

EMG Excom April 13, 2021

Excom members present: Ken, Caitlin, Tim, Diane, Robert, John

Non excom members present: Caroline Pufalt, Jim Rhodes

1. Approved minutes from March
2. Treasures report from Robert. We finally got the names updated on our group checking account to add Ken with Robert. Robert provided checking and CD balance updates.
He then reported on chapter and group finance changes which would happen if Club Restructuring report, which is far from final. Groups would be part of a network with chapter and there would be more regional organization. Questions about what the whole change would mean about grassroots growth, participation, fundraising etc. Robert reported that he benefited from recent on-line training that Gretchen provided for new officers.
3. E-Newsletter/SierraScape. SierraScape is a bit behind schedule but underway. Caitlin got inquiries from two possible volunteers for the newsletter.
4. Updates for our group EMG website. We will make sure the current E newsletter is posted in a prominent place. Mary Ballou is great at getting things posted but needs content. Caroline will update Excom posted minutes. Pictures from informal outings are welcome. Tim offered to help with website content.
5. Feedback on March Zoom meeting with Audubon. It was a wonderful program. Should we consider doing our group Zoom program on our own? We usually take a hiatus in the summer. Ken asked if we should try to have a Zoom group meeting in May 27 (fourth Thursday) ? Jim suggested we could have a more informal Zoom program with folks presenting input about what folks did over the pandemic, including maybe trips or other ways we have extended our conservation work during the pandemic. Jim said he would be willing to work on this as part of a group- Jim, John and Caitlin. Will need speakers, photographs, technology and publicity. Diane mentioned she recently went on a trip to the Smokies and the beach with covid safety.
6. Consideration of "hosting" a Grow Solar program. Caroline will try to find out more details. Diane will help too.
7. Legislative report: Several bad things happening in MO state legislature. Bills which would defund DNR, limit local control and require the sale of Eleven Point Park are in play. Caroline will forward email to Excom with more details on contacting legislators.
8. Jim reported that there are still no formal outings. Saturday April 24, Hawn State Park memorial for Bob Geisel. 1pm is dedication. Contact Paul Stupperich for details.
9. Caroline reported that she did watch the pesticide webinar produced by the local US Green Party about pesticides, the focus was on glyphosate. There were 3 speakers who addressed the issue of pesticides in city parks. One was from St Louis. This does appear to be a valid issue, not sure how it would fit into the city agenda with current changes and the many problems the city faces. MO Coalition for the Environment

recently got a new director, Caroline will check with them to see if they are planning to work on this issue.

10. May 11, next Excom meeting.