have high praise for our process, over the years, one of the most often cited suggestions from EAP reviewers, and many of our stakeholders, was that the Stewardship Council should look into involving younger people in our work. In 2010, we are finally able to incorporate this suggestion. We have created a new group of grant review advisors called the Youth Advisory Panel (YAP). YAP will function much like the EAP, but membership will be limited to alumni and program staff (between the ages of 18 and 24) of organizations that are either grant award winners or individuals who are recommended by respected leaders in the field. Just like our EAP, we are recruiting reviewers from diverse geographic and demographic backgrounds. These young adults will bring a much appreciated critical eye and personal experience to our grant reviews. The advisors along with Youth Investment Program staff will be reviewing the Catalyst Fund proposals.

STAFF REPORT

To: Stewardship Council Board of Directors
From: Ric Notini, Director of Land Conservation
Date: March 18, 2010
RE: Land Conservation Program Activities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Staff has been working on the development of a recommendation for the McArthur Swamp planning unit located in Shasta County in close coordination with the Planning Committee, and anticipates that the Planning Committee will forward its recommendation to the board for consideration at the May 19, 2010 board meeting.
- Staff continues to make progress on the next round of planning units (Round 1) located in three different watershed areas - the Pit-McCloud River, Feather River, and the Upper Mokelumne River watershed areas. A number of organizations interested in being considered for a fee title transfer of watershed lands have submitted statements of qualifications (SOQs) to the Stewardship Council. Staff has completed its review of the SOQs and will shortly begin inviting many of these organizations to prepare and submit a Land Stewardship Proposal further describing their interests and qualifications.
- Elizabeth Wroblecka recently joined the Stewardship Council as the Deputy Director of the Land Conservation Program. Elizabeth will assist in providing program management, strategic planning, and leadership to the program.

MCARTHUR SWAMP RECOMMENDATION

The McArthur Swamp planning unit, located in Shasta County, is the fourth largest of the Stewardship Council's 47 planning units that comprise the PG&E watershed lands. The Stewardship Council received two proposals from organizations interested in receiving a donation of fee title to approximately 4,700 acres of land located within the McArthur Swamp planning unit. Staff completed its review of the proposals and has been working on the development of a recommendation in close coordination with the Planning Committee. The recommendation will include the identification of the organization being recommended for receipt of fee title ownership as well as the organization being recommended as the conservation easement holder. We anticipate that the Planning Committee will forward its recommendation to the board for consideration at the May 19, 2010 board meeting.

ROUND 1 PLANNING UNITS

Staff continues to make progress on the Round 1 planning units. This work involves 11 planning units located in three different watershed areas - the Pit-McCloud River, Feather River, and Upper Mokelumne River.

Organizations interested in being considered for a fee title transfer of watershed lands located in one or more of these 11 planning units were previously invited to submit Statements of Qualification (SOQ) to the Stewardship Council. A total of 29 different organizations submitted SOQs, including public agencies, conservation-based non-profit organizations, and recognized tribes. Ten SOQs were received for the Upper Mokelumne watershed area, 8 SOQs were received for the Feather River watershed area, and 11 SOQs were received for the Pit-McCloud watershed area.



Staff has completed both its review of the SOQs and follow-up meetings with each organization to assess their specific interests and capacity. Based on this effort, those organizations that appear to potentially have sufficient capacity to own and manage watershed lands and to preserve and enhance the beneficial public values will be invited to prepare and submit a Land Stewardship Proposal further describing their interests and qualifications. We anticipate beginning this next phase of work in April for the Round 1 planning units located in the Upper Mokelumne and Pit-McCloud watershed areas, followed in May by the Round 1 planning units in the Feather River watershed area.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Elizabeth Wroblicka recently joined the Stewardship Council as Deputy Director of the Land Conservation Program. Elizabeth brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in land conservation, including the development of conservation easements and the completion of land conservation transactions. Her previous work experience included senior level work with the Land Trust Alliance and the Napa Land Trust. She will provide program management, strategic planning, and leadership to the Land Conservation Program.