



MONTHLY UPDATE

EBATC Announcements, Meeting Minutes, News: January 2007

EBATC website: <http://www.ebtrails.org>

East
Bay Area
Trails
Council
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2950
Peralta
Oaks
Court
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Oakland,
California
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94605

The EBATC
is composed
of public
agencies,
equestrians,
hikers,
bicyclists,
and
conservation
-ists who are
committed
to furthering
the
protection of
the scenic
and
recreational
resources of
the East Bay.

Trail Notes from Michael

In looking over prospects for the next few meetings, I've come to the astonishing (horrific?) realization that I've been in EBATC for 20 years! And, it was a well-established group when I joined; one that had been mentored by trail legends. We've been around for a long time.

It is an honor to have been able to work with such great folks for so long. It's also a challenge to dream about what we can do in the future. Think of the paradise we live in. We have some of the most gorgeous natural spaces you can imagine, especially for such an urban setting. I am looking forward to a year that is more visionary in approach...one with unified goals that will nurture the kind of community we need to be stewards of such a wonderful place. For me, the question is how we can galvanize folks into participating in EBATC, and by extension, into participating in the East Bay trail community.

How to do that isn't so easy. Of course, we probably will use strategic planning sessions. But we all know they can lose effectiveness if they are not reinforced with follow-up activities.

We have tools available. We could start by inventorying our treasures. What resources do we have? How many agencies are involved, and how much land do they control? How can we connect it for everyone's benefit? Who uses, (and who doesn't use,) our open space? How can we acquire this information, and put it to good use? I know we could get some great inspiration, if we were to take a good look at our own history. Who started EBATC? What were the first issues?

Several years ago, EBATC prepared a comprehensive list of trail projects and proposals pending in the East Bay. We could surely dig that out and dust it off.

We probably won't inspire folks to participate by meetings and research alone. We need activities that make folks want to get together.

EBATC JANUARY MEETING Wednesday, January 17, 2007 7:15 to 9:30 pm

East Bay Regional Park District
Headquarters: Board Room
2950 Peralta Court, Oakland
Telephone (510) 635-0135

Agenda: January 17, 2007 Meeting

1. Call to order: 7:15 p.m.
Approval of Agenda: Action
Approval of Nov. 2006 Minutes: Action
2. Old Business
Mt. Wanda dedication approved
Feeder Trail #1 developments
3. Presentation
Contra Costa Centre/Pleasant Hill BART
Station Area Shortcut Path: Steve Goetz,
Deputy Director -Transport. Planning Div.
Contra Costa County Development Dept. □
4. New Business/Updates
Celebrate EBATC, discussion
State Trails/Greenway Conference in May
EBRPD CA Trail Days-April 21
EBRPD National Trails Day-June 2
2007 Trail Use Change Checklist proposals
under Ordinance 38
Planning for March 21 meeting
5. Reports from members-Round Robin

Of course, work projects are a superb way to do that. Several of us are very enthusiastic about putting on a great trail event. Let's talk about getting folks together to reap the benefits of shared trail experience.

These are just few hastily expressed ideas. What do the rest of you think? What are your priorities? Over the next couple of meetings, let's spend some time discussing approaches. I'll try to spark some discussion on our list serve, and encourage others to chime in. (In that regard, go to <http://www.ebtrails.org/>

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Attendees:

Alice Quinn
Jim Brandenburg – LARPD
Mike Nicholson – LARPD
Ayn Wieskamp – EBRPD
Jim Townsend – EBRPD
Morris Older – BARTC and TWHA
David Lunn – Vision 2010/TLLAV
Joe Stadum – Muir Heritage Land Trust
Howard Hornig – Hayward Hiking Club
Ed Mendelsohn – Mt. Diablo Sierra Club
Judy Etheridge – BARTC and TWHA
Bern Smith – BARTC
Chris Towles – BTCEB

1. Ingrid Rademaker and Mike Nicholson from Livermore Area Recreation Park District (LARPD) gave a presentation regarding their master plan update. The presentation concentrated on the process that took place to gather public input, including a telephone survey, and incorporate it into the new master plan. Chris Towles asked about mt. biking trails. Sycamore Grove has some trails including 5 miles of single track, however it is restricted to only hikers because they are the only trails that offer hiking only. There are some fire roads that can possibly be converted to single track, however that is not being considered by the master plan update. Chris Towles suggested that it be considered. Additional public input can be made via the LARPD web site.

2. Jim Townsend talked about the East Bay Regional Park District's (EBRPD) regional trails that are in the Livermore area, including the proposed Shadow Cliffs to Del Valle Trail connection adjacent to the Wentle facility on Arroyo Road. Future plans were presented and discussed.

3. Bern Smith from Bay Area Ridge Trail Council (BARTC) introduced the Mt. Wanda trail that runs across the John Muir National Historic Site in Martinez. The trails will only be open to hikers and equestrians. This topic was debated for some time. The following motion was passed:

EBATC supports the Mt. Wanda trail of John Muir National Historic Site for dedication to the Bay Area Ridge Trail contingent on National Park Service (NPS) agreement to begin NEPA process as necessary to incorporate full shared use (i.e., add bike use) on the trail segment being dedicated.
Meeting Chair (Chris Towles) to coordinate with

Bern Smith on documentation of the dedication support from EBATC.

4. David Lunn from the Tri Valley Business Council's Vision 2010 project discussed the Vision 2010 plan for a more complete and connected regional trail system for the Livermore Valley. His presentation was excellent and it concentrated on the community and business benefits of a mature and multi-use regional trails system that connects neighborhoods with each other and with business centers, commerce, urban parks, open spaces, and community resources.

5. It was decided that Michael Kelly will chair the January meeting. It was also decided that the January meeting will be held at EBRPD headquarters in Oakland.

Meeting adjourned

Minutes prepared by Chris Towles

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[join/joinemail.html](#) to join the EBATC email list.)

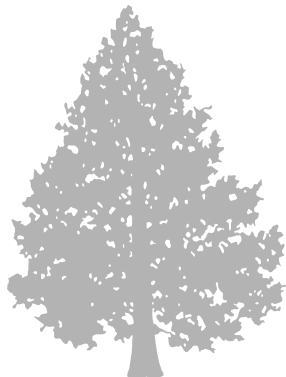
We have some good news on one of our old trail efforts. As you know, Feeder Trail #1 has been an issue for years. It connects Franklin Canyon Road near the John Muir House to the intersection of Alhambra Valley and Bear Creek Roads. The task has been to set up a mechanism where Contra Costa County can transfer jurisdiction over the trail to the EBRPD. Recently, the county took long awaited legal steps in that direction, and this year, the EBRPD will be researching existing ownerships along the route, determining operational and maintenance costs, and working to adjust the alignment to provide a great trail. Let's keep our eye out for some volunteer opportunities in this project.

Finally, that time of year has once again arrived for suggested changes to trail use under the District's Checklist procedure. The first proposals will be made at the January EBATC meeting. EBATC will make its final recommendations to the District at the March meeting. As you know, this is the procedure instituted by the District to consider changes to trail use under Ordinance 38. In the past, cyclists have proposed that certain single-track trails be opened to them using the checklist. Of course, the procedure can be used for any changes to trail use, not only those involving bikes. I understand that BTCEB will have a proposal or two. Perhaps there will be others as well.

I look forward to seeing you on the 17th.

Happy trails,

Michael Kelley



East Bay Area Trails Council: Membership Dues for Calendar Year 2007

With the days beginning to lengthen, it's time to renew your membership in the East Bay Area Trails Council. Your participation is important in our ongoing efforts to preserve and expand the East Bay trail system.

Membership Dues for 2007: Check enclosed:
Individuals \$15
Organizations \$30
Make checks payable to:
East Bay Area Trails Council

Please list below your name, address, phone number and if applicable, the name of the organization that you represent on the Trails Council.

Send check and completed form below to:
East Bay Area Trails Council
P.O. Box 5381
Oakland, CA 94605-0381

Please print

Name: _____

Organization Represented: _____ *(if applicable)*

Address: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____ e-mail: _____

Area(s) of Interest: _____
(hiker, cyclist, equestrian, skater, etc.)

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