

City of Newport Beach

Coastal/Bay Water Quality Citizens Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: June 14, 2012
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Location: Fire Conference Room

1. Welcome/Self Introductions

Committee Members present:

Chairwoman/Mayor Nancy Gardner
Michael Henn, Council Member
Jim Miller
Randy Seton
Dennis Baker
George Robertson

Guests present:

Ken Schiff, SCCWRP
Ray Hiemstra, Coast Keeper
George Drayton
Jim Mosher
Monica Mazur
John Skinner, SPON

Staff present:

John Kappeler, Water Quality Manager
Shari Rooks, Public Works Specialist
Bob Stein, Assistant City Engineer

2. Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

The minutes from the May 10, 2012, meeting were approved.

3. Old Business

(a) Bay and Ocean Bacteriological Test Results

Monica Mazur reviewed recent water quality test results within Newport Bay and along the ocean shoreline.

- **Jack Skinner** noted that large amounts of eelgrass accumulated at Bayside Drive / Harbor Patrol beach and resulting enterococci were present – not harmful to humans.

4. New Business

(a) Ken Schiff, from SCCWRP gave a presentation on the Copper Contamination and Toxicity Levels in Marinas (See attached PowerPoint Presentation.)

- All the copper study data can be downloaded from the SCCWRP website: www.sccwrp.org/.
- This presentation was prepared 8 years ago but the datum is still relevant.
- Interestingly enough, a water column copper concentration study showed the surface has the highest concentration of dissolved copper.
- **Ken Schiff** offered to put the City in contact with people who could help them undertake water effects ratio and/or toxicity tests of the bay, but if the City wanted to go the route of the Biotic Ligand Model, he said that SCCWRP would be interested.

- **Bob Stein**, Assistant City Engineer, presented an update on the Status of the Newport Bay Sediment TMDL. (See attached PowerPoint presentation).
- San Diego Creek was connected to the bay in 1965 and prior to that it terminated in the Swamp of the Frogs.
- Two developments on the horizon that will generate a future sediment load: Great Park and Tustin Marine Corps Air Station.
- We are seeing a sediment decrease load trend in the bay, partly because of the BMPs that we've installed and partly because many areas are urbanized now.
- Although we're seeing a decreased sediment flow into the bay, we're seeing an increased flow into San Diego Creek and the County's consultant has assured us that that buildup will not make its way into the bay – although there hasn't been an analysis done to substantiate that.
- Newport supports discontinuing use of the in-channel basins and instead removing the sediment upstream in San Diego Creek.
- City is in negotiation with County to take the high quality sand and provide a disposal site.
- **Randy Seton** asked if the sand had accumulated in the past 10 years and **Bob Stein** replied that he asked the same question and was unable to get an answer. He plans to look at the annual report and see if he can map how the sand has accumulated.
- City also proposed other partners put money into a pot so that there would be funds to dredge the in-bay basins next time there is a major event.
- Also suggesting rather than dredging every twenty years, we look at dredging every forty years.
- **Jack Skinner** said Shea can move ahead with their building project (3500 homes) and they are going to build a concrete channel up in Borrego right down the middle.
- White sand is seen gradually creeping down towards basin 3, but a concrete channel to handle the heavy water flow it will reduce the erosion of the sand building up.
- 500,000 cubic yards can be used by Newport Beach – 62,000 cubic yards are coming into the bay annually.

5. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

- **Dennis Baker** asked if it would be possible to deliver sand from upper San Diego Creek via a large pipe and Bob said he could only imagine the permitting nightmares something like that could present.
- **Dennis Baker** asked for an update on the Army Corps and Slough. Bob Stein reported that the Seminiuk Slough portion is not moving forward because our sediment is more contaminated than we anticipated and in addition we have the encroachment issue (in some cases up to 30 feet).
- **Dennis Baker** asked if we had received a copy of the Army Corps Management Plan and Bob Stein stated that it was supposed to be prepared in 2000 but it is still in preparation.
- **Randy Seton** reported dolphin sightings in the Upper Bay and back by the NAC.
- **Jack Skinner** and **John Kappeler** have done some biofilm studies and found a cluster of leaves in the gutter that contained 16 million enterococci. Street sweeping is extremely important to keep the gutters clear.

ACTION: John Kappeler to talk to Building Inspectors regarding referring water quality infractions to Code Enforcement.

6. Topics for Future Agendas

- (a) Bacteriological Dry-Weather Runoff Gutter Study (Phase III)
- (b) Prop 84 ASBS Grant Program

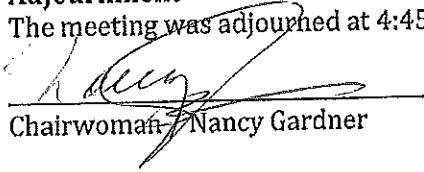
- (c) Big Canyon Project
- (d) Rhine Channel Project Wrap Up
- (e) Balboa Island Seawall Update
- (f) Runoff Reduction Program – ET Controller Project Update
- (g) Senate Bill – SB 1447
- (h) IRWD report on NTS Systems

Set Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date was set for July 12, 2012, at 3 PM in the Fire Conference Room.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.


Chairwoman Nancy Gardner