



Matt Beard

Trinidad Bay Watershed Council

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Monday, October 20, 2014, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Civic Club Room, Trinidad Town Hall

Present: Name & Affiliation

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Richard Swisher | Westhaven CSD |
| Susan Golledge Rotwein | Trinidad Resident |
| Danny O'Shea | Trinidad resident |
| Roland Johnson | Westhaven Resident |
| Steen Trump | ADH Environmental |
| Sarah Sanders | Trinidad Resident |
| Tyler Duncan | GHD |
| Don Allan | Westhaven Resident |
| Sungnome Madrone | Trinidad Resident |
| Becky Price-Hall | City of Trinidad Watershed Coordinator |

ASBS Water Quality Monitoring Results: Becky presented a summary of City stormwater and Trinidad Bay Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) water quality 2011-14 monitoring results. Handout attached. Discussion: Parker Creek discharges lots of sediment. Don has stream turbidity data. It has been observed that runoff from the quarry contains lots of clay/rock material. The Trinidad Bay Report water quality section should focus on suspended sediment, metals, hydrocarbons, pesticides. The group felt that in spite of the many exceedances of the ASBS natural water quality standards, Trinidad Bay water quality is fairly good except for the turbidity and bacteria. Bacteria results were not reported on but there is lots of data that could be collected. The Watershed Council should push for projects that reduce sediment discharges from roads in the Trinidad-Westhaven area, and find a way to fix failing OWTS.

Stormwater Construction Project: Tyler reported that the Phase I construction is completed and showed photos of the construction. During construction, there has been good feedback from residents about the work on Ocean Street. One resident said that the recent rain didn't flood his driveway & garage as had been normal before the construction. Residents have spoken with TBWC members to request installation of the rain garden and additional vegetated swales in various locations in town. Tyler explained that these items could be included in the Phase II proposal.

Discussion: The Trinidad General Plan Update should include incentives to encourage homeowners to use green infrastructure and low impact development (LID) techniques to reduce stormwater runoff from their property into the stormwater system and to allow grey water use. Stormwater Best Management Practices including green infrastructure and LID such as rain barrels, rain gardens that reduce and treat stormwater runoff are also beneficial for reducing outdoor water use. Water conservation by residents with city hookups will reduce the withdrawals from Luffenholtz Creek and helps reduce drought impacts.

Watershed & Partner Updates

Trinidad Coastal Land Trust: Don provided a report on TCLT activities:

Coastal Trail: Funding to TCLT for acquisition of the Green Diamond property at the mouth of Little River was approved at the October meeting of the State Coastal Conservancy Board. This property is

TBWC is supported in part through the California Department of Conservation Watershed Grant Program and the California State Water Resources Control Board Prop 84 Area of Special Biological Significance Grant Program



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along the alignment of the proposed Little River Trail and provides the opportunity for a pedestrian only bypass option to the California Coastal Trail as well as trails to the seldom visited beach on the east side of Little River. The Little River Trail Project is on hold for the moment. The SCC offered a grant to the Redwood Community Action Agency to complete designs, CEQA, and permits but the grant required the participation of County staff and County staff declined to participate at this time due to their work load and other projects - especially the McKay Forest but also the Arcata - Eureka Trail and Annie Mary Trail. County staff also mentioned that they are working on an agreement with Caltrans to accept maintenance responsibility for the trail on both sides of Little River, and not just the portion of the trail on the Highway 101 bridge. TCLT offered to organize a local chapter of the Trail Stewards (sponsored by the Humboldt Trails Council) to perform trail maintenance but the County wants to make sure there is an entity with the financial capacity to perform major repairs if needed, so they are trying to work that out with Caltrans. TCLT is encouraging Trinidad-Westhaven-McKinleyville residents to express their support and desire for the trail to the County to raise the priority of this trail in the County's ranking. The Little River Trail does not face the political or physical obstacles that the Arcata- Eureka Trail and Annie - Mary Trail face but because the planning for those two trails has been ongoing for a number of years now, and one of them connects the two largest cities in the County, they are considered higher priorities. Public support for the Little River Trail will help raise its priority level.

Strawberry Rock: TCLT is also in discussions with Green Diamond about the possibility of accepting a public access easement to Strawberry Rock and a conservation easement for 17 acres of forest around the rock. Green Diamond is discussing the project with potential funding sources but nothing definite has been decided. TCLT is assessing the proposed trail alignment and the TCLT Board is supportive of accepting the easement if funding can be secured.

Simmons Gallery - Land Trust Room fundraising campaign: TCLT has also embarked on a fund raising campaign to complete the Simmons Gallery - Land Trust Room. The room is an addition to the north side of the recently completed Trinidad Library, which sits in Saunders Park, a 3-acre property gifted to the Land Trust by Glen and Janice Saunders and the home of the Trinidad Museum and the Trinidad Library. The addition has been framed in but the Land Trust needs to raise \$60,000 to complete it. Since its inception in 1979, the Land Trust has not had an office space and as it has taken on more properties it needs a place for the safe-keeping of title and easement documents, and a place to meet. The Land Trust has leased out the Simmons House, left to the Land Trust by the late Ned Simmons, to the Trinidad Art Group. The Simmons Gallery - Land Trust Room will serve both as a gallery where local artists can display their work and an office and meeting room for the Land Trust.

City of Trinidad: Becky reported that there is a Coastal Conservancy Climate Ready Grant RFP due on November 17. The group suggested several proposal ideas: Tap Luffenholtz springs for the water plant sourcewater because it's cleaner and electricity could be generated from the drop to the water plant; groundwater recharge in the Luffenholtz or other Trinidad Bay Watersheds; purchase easements



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or parcels of older second growth stands in the TB watersheds for watershed health and for carbon sequestration; purchase the Strawberry Rock parcel or an easement.

Westhaven Community Services District: WCSD has received two IRWMP grants – one for a new water tank and renovation of the old one; and the other for replacing a water main which will reduce water loss. Sungnome commented that the City should be taking opportunities with IRWMP as well.

Other announcements: Steen commented that there is a very serious trash problem at Baker Beach below the parking lot area. He thought it could be from homeless camping, but the volume is so great that it could also be household trash dumped there.

Moonstone Beach visitors have been having difficulties with the caretaker. The TCLT has an easement for the west side of the parking lot all the way to the end but the caretaker is hassling people and roping off the parking lot just beyond the Merryman's Beachhouse.

There will be an ivy pull on Saturday November 1 from 9 am to 1 pm at the TCLT Bruno Groth Grove property holding, behind the Trinidad Post Office.

Sarah noted that there is a lot of dog poop at the Moonstone Beach. The group discussed ideas and thought an effort should be made to reach out to surfers with dogs to request they pick up some dog poop each time they visit the beach with their dogs and dispose of it in the beach waste container. It also might be worthwhile to post the funny informational poster "There is no Poop Fairy."

Trinidad Bay Watershed Council projects & activities: The group agreed that it makes sense to develop a nice website for the TBWC. This will be a good place to post TBWC information plus the many documents about the Trinidad Bay Watersheds and ASBS. The website will be funded in part through the Department of Conservation Watershed Coordinator Grant and the State Water Resources Control Board ASBS Stormwater Project Grant.

TBWC 2015 Meeting Calendar:

- Monday, January 26, 2015
- Monday, April 20, 2015
- Monday, July 20, 2015
- Monday, October 19, 2015

Next Meeting Date: Monday January 26, 2014. Future Agenda Items: Climate change issues including coastal erosion, floods & drought impacts; Onsite Wastewater Treatment System program; drought and el Nino predictions; Trinidad Bay Report.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30. Submitted by Becky Price-Hall