

November 1, 2017 Sierra Club Guadalupe Group Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Gary Latshaw – ExComm Chair, Ralph Murietta – Treasurer, Molly Cox – Secretary/Vice Chair, Shawn Britton – Outings Chair, Dave Poeschel – Conservation Chair (by Phone), John Cordes – Political Committee Chair, Charles Schafer – At Large Member

Treasurer Update:

Ralph opened a checking account with TechCU. Checks need to be ordered and the balance in the Wells Fargo account needs to be transferred.

We need to appoint a new Treasurer to manage the spreadsheet with income (donations and trip money) and outcome (memberships, supplies). We will wait for ExComm vote, then appoint a new Treasurer. Charles graciously agreed to be the interim treasurer.

Presentations:

November – Movie: Age of Consequences – military perspective on climate change

Gary has also found an organization, Operation Care & Comfort, to whom we can send

letters and make donations in support of our troops overseas as an action item for the meeting.

December – No Meeting – Potluck party

January – New member introductory meeting. Presenters from each committee can represent their work with a poster.

2018 Ideas:

Talk by Union of Concerned Scientists. Gary has a list of presentation topics.

Molly proposed that we take ideas from Drawdown (Paul Hawken) and plan monthly meetings based on that. FYI – The Sunnyvale Sustainability Commission has a speaker series, and their next speaker is Chad Frischmann from Project Drawdown.

Talk by James Eggers on international perspective of climate change California's Cap & Trade program

Solar Industry – 2 U.S. based solar panel production vs. U.S. solar installers using Chinese manufactured panels.

Current City issues – Gary – Cupertino, John C. – Sunnyvale, Dave – San Jose

Movies shown by the Peninsula Group's Environmental Stewardship Program:

2017-18:

2016-17:

Before the Flood

TTIP: Might is Right

Time to Choose

Disobedience

The Nature of Cities  
Cowspiracy  
Blue Gold: World Water Wars  
Mission Blue  
Rancher, Farmer, Fisherman  
Wild America

Urban Solutions from Curitiba  
GMO, OMG!  
The Human Experiment  
A Wild Dog's Story  
Monumental: David Brower's Fight for

2015-16:

Wisdom to Survive  
America's Wildest Refuge: Discovering the Arctic National Wildlife  
Refuge  
Saving the Bay: The Story of San Francisco Bay  
Eyes on the Sky  
The Human Experiment  
Fractured Earth  
Monumental: David Brower's Fight for Wild America

New Member Engagement:

We discussed how to get new members active in the club. We decided to send out a postcard to members that have joined in the past year, with information on the club and events, and to invite them to January's meeting. Postcards will be sent out the last week of December.

Action: Gary, Dave - prepare postcards and mail to new members.

Action: Shawn - pull list of section leaders to invite to January Meeting

(Note: At the beginning of the meeting, run slideshow Ralph created)

Environmental Awareness Training (EAT):

The Guadalupe Group's version of the Environmental Stewardship Program, to encourage members to get more active in the club.

Action: Charles and Molly work to come up with a schedule of next year's general meetings.

Conservation Report:

Dave is coordinating with other environmental organizations on Coyote Valley efforts.

"I ❤️ Coyote Valley" is now Protect Coyote Valley.

Looming threats to Coyote Valley:

New housing proposal threatening wildlife transit across valley: On the northern border of Coyote Valley, off of Tulare Hill Road, near Santa Teresa Park, there is a northern wildlife linkage, and contains a canal with culvert used by wildlife.

Grazing practices by OSA - not using best practices: Dave is calling attention to the matter.

Sargent Ranch south of Gilroy - developer wants to remove foothills for sand and gravel mining. This is the only place in Santa Clara County with oil rigs.

Win for wildlife in Coyote Valley:

63 acre parcel on the Fisher Creek flood plain just purchased by POST and managed by OSA

Dave has a mailing list of people interested in Coyote Valley, but no formal committee.

Santa Clara Valley Water District Activities:

Waterfix was not approved; the district is open to a smaller, more affordable project

trying to get money to approve a new dam near Henry Coe Park and Casa de Fruta, water stored in a steep narrow canyon using prop 1 money. Half the water must benefit delta or its tributaries, according to the legislation.

Dave has contacts with Pajaro Compass, a group concerned with the watershed of Pajaro River, which would be impacted by the dam proposal.

Diridon Station Development:

No substantive plans yet, just community meetings on Google campus area.

Evergreen Area:

Currently zoned as Industrial, the developer wants to build houses for veterans and seniors by putting an initiative on the ballot to allow housing in this industrial zoned area. San Jose Mayor and council members are opposed.

The Guadalupe Group needs State Sierra Club approval to oppose this initiative.

VTA – bond money oversight:

Community meetings are being held to discuss spending of money of Highway 85 projects, including Bus Rapid Transit. Meeting times are:

Thursday, November 9, 2017 at 6:00 PM

Southside Community Center

5585 Cottle Road, San Jose, CA 95123

Monday, November 13, 2017 at 6:00 PM

Quinlan Community Center

North Stelling Road, Cupertino, CA 95014

Thursday, November 16, 2017 at 6:00 PM

Mountain View Senior Center

266 Escuela Avenue, Mountain View, CA 94040

Meeting adjourned 8:47