

June 11 2019 EMG draft minutes

Present: Excom members: Ken, Tim, Caitlin, Glenn, John Feldman and Doug. Rob (arrived later during item 6)
Caroline, secretary

1. Approved minutes from May
2. Approved John Feldman as replacement Excom member for Doug. Unanimous vote. Change to be effective after current meeting. Thanks to Doug for all his volunteer work! Thanks to John for stepping forward.
3. Sierra Scape status: still delayed and now in need of several updates needed to make it a relevant "summer" issue. We discussed changes and efficiencies which could help this go more smoothly. We could use the chapter's newsletter software (Lucidpress). Caitlin has some experience on that as she has been helping with chapter newsletter. We should try to stagger our schedule – Spring and Fall to mesh with chapter newsletter which publishes summer and winter. Tim is also interested in helping with the newsletter. With the software the chapter uses more than one person can work on the document. Currently we pay for monthly software that Don uses. Paying the Chapter a portion of the cost for Lucidpress would be less. We considered canceling the current "spring" issue and move forward with a fall issue. Where applicable we can use some of the same content. Ken moved, Glenn seconded motion, vote was unanimous. We will check with chapter on cost of sharing their system, but it will be a savings.
4. Monthly programs: May general program was successful, very good program by Wolf Sanctuary. June is dinner at Olympia. No program in July. Aug will be Bob Hinckle on recycling. Sept, Pat Justice back from Ameren. No program topic yet for Oct. Many folks will be busy with Trail maintenance in Oct.
5. Outings: Doug gave outings report. New outings members (seven) need first aid training. Committee is trying to arrange training at Alpine shop. Chapter got a grant for Outings and EMG will get about \$150 from that to help with first aid training cost. Cost is \$29 per person. In addition to the new seven members, there will be about 18 later this year who need to be recertified. If all get certified the cost to EMG would be about \$600. Ken moved, and Tim seconded authorizing up to \$700 for this training. Vote for approval was unanimous.
New outings committee co-chairs are Jim Rhodes and Louise Bullock. Thanks to them for volunteering.
We need to allocate \$ for Michael Berg's time to spend on Trail-Work Week. He needs 20 hours of funding. Caitlin moved, and Doug seconded that we allocate funding for those hours for Michael, passed unanimously.
Life Outside event got rescheduled to Sept 21 due to high water.
6. Conservation: Caroline asked about approval for sign on to letter asking for environmental reviews in Great River Greenway projects. Jim R and Louise B have also

reviewed the letter and approved it. Doug moved, and Glenn seconded that we agree to sign on. 4 votes yes one abstention.

We discussed Greenway Network alternative to St Charles Bangert Island project. The proposal is to develop a connecting greenway on the Missouri River across from Bangert Island park. This would also protect the Katy Trail there. The alternative does not preclude development, but pushes it back from the river. Caroline has also shared this with local ST Charles area volunteers who have been helping on the Weldon Woods/Katy Trail issue. Tim moved, and Glen seconded that we support the alternative – unanimous approval.

June 19, St Charles Planning and Zoning committee meeting, 7pm. They will vote on updated housing development near Katy Trail/Weldon Woods. We are optimistic it will not be approved.

June 26, Forest Park visitors center 1:00 to 7:00 pm, River Soundings. We are a co-sponsor. Attend for some or all of the event.

Update on St Louis County building codes. The chapter is doing a great job helping organize this, especially Gretchen. Look for opportunities to visit your own County Council person re this. We will be scheduling some of those meetings.

7. Budget: Reviewed budget for 2019 which we received in January but never formally adopted. Voted unanimously to adopt it. We will need to be aware of modest yearly deficient spending. Our payment to chapter for their help has been very valuable and we have ample funds in reserve, however, we need to plan ahead to keep fundraising strong.

8. July 9, next meeting. 6:30pm