



The Past, Present and Future of the San Antonio Bay Partnership

How did SABP get started, what has it been doing for the last 10 years, and where is it going?

The Future of San Antonio Bay



***Could a:
Stakeholder-based,
Collaborative,
Non-Regulatory
Management Program
Make a Difference?***

January 12, 2010

San Antonio Bay

Issues/Goals

- **Maintaining/Improving a "Sound Ecological Environment"**
 - Freshwater Inflows: Quantity and Timing
 - Habitat Loss: Wetlands Protection & Restoration
 - Endangered Species
 - Water Quality/Circulation/Exchange
 - Living Resources: Entire Food Chain
 - Human Health: Pathogens and Toxic Substances
 - NPS Control
- **Maintaining/Improving Ecosystem Functions**
 - i. e., Nutrient Cycling, Food Production
- **Maintaining/Improving Human Uses**
 - Commercial & Recreational Fishing
 - Public Access Points
 - Agriculture & Shoreline Development
 - Maritime Commerce: Dredging and Beneficial Uses

The *Future* of San Antonio Bay: Management Options

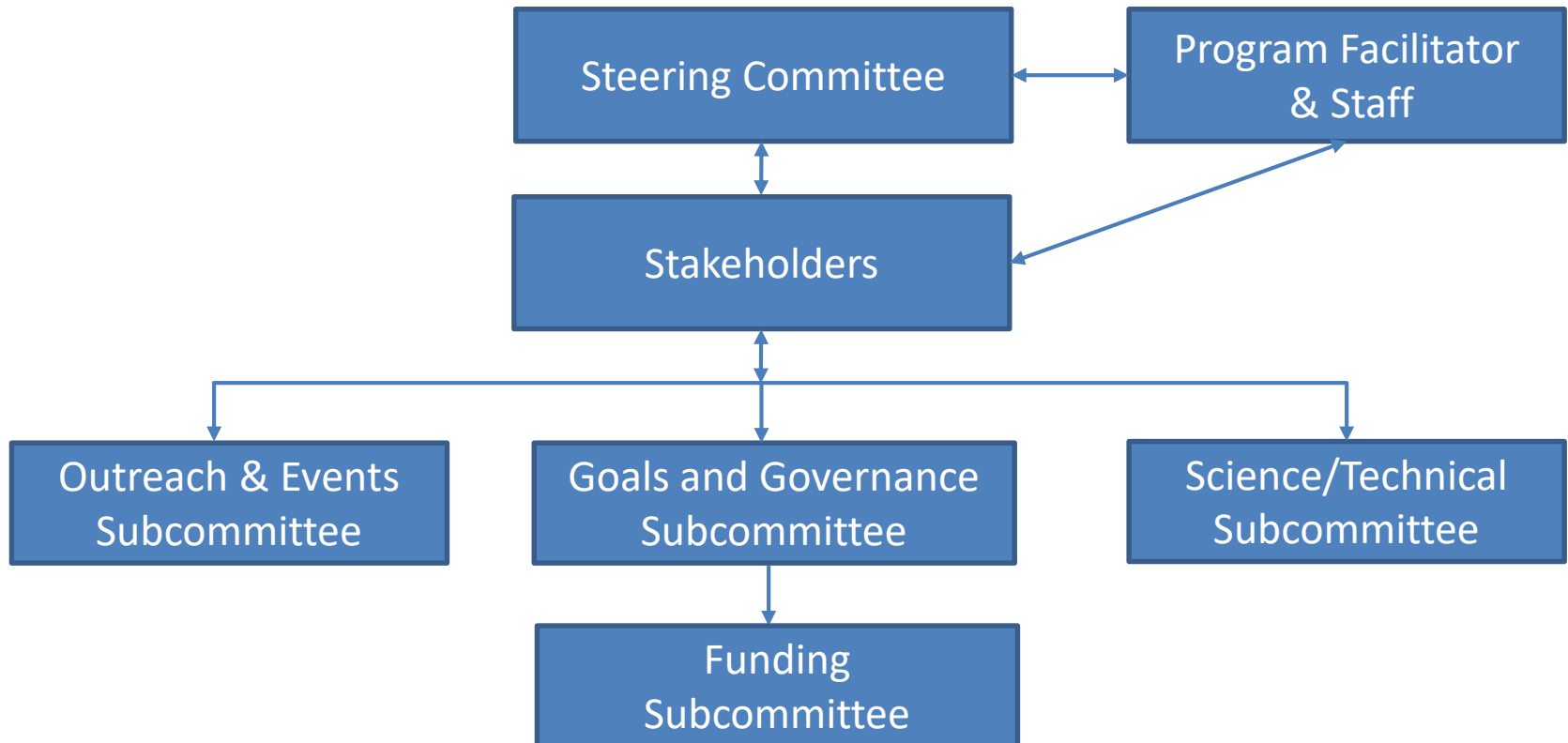
- ***Status Quo:***
 - Fragmented, non-programmatic approach
 - Little anticipated improvement in ability to address critical issues
 - Continued/potential conflict between user groups
- **State/Federal Regulatory Intervention**
 - Top-down approach
 - Utilizes command/control methodologies
 - Still fragmented approach
 - Limited in geographic/jurisdictional extent
- **Community-based, collaborative management program**
 - Promotes management at the “watershed” scale
 - Integrates science into decision-making
 - Fosters collaborative problem-solving
 - Broad-based, inclusive, stake-holder driven
 - Non-Regulatory

The *Future* of San Antonio Bay: *Would you like to be a part?*



Courtesy of Steve Raabe, P.E.
San Antonio River Authority

January 12, 2010



**“Ad Hoc” Organizational Structure for the San Antonio Bay Partnership
2010-2012**

The Future of San Antonio Bay

Purpose and Goals:

Purpose:

The purpose of the San Antonio Bay Partnership is to “create and sustain a working partnership of committed stakeholders in order to *protect, restore and enhance* the natural resources of the San Antonio Bay/Guadalupe Estuary System for the benefit of the ecosystem and its human uses.”

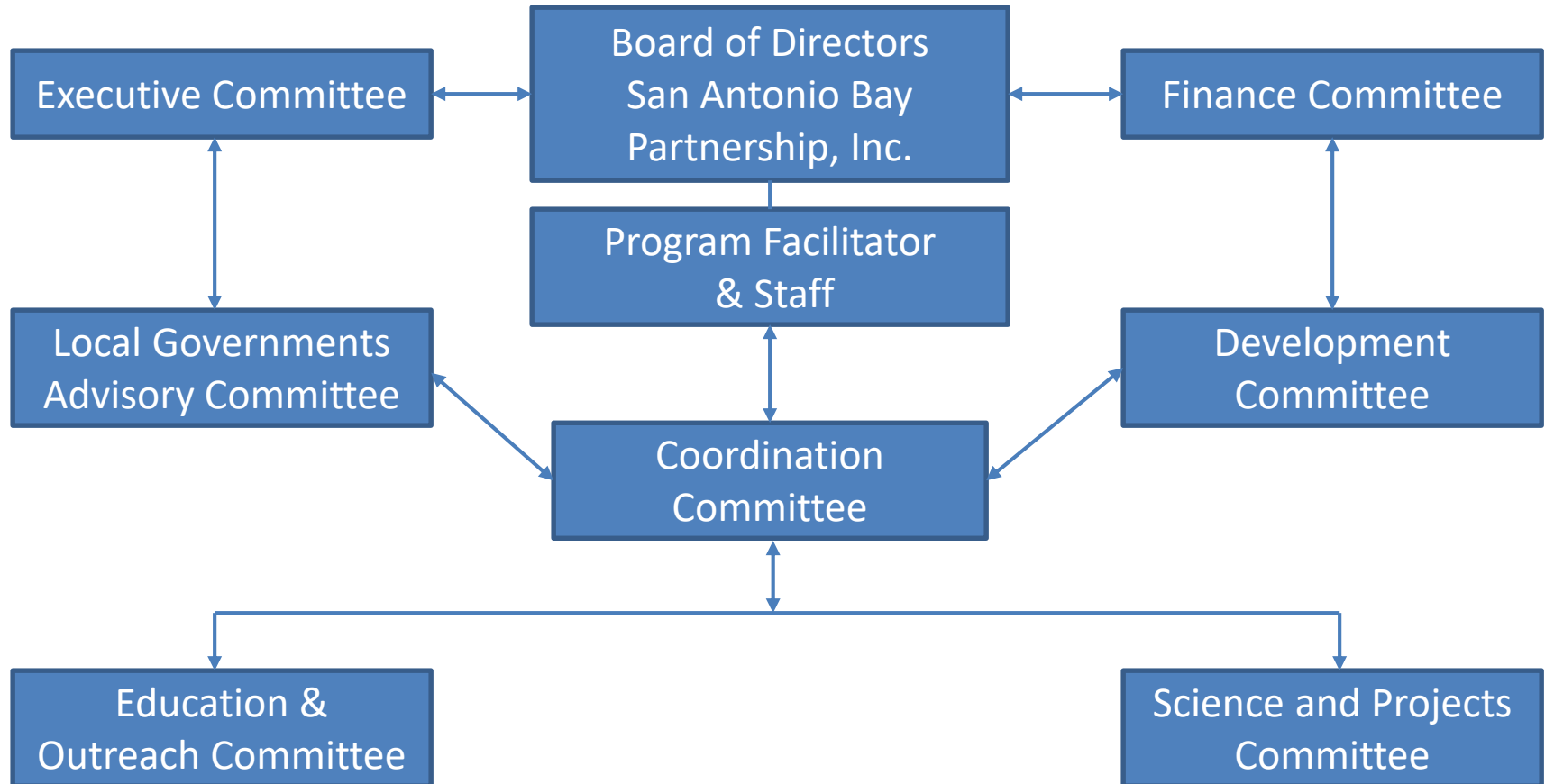
Goals:

- Provide opportunities for increased stakeholder involvement in the management of the San Antonio/Guadalupe Estuary System
- Maintain a sound ecological environment in the San Antonio/Guadalupe Estuary System
- Enhance human and economic uses of the San Antonio Bay/Guadalupe Estuary System

Stakeholders Providing Direction



September 22, 2011



**Organizational Structure for the San Antonio Bay Partnership
Adopted 5-22-12**

SABP → SABP, Inc.

- In 2013, SABP applied for, and was granted, status as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit organization. SABP Board installed as Board of SABP, Inc.
- Program efforts began to focus on implementation of projects and outreach, involving multiple partners, rather than planning and program development. “Maturation” took place.
- Results:
 - Less frequent stakeholder meetings – annual, instead of quarterly or more often;
 - Focus on program/project delivery
 - Effective in delivering programs/projects within limited budgets available, but constrained in growth in projects



**Functional Organizational Structure for the San Antonio Bay Partnership
At Present**

The Future of SABP

- SABP: Phases of Organizational Growth
 - 2010-2013: Initial Program Definition and Development
 - Organizational activities completed
 - Goals and priorities established
 - Projects initiated
 - 2013-2016: Program Implementation and Maturation
 - Growth in programs, projects and partnerships
 - Board providing leadership and direction
 - Funding: Largely tied to projects; program (administrative) funding lagging project funding
 - 2017: A Plan for the Future
 - SABP Strategic Plan developed and steering efforts to assure “The Future of San Antonio Bay.”