

**Park and Recreation Open Space Advisory Commission Meeting
April 4, 2017**

Chair: Welcome to the April PROSAC meeting. Thank you all for coming. I am going to dive right in here today and start the meeting with the roll call.

Richard Rothman: District 1. First Vice Chair.

Mark Scheuer: District 8.

Anthony Cuadro: District 7.

Patricia Delgado: District 9.

Jordyn Aquino: District 4.

Linda D'Avirro: District 11.

Jane Weil: District 6.

Ana Gee: District 6.

Robert Brust: District 8.

Kim Hirschfield: District 3.

Trevor McNeil: District 5.

Nick Belloni: District 2

Chair: Steffen Franz District 2. So before we get rolling on the meeting and I get into the Chair's report, Trevor you came in a little late on your first meeting and then you weren't here last week. So generally we like to know a little bit about our new members. I think we have one or two that should be attending tonight and then next one we'll have a couple more. So Trevor tell us a little about yourself.

Trevor McNeil: I grew up in the Haight. I'm a public school teacher. I've got three kids under two at home which is why I was not here last time. I was on the board of the Inner Sunset Park Neighborhood Association. I'm also on the Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee. I spent around six years as an elected member of the Democratic County Central Committee. That's my City Hall resume, I could tell you more.

I teach 7th grade English and I've always been interested in parks and have been around parks and keeping families in San Francisco.

Chair: So I'm going to start the Chair's report. First I guess we'll review the minutes. Did everybody get a copy of the minutes?

Nick Belloni: Move to approve the minutes.

Patricia Delgado: Second.

Chair: Okay, all in favor in adopting the minutes as is?

All: Aye.

Chair: Is there any public comment on this item? Being none, this item is closed.

A quick Chair's report today. The first thing I'd like to do is just give you a little update. The Department has made part of its strategic plan the sister park concept and I decided to take it upon myself to actually create a template. That template looks something in [unintelligible] my Friends of group, Friends of Lafayette Park will go to Hilltop Park and we will engage in a barbecue that will embrace the community and ask people would you like to be a part of a friends of group, try to help them, show them how to organize. [unintelligible] In essence trying to really get down without a lot of red tape. There's two friends of groups, a group of people, I encourage all of you when we set that date to attend. I'll certainly be inviting my Supervisors to attend and I think if this work I've been assured by the General Manager that he will support it one hundred percent and I think this is maybe the first the Parks Alliance is hearing that so perhaps they'll support it as well.

But my intention is to really launch these, especially with those of you who have strong friends of groups. You know who I'm talking about. I need you guys once this starts for you to take the lead and say identify a park, go out there, start talking to the people, start creating guidelines and eventually maybe we have a template that we may follow to start working these. So that's my first item.

My second item is Ken Maley has made an offer next month we are hopeful that our friend Toks Ajike will come and present on the contractor item that we've been talking about. We're not a hundred percent sure yet. Ken is friendly with the developer who helped build South Park and has offered us a walk-through to talk about how the process went from kind of the private side, from a contractor's side. So I think that will be interesting for those of you interested. Ken basically said once we know that item is on the calendar we'll then work through Tiffany to invite everybody to that. Certainly I would expect that the PROSAC reps from that District will be there in full force.

Jane Weil: So you're thinking about a physical walk through?

Chair: He invited us either before or after, I'll not object either way. I think it would be important for people to be able to visualize and this gives them the opportunity, it's an open invitation to us for a guided tour with the contractor. So another good one.

I'm going to wrap this up by saying those of you who have to appear at Rules. The Rules Committee the next meeting is next Wednesday, that is the 12th, at 1:00 o'clock in room 205. If you are up for reappointment you must attend Rules, you need to make sure your paperwork is in. Again, if you have not been contacted by Derek then you've got nothing to worry about. If you haven't then you do need to show up or at least tell him why you're not showing up.
[unintelligible]

Jane Weil: I have not been contacted by Derek but I was just stopped in the hall by my staff Supervisor staff saying they got an email that they needed to get a letter in tomorrow for my renewal. I assume that I never heard from Derek at all so I assume that means I am up for renewal.

Chair: So I would ask you to just write Derek an email, you have his email address or if you don't we can give it to you. I would email him first thing tomorrow and ask him do I need to [unintelligible]. I did that. I thought I was being cc'd as the Chair of PROSAC when in reality I got an email from my Supervisor saying I have to go appear in front of Rules on April 20th. So again I think man of us will be there. I would hope that those of you who are up for reappointment, those of you who are not in that moment will support the other members if you feel they should be on the committee. But I think we'll have a good turnout of us at the Rules Committee meeting next week.

That's all I have for the Chair's report. We are going to do elections tonight. We basically will hopefully knock that out a little bit quicker than we did last year. I don't want it to carry over [unintelligible] like it did last year. With that said, Item 6 on your agenda, the proposed concept design for 900 Innes has been pushed back to next month. Nicole who was going to present is here. She was [unintelligible]. She said I'm really sorry, I'll be back next month, whatever you want. So we're going to basically push that agenda item which I am sorry about.

With that said I am going to close the Chair's report. Is there any public comment on this item? Hearing none this item is closed.

Let's move on to Item 4.

Stacy Bradley: We are making great progress with spring and summer openings. So we've recently opened South Park and soon to follow are 17th and Folsom, Mountain Lake, Alamo, Glen Canyon. So over the next few months we'll have a lot of openings and it's showing great progress with our bond and other projects.

We also have this month 11th and Natoma that's going to the Board so I just want to share that with all of you and actually some of you are new so 11th and Natoma I'll show you quickly is a new acquisition that we're looking at for a park. It's on 11th Street between Natoma and Minna, so it's one block south of Mission Street and it was identified in the District 6 task force that Jane

was on as being one of the highest priority spots of District 6 to get a new park. So we're very excited about it. There's existing tenants on the site so it's likely that the park won't be built for another few years. The acquisition is our next step to get closer to having a park here. So I probably will be reaching out to many of you to ask for your support at the Board of Supervisors meeting once it's calendared which it should be in the next couple of weeks.

We're really excited about all these openings over the next couple of months.

Robert Brust: District 8. Is it usual for these to go to the Board of Supervisors?

Stacy Bradley: Yes, every acquisition needs to go to the Board. It first goes to Commission, they approve it and approve use of funding.

Robert Brust: It was unanimous at the Commission, correct?

Stacy Bradley: Yes.

Chair: It still has to go to the Board of Supervisors.

Stacy Bradley: Yes, because it's [unintelligible]. Actually, even with Shoreview where we're not spending any money it still has to go to the Board because it's a transfer of property.

Anthony Cuadro: District 7. Is there any of the failing playground in the works?

Stacy Bradley: Yes, thank you. So Sergeant Macaulay and Hyde-Turk are both in the middle of the community design process, they're going well. [unintelligible] George Christopher is stuck in a little bit of—sorry, that's a bond project—that's stuck in a little bit of historic issues so it's been a little delayed in getting its concept plan approved but it's mostly done. Washington Square's concept plan has move along, I think that is getting ready to go to Commission in spring as well. Alice Chalmers and Panhandle will be kicking off shortly and we're working very closely with [unintelligible] so we'll give you more of an update. McLaren is wrapped into the visioning process and Merced Heights we have kicked off that one as well.

Linda D'Avirro: District 11. I actually have two announcements and one is—well, they're both McLaren. The horse trial I believe didn't it start Sunday? So, we have horses now in both Golden Gate Park and McLaren on a trial basis and anyone that is a resident gets 25 percent off the fees which is really a bargain because the fees go from I think it's a quarter hour to a half hour to a full hour. I really would encourage those of you who haven't seen a horse and have children to give it a try. For us at McLaren it's really an important thing to try to keep it in McLaren because it's a historical handshake if you will because we used to have horse stables and then later on police stables so the community has been asking for that for a very long time. We're very excited about it. So it runs through May.

Stacy Bradley: The horses are from Camp Mather so they need to go back up there during camp season but it's exciting to have these exact horses here.

Linda D'Avirro: And they don't run by themselves. Some of us may have had different experiences with horses running off with us but these are all part of a back and they have a wrangler so if you're worried about children or yourself running off you don't have to worry because they're tethered together.

Stacy Bradley: On our website there is a feedback form so if you want to provide information. Even if you're not able to get out there but you think it's a great idea, feel free.

Linda D'Avirro: And then the other thing is this Saturday is the trail and pathways task force or focus meeting. That's going to be at the Vis Valley Library and if you have a chance again that's McLaren as part of the bond project and so if you have used McLaren or you're interested there's a lot of people that have a lot of uses of those parks, of the paths and trails. I'd appreciate your coming to that meeting if you can or at least providing feedback because it's really important that ultimately we have a way to get a way to get from one end of the park to the other that doesn't scare people.

My final thing is could you tell me what the balance is on the acquisition fund that's available, the amount that we're talking about?

Stacy Bradley: So what we have at the moment is—

Linda D'Avirro: Well, that's not already spoken for, the free money.

Stacy Bradley: The free money. So since we haven't purchased 11th Street yet we do have \$11 million in the account. The 11th Street property will be \$9.725 million so that I'm assuming that next fiscal year at which point we will have received an infusion of cash of \$2.7 million. So it brings us down to \$3.7. So next year after we pay for 11th and Natoma.

Linda D'Avirro: And again the following fiscal we'll get that same amount of \$2.4 million?

Stacy Bradley: Yeah, it's going up. We have \$2.8 for the following fiscal year and then those are the two budgeted years so those are what the Controller's Office that we should likely receive. The ones following that will probably be 3 percent.

Richard Rothman: District 1. I wanted to ask you about Fulton Street, if you ever had a chance to talk any other city agencies [unintelligible].

Stacy Bradley: Not yet. It is within [unintelligible].

Richard Rothman: Who are they?

Stacy Bradley: Eric is the superintendent who used to be—the superintendent of Golden Gate Park and David [unintelligible] is now the superintendent of Golden Gate Park.

Richard Rothman: [unintelligible] The Supervisor feels that there needs to be more lights in the park and that the trails need to be I guess which path is for walking and which path is for

driving, for bicycling because I guess as people get old bicyclists seem to go faster so I don't know if that's in your area.

Stacy Bradley: That's one of the things David and Eric are working on opening up some more space for having multi-defined, multipurpose trails so actually specifically allowing bikes to be in the same space that pedestrians are so I think they're testing out a couple of spaces to see how it works and see if there is different treatments that we should do to test that out. [unintelligible] I don't know if it's from the ones that we just—I really think he just opened up another.

Richard Rothman: No, I think it's more than when she was walking bicyclists [unintelligible] she didn't feel safe with the bicyclists.

Stacy Bradley: So hopefully what MTA is working on would be improved transit and traffic calming measures which does just address cars it also is addressing bicycles and pedestrian access. Hopefully that will help and that's being implemented.

And actually that reminded me—Katie Petrucione has left the Department. She was our head of finance and administration. It's sad for us, she's amazing. She's moved to the Port where she will be doing the same thing. Sad.

Chair: Are there any more questions from the committee for Stacy? Is there any public comment on this item? Hearing none, this item is closed.

We are going to move briskly into a presentation that I am very excited about. I hope you are as well. I have been the president of a friends of group now for a few years and Parks Alliance is our fiscal sponsor. I would assume that many of you would say the same thing. For the past few years or at least a year there has been some questions about what's going on within the organization and after meeting with them I thought it would be great to have them come and speak to us about their role as it relates to parks, friends of groups, their vision of what the future is. So please welcome Drew and Meagan.

Drew Becher: I'm Drew, you're getting me about three weeks in so I'm very impressionable. I want to say how honored I am to be in front of you and how honored I am to work in San Francisco, it's such a great city with a great history of parks and open space. When I worked in other cities I'd really look to San Francisco as leading the way and emulated a lot of programs that probably a lot of you started in your parks in other cities. So it's really quite special to be here. Again, thanks for having me.

A little bit of background for me is I grew up in Ohio, that flyover country that everybody talks about, Dayton, Ohio. I really got my love of parks from my grandmother. She was a huge horticulturist and garden person and that really got my love of being outside and understanding plants and then understanding green spaces and the way they interact with our lives.

I went to the University of Cincinnati and got my background in urban planning, design, and architecture and really focused on public space and the way people interact in public space. Then

I worked for Mayor Daly for twelve years in Chicago and created his landscaping/slash green plan as one of the first cities that did that in the country, created a green roof idea there and then ended with the creation of Blenning Park.

I then went to DC, I worked for Mayor Williams in DC which was a lot of fun and absolutely as you know not much happens in DC and it was very difficult but it was a lot of fun being there working for Anthony Williams and rebuilding that city.

Then I went to New York and ran the New York Restoration Project which I find is very similar to the Parks Alliance here in San Francisco. The New York Restoration Project was founded by Bette Midler and she is a woman that really knows greening and beautification.

Then most recently I was in Philadelphia running the Pennsylvania Horticulture Society which is one of the largest greening organizations on the East Coast.

My husband was transferred out here and it was my turn to give up a position and come out here and this job became available and I put my hat in and here I am so I'm really excited to meet and work with each one of you here in San Francisco. The Parks Alliance has gone through some changes in the last year and it's an organization that we're actually reinventing ourselves and we will be over the next couple of months we're going to go into a strategic planning exercise with a lot of partners. Some of you are on that list to be notified and talked to from the person that is helping us do that but the strategic plan we haven't really done a full-blown strategic plan in a very long time and it's time that we look at ourselves, update and more ourselves forward.

Right now this is a mission of the San Francisco Parks Alliance and I don't think it's going to change dramatically but our mission is to provide civic engagement and [unintelligible].

I'm going to really focus on our community engagement and partnerships section which originally man of you knew it was stewardship but [unintelligible] and is responsible for all of our programs that we have and there is basically four major areas, it's street parks, ground play, our parks partners program and the blue-green way.

So this is the setup of the organization that you guys would actually have the most interface with. I will say that we are growing this Division and it's something that we really want to look at. If you know of anyone that would like to be a project manager and work for the Parks Alliance we have a giant neon we're hiring sign out right now for project managers, program managers and the like. It can all be found on our website.

Our street parks initiative is basically we work with neighborhoods to transform city owned land—not just city owned but agency owned or any publically owned land that needs to be green. One of our most successful ones is Tunnel Top Park in the Dogpatch area. It is quite special. [unintelligible] is another program where these little alleyways run through the homes and goes down to the Balboa BART station and people used to traipse through here and the cliffs used to be all muddy and now it's becoming a pathway that leads throughout the neighborhood. And then the hidden garden steps in the Inner Sunset which was completed in 2015, there's interesting things that you can do with spaces.

Street park projects are with public works world. [unintelligible]. It gives community groups the freedom to create spaces that quite honestly your probably wouldn't get to create on Recreation and Park property, that type of thing. We had 23 groups that are fiscally sponsored by the Parks Alliance and you can get grants and money anywhere from \$10,000 to \$300,000 in order to make them happen and basically we work with the community [unintelligible] as a project manager, help raise funds and then we act as a fiscal agent to link contracts, landscape architecture contracts, and construction contracts in order to make it happen. So a space goes from looking like this to looking like that and that's the Pennsylvania Street garden which is quite impressive.

Groundplay is a new program, a greening program that we have partnered with planning on and basically it's our tactical urbanism approach and it's really taking public spaces, investing in public spaces or the public realm that normally you don't think of if indeed [unintelligible] goes through and says why do we have this right turn lane here we can do [unintelligible] and create public space. We actually work with the community and the Planning Department to make this happen, see if it works and then it can become reality down the way.

One of the most successful is Playland at 43rd Avenue. This site is board by the School Board. However, it is temporarily being used as a community garden and there's other activities going in there and what it has done is really informed the community on what they want to be a part of that develop versus not.

Annie Alley is right down here South of Market in the Yerba Buena District. It was an alley that now is being used for public theater and music throughout the day and on weekends and then this is a concept to the cusp of like Noe and Glen Park where this sort of leftover area has become sort of a public plaza and in turn this is just paint on the street and planters but it could become a reality. An example would be what happened in the Castro like Castro and Market where that was sort of a leftover piece of property where the transit turns around and that was sort of tested and now the Park Streetscape project is a plaza. That's something that can happen.

We also work with our park partners to do mini projects, these are just a couple. I [unintelligible] in the Outer Richmond—blank stairway that you know who would have thought a stairway could look like this. Funny thing is Ikea is now selling decals for stairs for your home. If you haven't seen that it's pretty interest. I think they copied off these guys. And then Joe DiMaggio Playground and then a really cool one is [unintelligible] the June Jordan School for Equity garden. It is fantastic. They have this really cool kitchen that's off the grid that people learn how to cook. It's one thing to understand how to garden and to get the vegetables and everything else and what you do with them afterwards. So that's something that is really fantastic that we funded and worked with them on.

Park partners, this program also we enliven public spaces. So we work with communities that get grants in order to make these beautiful things happen in these public spaces. I was just at the greenhouse project. If you haven't been down there and seen their new sort of welcome sign to the garden District it's great. Phase two will be a greenhouse project that will be happening building greenhouses behind it and then Sutro Storage fund a lot of the programs that they have.

One of our biggest initiatives is the blue-greenway and this is a thirteen-mile system. We work with Recreation and Park, work with the Port Authority, we work with I would say the alphabet soup of everyone in order to make this happen. But it's thirteen miles of trails that actually connect from AT&T Park all the way down to Candlestick Point and it's really about bringing equity to the city and giving people access to the waterfront in this part of the city where we actually historically have not. So this is something we're working on and something we're really focused on as an organization and one of the things that came out of this were these great visions of the way that these great sites can actually look. So [unintelligible] Cove instead of tearing down all of the old industrial equipment use the industrial equipment as being parts of the park and sort of honor the past of what's happened there. India Basin and then this is a great site that is actually in the process of being built, so we're excited about where this stuff is going.

One of the things we've done here is get the community engaged within the blue-greenway, so show the community, show the public what could be. A lot of people just like when you go through homes of your HGTV a lot of people can't envision what something will look like but once you take them and ride a bike down this area and you see the pathway and you see the opportunity that is there you can sort of envision a part happening. So we'd have a lot of these—we take people on bikes and do a bike tour. We also have tabling, happy hours to get people understanding what's going on. Bus tours among other things at community festivals throughout the southeast waterfront in order to get the message out.

We're also having policy council with a couple people in this room know. There are nineteen members, we have five board members on it. The accomplishments in 2016 were pretty impressive I think. Volunteer support for Prop B provided advise on the bay restoration measure. [unintelligible] well-attended Supervisor event for the election that came up as well. So the policy council is alive and well and really pushing the green agenda forward.

This is something that we were just talking about was philanthropy and this is where Meagan comes in and our partnership Recreation and Park. This is all about giving about 20,000 kids access to really great playgrounds which they don't have right now and it's a capital campaign to make these thirteen playgrounds across the city the best playgrounds in the country and it's underway as we speak. We have \$15.5 million from the bond in 2012 but our goal here is to raise the other \$11 million in order to make this project a reality so it's a big lift on all our parts but we're really focused on this as one of our major initiatives that we have in the next couple of years is to make sure that these playgrounds get built, they get built with private funds and built in a timely fashion and delivered to a community and they community is proud of what they have. So we couldn't be more happy to be a part of this with Recreation and Park and all of our other partners and donors that are making this a reality.

A couple of other things I wanted to mention. Hopefully everyone is hungry because Whole Foods tomorrow is donation 5 percent of all their goods that they sell to the Let's Play S.F. campaign so if you want to get your lunch there or saved up your shopping and you usually do it on Thursday or Friday, do it tomorrow because we get 5 percent of those sales, they go directly to make these playgrounds reality and if you have any of your listeners or anything like that it just went out in our email but if you want to just email that out it would be super helpful to have people shop tomorrow at Whole Foods. Then May 4th is Love Your Parks Day and we'll be

celebrating at Urban Order and it will be really a fun event. It will be my first one and I hear that they are really great.

So again, I'm looking forward to coming back here if I could in six to nine months once I have more than three weeks under my belt and we've got through some of our strategic planning exercises to bounce some ideas off you, sort of explain possibly some of the new things we want to do and focus on investing and building up some of the core mission of the Parks Alliance and I look forward to serving each and every one of your. Please invite me to your events because I want to come out to do it. Just this weekend I worked with the DPW crews and filled up seven ADA beds [unintelligible] community garden in Potrero which was so much fun. So if you need help like that on the weekends I've available as well and want to come out and would love to meet your neighborhood and all the folks that make San Francisco a wonderful place to live.

Chair: We'll take questions from the committee. I love this. I think we love this. Many of our members were involved in what was calling the Failing Playgrounds task force. This is clearly in our scope and purview. What I heard you talking about is building some new playgrounds and perhaps renovating a few. One of the items that I think everyone in this committee feels strongly about it maintenance and so I would ask that when you present to us in the future one area that we want to hear about is not just the acquisition or development of sites but it is about how you plan with the Department to maintenance those sites. It's incredibly important to us. We are trying now to acquire new open space if we can't figure out a way to steward for the future and we would counsel you as a body that that is as important to us as the acquisition of a new open space is to know that twenty years from now somebody will be there to keep it working. That's not a question it was a comment but I just want to enforce that it seems like it's our body's purview and focus.

Drew Becher: I could not agree more and I think maintenance is hugely important. Actually, Phil and I have talked about that and we've got to in our fundraising we've got to somehow—and don't quote me on the this—but we want to somehow make fundraising for maintenance sexy. In a city that made hailing a cab and all this other stuff interesting and new somehow we can be able to figure this out and I'm excited to work with Recreation and Park and your guys on that and maintenance is always at the top of our agenda, that's why a lot of our programs are built in with community with DPW, with that type of work.

Chair: That's awesome. If you guys want to do some fundraising is sexy tee-shirts we would take this. Maya.

Maya Rodgers: District 10. In the past the Parks Alliance has played kind of an integral role in the Community Opportunity Fund process. How are you guys looking at your role within that process and if you're looking at it all.

Meagan Demitz: I haven't had the time to follow up on that. Our plan is to continue to work with that system [unintelligible].

Chair: Anybody else from the committee?

Richard Rothman: District 1. I know we disagree on I'm sure you're familiar with AD 756 about the [unintelligible] proposed by Phil [unintelligible] to lower the speed in Golden Gate Park to 15 miles an hour. Well we—I disagree but that's okay. But you know people need to feel safe getting to the park too and particularly in the Richmond, in the Sunset getting across those busy streets so I hope the Parks Alliance would not only be safe in the playground but also being safe to get to our parks and playgrounds and working with Supervisors and Recreation and Park and whoever to make sure people can get to the park safely.

Kim Hirschfield: Thanks very much for your presentation. It sounds like you're doing a wonderful job. How do you go about choosing the neighborhood in which your programs in your parks will be in?

Drew Becher: It's really different depending on the program. So for instance with Groundplay which is run through the Planning Department a lot of those have bubbled up through community plans and neighborhood plans and streetscape plans that are there. Those programs then the Planning Department works with us in order to help initiate and work towards.

The DPW, the [unintelligible] is really grassroots. I mean there are some problem areas that have been noted by the City Administrator's Office, Public Works, Police, you know others, and we do actively go out and try to get community groups in order to do some of those street end parks but most we have a lot people that live in those neighborhoods that have those street ends and whatever that we really do have sort of a waiting list of people for that particular program with Public Works.

For our Park Partners groups really it's open and it's really you have to have a friends of group or you have to have some inkling of some group that wants to do something and we're more than willing to come out and talk to you about setting up groups like that. So we're pretty much all over the city. I don't think we're strong in one area or the other. I think if you look on the map it's really interesting our sort of like the lesser amount of areas we have is really on the north side. We really strong in the central and south so that's a difference but that's where our focus has been in the past. So there's really many different ways to enter [unintelligible] that I really would like to have as part of our strategic plan a better understanding of how you get involved with the Parks Alliance and it's not so by programmatic area, it would be sort of like here's the overall funnel, what do you want to do? Here are the programs that we have and then let's get you fit in one of those programs where we know where money is and support services.

Kim Hirschfield: Do you have an programs that engage the public schools in San Francisco where you can develop internships with students? Do you have anything like that? I think that would be a really good way of engaging families and children who are also interested in public space.

Drew Becher: We had a couple of gardens that are actually married with the schools so they have—I think there's ten or so of those and then we have the shared schoolyards as well. That brings in parent-teachers groups and others to make that happen. But we always want to partner more with schools. I actually have that on one of my notes, I've been meeting with some of the

Supervisors and they have been saying that we need to figure out something more with our schools.

Chair: I have one quick one. Again, I think with you having been here for three weeks it's hard for you to answer but it's something I want to just put on your radar. Friends of groups up until now have been loosely organized and by that I mean hi, I want to be a friends of group. Here's some money, can you put it in the bank? [unintelligible]

There was conversation by your predecessor and other members of the Parks Alliance to start to create a bylaw or a series of bylaws that each friends of group would at least base level have to come up with some sort of rules. I find this important because I believe that there are friends of groups that have been in this city for a very long time and hold the purse strings of that community and perhaps maybe they aren't the best members to represent what the community has become.

And so I say that because I think any friends of group should have some organization and has our financial sponsor, speaking from Friends of Lafayette Park we asked for that document many years ago and said please give us a template that we can follow and that conversation kind of got lost and I think it's an important conversation because it is the framework for these official friends of groups, right? So again I'm just saying for the future an area that would be important to me is to have some dedicated template bylaws that we can go in and make custom to our friends of group whether that be terms like hey [unintelligible] or I need to fill out a reimbursement, here's the simple way to do that. I think it would be great for the Parks Alliance in this process to give us some of that, some framework, some structure, an easy way—and again I'm just speaking from the standpoint of my friends of group doesn't have a treasurer right now so I am now the treasurer and the president, I do policy and the money. And the money is very difficult with you guys. You make it very difficult to get paid back and there's a lot of rules associated with what you get paid back and that's a problem. The rules aren't a problem, just the lack of understanding of those rules.

So, again, I'm not the only one in this room that some gift cards for our gardeners out of my own pocket that I can't collect back on because that's against your policy but I didn't know that until I bought those gift cards for my gardeners.

The more information you could give the friends of groups the better the packet, the better I think many of them will response. So that's just again a comment more than a question.

Drew Becher: I could not agree more and just on the flip side of that the administrative nightmare of people not knowing what to do, having totally different forms, submitting things different ways, doing whatever is a complete disaster and we're going to look to revamp that. I love the idea of having this sort of guide bylaws book.

Chair: Even a packet, something that you could hand and say oh you're a new friends of group? Well we have this, here, take a look at this, discuss it with your community and then come back to us with any questions.

Drew Becher: Something we did in New York is we required somebody from each of the community gardens, and we had over 300 community gardens, to come to an orientation every year where they got their new package. One of the officers of whoever it is, we didn't get into the management of it but whoever wanted to come and they had to sit there but it went through some or processes and that type of stuff.

Chair: At least that was a failsafe for you guys to say listen we gave you the packet, we couldn't figure out how to file [unintelligible]. Great, that's great. Linda.

Linda D'Avirro: District 11. One of my requests goes back many years and that is sort of a step from Steffan has said earlier about the sister parks because we had talked about this for years that many of the park groups could really benefit by having a day-long conference or a two-day conference where everyone is in the same room and they can talk to different maybe tabling or however it would be set up where several people can come together and would be park groups that come together but also share knowledge and experience and best practices. I would hope. You know, that was on the books way back when and it goes on to what you're saying as well.

Drew Becher: We could rope all those together.

Linda D'Avirro: Yeah, you could put the other thing that you were talking about there. Thank you.

Maya Rodgers: I have to say the idea in theory of having a two-day conference but I think lots of groups are volunteers and they're at work or you know or can't take off work to do something like that. It's something to think about.

Drew Becher: [unintelligible] it was on Saturday.

Chair: Linda is saying that it would be a weekend and I think given our discussion about this first sister park being at Hilltop Saturday, midday, make it as easy as possible for people.

Drew Becher: Sure. Maybe do a couple.

Chair: Any other questions for Drew? I would just like to thank you on behalf of the committee. It's refreshing to hear your positivity, to hear your openness to our ideas. I look forward for us to work hand in hand with you guys in the future and I really appreciate you coming.

Drew Becher: Thank you and I look forward to coming back here.

Chair: Is there any public comment on this item?

Debra Benedict: I'm learning about the Parks Alliance and I'm super thrilled that they're able to do all the wonderful things that they're doing. I will look forward to looking on the website to see how I could become involved. I'll be speaking in the future.

Chair: Is there any other public comment on this item? Hearing none, this item is closed.

It's now election time at PROSAC. I would like to start with a statement. There are some members that I have seen here for a very long time and some members that are brand new and my hope is that next month I will see some new members and that they will carrying on with what has basically gone on for the past couple years. I have to say that I'm honored to have followed behind Les and those of you who were here when Les was a Chair. Linda is also here and she was a phenomenal Chair. I believe that the work that we're doing is good and so to that end I would lobby—I am certainly throwing my hat in the ring to run for Chair again but I would also encourage unless there is somebody who vehemently wants to be in leadership that we perhaps vote the same slate as we did. This is my feeling. I'm very happy to work with both Richard and Maya. They're very diverse in terms of where they're from in the city, their backgrounds, and they both contribute quite a bit. So I'm not here to lobby for them. I will open up this election by saying that I am in essence going to run again for Chair this year.

Richard Rothman: Steffen for Chair.

Nick Belloni: I'll second it.

Chair: I guess that's a vote, right? Anybody else running? All in favor of me?

All: Aye.

Chair: Okay, so I guess that passes. So let's start with first Vice Chair. I would like to nominate Richard Rothman.

Patricia Delgado: Second.

Chair: That's two, anybody else running? Vice Chair. All in favor of Richard Rothman as first Vice Chair?

All: Aye.

Chair: It's unanimous. Second Vice Chair?

Mark Scheuer: I nominate Maya.

Nick Belloni: Second.

Chair: Does anybody else want to run for second Vice Chair? All in favor of Maya for second Vice Chair. That's unanimous. Thank you very much.

So friends I would like to say thank you for that. I appreciate your vote of confidence. I will term out soon and so to that end I would like to keep in mind some of you and some of you know that I feel this way that the recent leadership is continued at this level is because Les sought out

Linda, Linda sought out me. There were conversations that went on long before we actually voted and so I would urge you the newer members of PROSAC to think what two or three years might be like. I won't be here. I will term out in two years. It is the next generation that will pretty much steer the future so we'll run with what we have right now. Again, I feel very confident in our team. If there are subcommittees that you feel strongly about—I know most of our new members come to this because they're very excited about certain specific issues. Don't hesitate to come to us and say hey we'd like this on the agenda or we'd like to know more about these items. I'm certainly open to trying to lobby that in any way I can with the Department or other groups.

Linda D'Avirro: District 11. Could I ask because my Supervisor chairs the Rules Committee and it has come up a lot about when we started and all that kind of stuff. Would it serve any of the other members to know going back to what you just said what the start dates are presumably each member would serve the two years four times up to the eight so that we can perhaps mentor some of the up and coming people?

Chair: Absolutely. I think this point is well taken. Richard has made the comment and I don't know how legit it is, it's just hearsay to me, but he has [unintelligible] discovered through conversations with each Supervisor what everybody's term is, that's why we're coming to Rules now in such droves is because they now have said to every Supervisor if you have a PROSAC member we need to know when they started, we need to know when they term out. So I believe that we're actually getting on [unintelligible]. Richard?

Richard Rothman: I mean I emailed Derek and he told me when I started but I was on the Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee before and I was Chair and we always had this problem of when—is it a fixed term? Like I guess my term ends every two years in the odd-even years and some people end in the even years but like Linda—you know when this, this went on five or six years ago in the Rules Committee so my comment—Derek said he was talking to the City Attorney. I don't know if he got an answer to settle this because to me it's been an ongoing issue and I don't have the answer.

Chair: Sorry, I think I'll just give you a base answer that I understand. You have a very unique situation. You filled in when somebody else wasn't termed out.

Linda D'Avirro: Yeah, Nancy Barber.

Chair: So in essence you carried on their term before you were actually appointed to your own set of terms. When we were appointed—you, Pat, myself, a couple of the others, there were two four-year terms not four two-year terms. That changed as well.

Linda D'Avirro: It's very confusing when you read the charter. It's a mess.

Chair: So Tiffany I would like to put this one to bed as well in saying in our agenda call next week I would like to either speak with the City Attorney or come up with some sort of a question that is what is our term, when does that take effect and in essence how easy is it to give us an entire snapshot of all the PROSAC members and when they term out.

Richard Rothman: I'm the same as Linda because I started in October of 2013 so I was filling in a vacancy so I went in October of 13 and then I had to go back again in the middle of whenever that fixed seat ended. So maybe we should also ask like Linda and myself who came in the middle when is our term. I'm sure there's other people who started in the middle.

Chair: I've also seen it with Nick for example where he filled a seat and he went to Rules and then a year later he had to go to Rules again. So again I think this would be a perfect conversation with the City Attorney to just understand what is the scope of it.

Linda D'Avirro: I would like to add that Supervisor Yee is looking at maybe eliminating term limits for our organization which I don't personally necessarily think is a great idea for any committee but we are only one I think two committees that have term limits and so that's something that I think should be a discussion for everybody in the whole city to think about.

Chair: That is in the charter that it is a term and so that would have to be changed.

Linda D'Avirro: But that's what his conversation was with me last week.

Chair: That will be interesting to see if that's something he wants to do. Again, I think it would be a good focus for us to come up with a list of all active PROSAC members, when they term out, and then what the actual scope of the term is.

Linda D'Avirro: That's the issue itself because there is actually a sheet that I have and Derek provided it to me when I was Chair and again it goes to some date that is the person, it's unknown. My was March of 2009 and it was like I never was there in 2009. I wasn't here until January, 2010, but I don't think I'm the only one. It's very confusing as to the start and finish dates but it was supposed to be even and odd seats were supposed to not all term out at the same time otherwise you're going to have nobody represent a certain district. The whole thing is really needing a review big-time.

Chair: I think it needs a review and potentially a revamp or a discussion and I would be glad if any one of us wants to take up this conversation once we get some hard details.

Patricia Delgado: My only comment was going to be is that it would be helpful if it's possible to put the end date of one's term in the RSVP list so that you know exactly your RSVPing and you know when you're going to be up for renewal.

Chair: I think there's no reason we couldn't have information. Linda, one thing I will say that you did and again I haven't been provided this, maybe I haven't asked Derek, but I remember that first conversation where you tried to get that list and that was completely whacked out. Half the members have the wrong dates associated and again the fast work he started maybe his days are completely off.

Anthony Cuadro: I've never been to the Rules committee.

[simultaneous comments]

Richard Rothman: So when I was first appointed the rule was you didn't call your Supervisor, you had to write a letter and you're automatically. Then when Supervisor Norman Yee became Chair of the Rules Committee he said no, everybody has to come before the Rules Committee so that was the first time I had to go. So that's why some people didn't have to go to Rules. Everybody should have gone once.

[simultaneous comments]

Linda D'Avirro: They have about eight questions now and actually for the new members that was a good thing and potential members because one of the experiences I had as a Chair was some of the members that came and left rather quickly after being appointed really didn't know what it was about, hadn't attended advance meetings, didn't realize the time commitments, any number of things. Or didn't really have an interest in parks, it was really a resume filler.

Chair: I think Linda to that point this committee is very committed.

Linda D'Avirro: It's the best we've had in a long time.

Chair: And so we want to keep us together for a little while longer. If you're coming to this as a pure resume building, don't show up at meetings, don't really care if they stay on the committee or not—you know, I think we are all pretty committed to this so it would be nice if you're at the Rules Committee who some of the new members are and what their backgrounds are, if they've ever attended. I mean it's the number one question on the application. Have you ever attended a meeting of the committee that you want to join and that answer is no many times.

Any other comments on this item? Hearing none, fantastic the item is closed. Is there any public comment on the elections? Being none, public comment is closed.

Let's quickly move to Item 8, the future agenda setting. There are three or four of these items that will be added to the agenda starting next month. There are a couple of these items that we're hearing a little bit from like Macaulay which obviously I think there needs to be a little bit more of a presentation when that time comes. We are discussing Lenar, that is a discussion that is going on between Maya and myself and the general manager. That meeting will take place before our next PROSAC meeting. Contracting practices—I believe if Tokes schedule allows I would really like to have the South Park contracting practices presentation next month.

Female Speaker: [unintelligible]

Chair: Yes, on again I'm saying for all of you benefit I think it would be great if many or some of you could go on this sidewalk with a contractor prior to that presentation so that you could actually identify questions that you want to ask about that particular subject.

Ana Gee: District 6. Would you be emailing that information about this tour?

Chair: Yes but I think I would like the Department to give me a thumbs-up that they're adding it to the agenda because no disrespect but I don't want it to become July, we didn't walk through and now our questions aren't relevant. I just would like it to be timely and to that end I'd say if it's not going to be then it has to be June but I really it want it to be June and then I want to put that sidewalk on the calendar.

The only other items on here that I still want to stress and I've asked stressed it to Tiffany a million times and now I'm going to ask Stacy to take it back to the Department, community gardens. I still don't see reality about this presentation. This is I'm marking the calendar as seven months since I've asked for this presentation. I won't ask again. I have members that ask me all the time for this. I understand people's schedules. I'm now demanding that the item gets put on the agenda.

Stacy Bradley: Just as a little update on that we do have a new urban ag coordinator who used to work for the Department of the Environment. She just started a couple weeks ago and community gardens has shifted from the Capital Division to the Volunteer Division which is under Sarah Ballard who is the director of policy and public affairs. Now everything is underneath Sarah, urban ag and community gardens and it's all connected to the volunteer program so I think [unintelligible].

Chair: What I would say it's less Sarah and more—I think it's practical, I think we want to understand practically what's going on so whoever that it.

Stacy Bradley: Right and hopefully [unintelligible] Or do you not want urban ag?

Chair: No, urban ag is fine. I mean we had head that [unintelligible] was going to be the person who did it. So then whoever you guys want to offer up. I just know that many committee members in thinking about park renovations and thinking about multiple uses for their park community gardens comes up. We haven't had a community gardens presentation since Marvin Yee five years ago and I think we're due.

Finally, on this item would be the Community Opportunity Fund update. I see Linda shaking her head. What does that mean?

Linda D'Avirro: Well, the fund has met—you can probably give us an update on the actual projects and the distribution but there will not be another round because the money has been spoken for. Where originally there was going to be another round this year I was informed before the holidays that there is no more.

Chair: So this item to be clear says 2018.

Stacy Bradley: [unintelligible]

Chair: Just a basic overview of the last few years since let's say [unintelligible] what does that look like? Again, it doesn't have to be intricate, it doesn't have to be long-winded.

Stacy Bradley: Is that something I can give you as part of my presentation or do you [unintelligible]?

Chair: I would say you could do it and maybe do it as a separate agenda item at some point.

Stacy Bradley: All right.

Chair: I know again there were members of this committee that were on that they don't know where it went that's of concern. So I think they definitely would like to hear about it. Jane?

Jane Weil: District 6. Stacy and I already talked about this but I just want it on the record that we would like an updated acquisition fund chart. The last one was 2014. So I know you know that and you're working on it but just for the record.

Stacy Bradley: Do you want me to send it out to all of you? I'll give it to Tiffany.

Chair: Just give it to Tiffany and she'll send it to all of us.

Linda D'Avirro: I'm not finding the thing about Whole Foods on your website and I would like to distribute it. Is there as way that you can send something to PROSAC.

Nick Belloni: I just pulled it off their Instagram.

[simultaneous comments]

Chair: I got it in the newsletter an hour ago because when Drew walked in I shook his hand and went hi Drew.

[simultaneous comments]

Chair: Are there any other comments on Item 8? Any public comment on this item? Debra.

Debra Benedict: I'm not sure this is the appropriate time to discuss this but this is related to community gardens and so it is with some trepidation that I come and talk about my participation in [unintelligible] community garden which I've been a member of for six years maybe now and I'm actually guilty of tacitly participating in a mechanism to disadvantage new members of the garden and I can give you some examples. From when I first arrived at the garden it has a very much calm feeling and I was told that an overgrown plot was being kept for a member who was in Japan for two years. There are individuals who are members of the garden who do not live in the county and there are people who are members of the garden who do not have their primary residence in the state. The pathways between plots are not ADA accessible. The members sign-in sheets are destroyed annually because long term members do not participate in the required two workdays a year and to prevent Recreation and Park from knowing anything about this they have refused to give any membership information to Recreation and Park. I have complained about this to garden managers, plot managers about members who have because of preferred drinking and drugging on the property they're allowed to garden other people's plots and they have been

bullied for that. Recently my very gentle little dog has had a long term member throw a piece of hard soil and I've informed the plot manager and nothing has been done about that. So it's been [unintelligible] violence. I've been also told that nobody likes me at the garden and that if they can vote me out they're going to do that. New members on workdays have seen our plot manager completely intoxicated and him telling them to not tell anyone about the garden because it's a secret club or whatever. I'm in a quandary because I want to make sure that I feel safe going into the garden. I don't mean to cry but I'm very upset about having to because I've kept this secret for these six years that I'm now openly discussing it but I have texts on my phone with me that members can examine that describe the things I've discussed and you're welcome to look at my phone. There's an intervention that really needs to happen from Recreation and Park to [unintelligible] community gardens and members are running it very much like a club and it definitely is a bad scene. I just wanted to share that.

Chair: Thank you very much. I'm sorry about that situation. [unintelligible] Obviously Debra are you're aware [unintelligible]. I would propose that we as a body get involved that maybe they talk to you directly.

Debra Benedict: I don't know anything about the proper procedure other than knowing this [unintelligible] and finding about it only recently. I'd happily talk to whoever is necessary. You know, because I've been there six years I've actually not spoken up about the things that have been going on and I have been bullied because when I mention it to people that are there I am definitely a person non gratis so I would like to see people who—District 6 is very dense and there's more buildings being build and more and more people that want to have participation in any green space they can possibly get their hands on and so the garden should be a welcoming place and the way that it's being run now literally there's animals that are not allowed to be in the garden [unintelligible]. There are locked and only accessible to certain members storage places that are in there. They appear, they say thank you that they're here but you know there's no voting. I mean it's—

Chair: I appreciate your comments and they are part of the record now and again I would say at the end of the meeting if you'd like to speak to the District 6 representatives they can make a case to bring it up as an agenda item for us or look into it further with your Supervisor. Thank you for your comments.

Linda D'Avirro: I think that this body really should have that as an item. My personal experience Debra is somewhat similar in a park near my house. It took me several years to get it rectified. However, it doesn't change the overall structure of the community garden program and that is that each garden is an autonomous being that could be well managed or mismanaged and there's no one and no recourse and there really isn't and I think that the good intentions that are there about community gardens shouldn't be left to self manage and I've said this since the beginning of the urban ag program and there were supposed to be people looking into that and that just fell by the wayside again because you've had so much personnel change but I think because of just that very thing and the fact that even park personnel cannot address any problems. It's like a little consular piece of land that you and I cannot enter because we're not members. It's to me a nice idea that I think needs better management and I really think the committee should take that up as something that gets a result that's more positive so that this sort

of thing and the thing that I experienced and who knows how many other places are like this. I hope this doesn't continue because this is so much the case not only for you but several other parks that I know personally this is happening.

Stacy Bradley: I think there's a widespread understanding that there's a problem with how community gardens are organized and governed. The autonomous nature is [unintelligible] I supposed but I think part of the intent of shifting it to Sarah is that it's going to become part of the volunteer organization so I think there's going to be more of an—I don't know how it will change but I think that is allowing the opportunity for more management.

Linda D'Avirro: It may but even though SLUG had to disband for other than good reasons it actually was very critically important and it was well-managed. The SLUG gardens did have something to say about it because they managed those parks and they managed the people that organized it. I don't have a lot of confidence in having it go under and I don't mean this pejoratively but I don't see how that can be managed in the certain way that's being described as another option for Recreation and Park to manage. You guys have your hands full as it is so when the first discussion came up about urban ag many of us in the audience suggested an entity that wasn't DPW, wasn't PUC and necessarily was not RPD although we wanted you guys to have a stake in it because it was oftentimes on parklands but we felt that a different entity like SLUG should really have the contract for it and focus on it. But that didn't happen.

Chair: I think it speaks to the idea that we need to have this as an agenda item. I would certainly say that Debra's voice will be well represented in that. I would also speak to the idea that we are aware that District 6 is basically the most in need of green space and here we have a member of the public, some handicapped member of the public who comes to our meetings to just on an item say I'm not being treated well in this particular situation. So I now charge you two with doing some research, figuring out who she's talking about. You know who to call. I don't have to tell you who to call and I think that when it comes back up there will be plenty of public comment about how it's being run and maybe how it will run in the future so Debra I appreciate that. Linda I appreciate your thoughts about that.

Debra Benedict: Thank you, I'm putting myself at risk I hope you understand.

Chair: We do and again that's why we're taking it up and we're even having a dialog with you as opposed to you presenting it, us saying great thank you very much. I think it's important for you guys to have a talk.

Any other announcements? I'm going to move off this agenda setting and move on to any announcements that are no listed on the agenda.

Richard Rothman: I want to say the photo show that was at the lodge has now moved to City Hall . It's not quite set up yet. It's going to happen in Supervisor Sandy Fewer's office [unintelligible] and I'll let Tiffany know. The photos are there but they haven't all been hung up on the wall yet so I'll let you know when all the photos are up.

Chair: Supervisor Tang was very excited to use her 360 camera. If any of you follow her she did a nice poster of Richard's pictures and she was like 360. We are certainly all excited to go see it.

I want to remind you again, Rules Committee is a week from tomorrow, that is in room 205 at 1:00 o'clock. I will also remind you of the Recreation and Park Department's Egg-stravaganza which is their Easter egg hunt coupled with the rib cook-off. Before I got there I'm going to join Richard at the dog play area on Jordyn to kind of give comments and see if I can give any guidance on this dog play area out in Golden Gate. If you've never been there is the biggest dirt patch you've ever see, about an acre wide long dirt patch that it needs to not be a dirt patch anymore. It needs to be supporting the community and whatever that mean in terms of the what the Department contributes. But I would encourage you to come to the Egg-stravaganza. Maya and I will be there. She'll be judging the pork. I will be judging the non-pork. That is April 15th at Sharon Meadows.

I might actually take one open comment from member Brust. As we all saw on the news before I adjourn can you just give the committee your take on not necessarily how your park was next this weekend but more importantly what we can be doing to help support your efforts, your friends of groups efforts and the Department's efforts.

Robert Brust: I wasn't here for this weekend so I was taken a little bit by surprise. This happens every year and I don't think the Recreation and Park Department ramps up their trash program and they don't handle it early enough in the year. As you may or may not know when they remodeled the parks they went with a plan to put all the trash cans on the perimeter of Dolores which is a big rectangle. They've brought in large lot trash cans and they need to be emptied frequently and they use Recology, they come by with a late pickup Saturday night. I think optimally there should be two and then it gets later in the season they do have two and they also have another program where Recology helps pay for this, they bring in three large dumpsters, it's [unintelligible] and they have three guys there and a table and they help people sort it all. And that's not there yet either and those guys they'll also go around and move the trashcans around the park on the outside and help bag it all up. It's a crapload of trash. They said it just got left, not counting the stuff that made it into the cans. There was a 170 bags Sunday morning.

Chair: I have a question and this is maybe a Stacy question. It's really a Denny question. If somebody was there writing tickets wouldn't that maybe deter people like hi, we just got up from here and we're leaving all our fill in the blank, that's a \$200 ticket. Like wouldn't that thwart some continued—this is not a new problem. This is obviously a problem that we've all noticed and makes the news every single time. Is there a way with the Park Patrol, the increased Park Patrol—and again, I'm not answer.

Stacy Bradley: That's a good idea. I'll ask again.

Chair: I mean I know with off-leash DPAs where there were dogs that were outside of the DPA and they give two tickets to the 200 people that have their dogs off-leash there ain't no dogs off-leash after that because that \$250 ticket hits home real quick.

Stacy Bradley: That seems like it's more of a community shaming of take your stuff with you as you leave.

Chair: I would never say community shaming but I agree that there might be an act to that. But again Robert will say you know he's lived in that neighborhood for a very long time and this is a continued problem that resurfaces a month before Memorial Day every single year and there's got to be a way to figure that out.

Robert Brust: Could we put it on the agenda?

Chair: So I've passed on that item already [unintelligible] but I have no problem with [unintelligible].

Robert Brust: Consider it done.

Ancel Martinez: I was just going to add that if we do place Dolores Park on the agenda if we could ask for Friends of Dolores Park representation too.

Chair: He is.

Ancel Martinez: No but I mean to maybe a large group. [unintelligible]

Robert Brust: Please do that, thank you Ancel.

Jane Weil: I would just say I was there this weekend and I was very pleased when we got there relatively early Saturday morning that we were greeted at the entrance by these darling young people with signs that said please carry your trash out and they were actively engaging people as they walk in. I don't know if they were volunteers or Recreation and Park employees but clearly nobody listened to them. That was a nice effort anyway that they tried. This was Saturday morning at about noon. So they are trying but it's just unbelievable.

Richard Rothman: I want to introduce [unintelligible] she'll hopefully be taking Les' seat after the Rules Committee next week. She's an active member of the Richmond District and also on the PUC citizen's advisory.

Chair: Any other comments, events, items, not listed on the agenda? Is there any public comment? Hearing none, this meeting is adjourned.

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