

# SPDF Newsletter



Hosted by  
East Bay  
Regional  
Park  
District  
and  
Midpeninsula  
Regional  
Open Space  
District

SPDF  
2019



## WHAT A NIGHT!

Wednesday's presentation at the Bridge Yard would have impressed Oprah with the intelligent, honest discussion peppered with a few funny stories. Jon Jarvis and Sam Hodder didn't disappoint with their candor about what it takes to make change happen in the world... particularly with regard to engaging millennials with nature. (Finding ways to bring technology in the parks is a must!)



Bob Doyle facilitated a great conversation that included Hodder's astounding fact that redwood trees are so durable that other unrelated tree species have been known to grow within a redwood. A tree within a tree! Jarvis commented that the park profession needs to rethink how to communicate its significant impact to local, regional, and national economics as well as how parks are sequestering much of the climate change impacts.



## THE TALKING STICK HAS BEEN HANDED OFF TO GREAT PARKS OF HAMILTON COUNTY OHIO

Yes, our friends in the Cincinnati area cannot turn back now. They will be hosting the Special Park Districts Forum in 2020. Tonight, their staff handed out free tee-shirts, so they've already started their coming hosting gig off well. Next year's date is May 14-17, 2020. Put it on your calendar now!



## SPDF Newsletter, *continued*



Hosted by  
East Bay  
Regional  
Park  
District  
and  
Midpeninsula  
Regional  
Open Space  
District

SPDF  
2019

### LAST DAY PLANS

Parting is such sweet sorrow. But we all have 1,000 emails to get back to and staff to praise for the great work they did in our absence.

Thursday's breakfast talk will feature Jim O'Connor, Assistant General Manager of Operations from EBRPD who will enlighten us about "Increasing Park Use Challenges." Get to breakfast at 7:30am to make the most of your last meeting at the hotel.

Buses leave at 9am to **Dumbarton Quarry Campground by the Bay**, the Bay Area's first waterfront camp sites, soon to open in 2020. A great showcase project where leveraging other people's money really pays off. The \$15 million campground is being built for EBRPD and paid for by the property's former rock quarry owner.

Our final stop tomorrow is **Ardenwood Historic Farm**, near Dumbarton Quarry, where we'll have a barnyard picnic (it does sound odd, but we promise it will be fabulous). We are commemorating our last day together as well as National Public Employee Recognition Week. EBRPD has invited all of its employees to attend this last conference lunch with you.



### ABOUT SPDF -- BY THE NUMBERS:

**EBRPD operates 55 miles of shoreline.**

**900,000 + dogs (and owners) visit Point Isabel Regional Shoreline, located next to the Albany Beach area we visited on Wednesday.**

**Thirteen species of federally protected wildlife are found in Midpeninsula's preserves.**

### RECAPPING WEDNESDAY TOURS

It started out cold, got warm, got cold, and stayed windy. It was a perfect day on the San Francisco Bay.

We were greeted at **Point Pinole Regional Shoreline** by EBRPD Interpretive & Recreation staff offering a taste of birding, fishing, biking, history walks, the "Dummy's guide" on how to build a giant park entrance bridge over an active railroad talk .... And a stroll over to Dotson Marsh where the East Bay's successful environmental justice marshland/public access wetland restoration project was completed after 40 years of community advocacy for parkland over numerous development attempts, including an airport. EBRPD has invested over \$40 million in the Richmond community parklands in recent years.

Our visit to **Miller Knox Shoreline** warmed us up as the cloud cover dissipated. A warm welcome from Park Supervisor Scott Possin followed by a closing argument-worthy presentation from District Council Carol Victor concluded a lovely taco lunch. "Now that's the kind of attorney you want working for your District," was overheard!

Thanks Scott and Carol for great talks.

## SPDF Newsletter, *continued*

### MORE RECAP

At **Albany Beach at McLaughlin Eastshore State Park** near the Golden Gate Racetrack, we just missed the judge and jury of EBRPD's current trial in progress fighting over the District's development of public access behind the racetrack, connecting an important gap in the current San Francisco Bay Trail along the Eastshore shoreline. An immediate reminder of Attorney Carol Victor's passionate commentary about doing the right thing to protect the public's right to access. Project manager Chris Barton was overdressed in suit and tie (compared to all of us), just back from showing the jury the project. Maniac windsurfers doing tricks showed off for our group! (there was one who resembled Paul Newman in his prime☺). Such an interesting project with a big price tag to provide improved public access.



Hosted by  
East Bay  
Regional  
Park  
District  
and  
Midpeninsula  
Regional  
Open Space  
District

SPDF  
2019