

May 11,2021

EMG Executive Committee meeting minutes. Meeting conducted via Zoom

Excom members present: Ken Schechtman, Diana Oleskevich, Caitlin Zera, John Feldman, Tim Elwell

Non-Excom members present: Caroline Pufalt, Stephanie Todd and Ashton Kuehnel

1. Reviewed and accepted April minutes
2. Treasurer's report. Robert was not on the call, but he did submit a written treasurer's report. Our balance has changed very little. A few donations and minor expenses. Next month will show the SierraScape expenses.

Jim Young has asked for the OK to register EMG for a lemonade booth at St Charles Fair in August. It's likely that we will have the OK to do this by then, but we need to get the registration in soon. Robert did not report the exact cost, but it should be the similar to that in past years. Diana moved and John seconded a motion to approve of Jim registering us for the August fair and paying registration fee from EMG funds. Passed unanimously. Caroline, as secretary, will let Jim and Robert know.

3. Caitlin reported that SierraScape is at the printer. Should be in the mail later this week.

She has also had a couple of volunteer inquiries about helping with the newsletter! Caitlin will send out notice of E-newsletter deadline, May 17 soon. Please be on the lookout for items to include. We will highlight the May 27 Zoom meeting event.

Caroline reported that she has provided information to update Excom members, terms etc. on the website, and Mary has input that. Mary has also added easy to find link to E-newsletter. We are working on getting all the minutes posted. Mary has been having some software issues with the Club's program (Drupal), she's been corresponding with national help desk. Thanks to Mary! Tim offered to help too if needed. Caroline will check in with Mary to see how that's going. We are still planning to make the other changes we talked about, with photos and issue updates.

4. Caroline reported that state legislative session is coming to an end. At this point one priority is focusing on defeating SB40, which would really damage DNR. Michael recently sent out an alert on that, please open it and use the link to send a message to your Senators. The Legislative committee had its last call on Friday. We all thanked Michael for his leadership.

Ashton reported that our other legislative priority is defeating the changes to the Initiative Petition process. See upcoming text alert to help respond to that issue too.

Ken reported that there is no political report update this month.

Ashton reported on our Democracy work. Redistricting process will start in July. Ashton is working with allies to have a joint Zoom meeting in June to explain the redistricting process and how citizens can be involved. Exact date in June TBD. We will broadcast the details when available.

5. May 27 EMG Zoom event is being organized by Jim Rhodes with help from John Feldman. John, Diana and Caroline have already agreed to do segments. Caroline has general conservation topic, she will work with Stephanie to include our Lights Our Heartland connection too. Jim wants folks to send him any photos or power point slides for our presentations.

6. Outings report -John Feldmann reported that outings folks participated in memorials at Hawn State Park for Doug Mehlville and Bob Gestel. Two benches were dedicated. Despite the weather the event was good and people shared their appreciations.

7. Conservation report - Caroline reported that she did participate in the Show Me Solar event on May 7. She provided brief history of SC in MO and what EMG does. The program was also excellent in providing basic and more complex information for homeowners who are considering solar in MO. Very knowledgeable folks who were good communicators on a sometimes complex topic. Stephanie raised an issue she has been researching, which is the practice of spraying for mosquitoes in St Louis county. This seems to be almost routine, but is not very helpful at all and harmful to other insects, etc. Some local municipalities (Ellisville and Brentwood) have opted out of the spraying. Jean Ponzi from Earthways/MOBOT has a good presentation on this. General sense was that this is a good issue, but we asked Stephanie and Diana to work up a summary of the topic for us to review next meeting.

8. Next meeting June 8. Thanks again to Caitlin for organizing the Zoom link.