

THB ExCom Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2014

Executive Committee: David Anderson, Claus Wawrzinek, Ellen Brenneman, Richard McBroom, Jim Turner, Tom Tortorich, Stephen Flanery
Guest: Eileen McManus (outings chair)
Scribe: Stephen Flanery

Meeting starts: 7:06 pm

**Motion to approve minutes from November meeting:
David moves, Stephen seconds.
Minutes approved unanimously.**

Richard asks if the question of whether Tom's decision to join the ExCom was affected by the possibility that THB group would use him as a vendor. Jim rejects the question, because he feels its offensive to a new member. David clarifies that there is no evidence of a non-disclosure agreement as far as national is concerned and that Tom is not the vendor, but rather he is receiving a wholesale discount because he has a small business. Sierra Club is simply benefiting from those reduced rates. David paid the invoice, not Sierra Club, so this is not an issue.

**Motion to adopt January planning meeting minutes:
Claus moves. Stephen seconds.
Minutes approved unanimously. Richard abstains.**

**Motion to adopt September meeting minutes:
Claus moves, Stephen seconds.
Minutes approved unanimously.**

Budget discussion:

Inflows:

Eileen recommended changes regarding calendars. She's ordering more, so she might make another \$100. We spend \$220, she sells them for twice the cost, and we made about \$300. If she sells 12 more, that comes to about 60. Calendar sales will likely reach \$600.

Regarding merchandise, Claus doesn't think it's worth the hassle, because we don't typically sell much. We don't have any sales recorded for 2013. Our merchandise sales are hindered by the fact that we cannot sell items or transfer money when we meet at the Discovery Center. If we use the church or sell merchandise at bingo, then we might have some merchandise income. Ellen does not want to keep the merchandise any longer.

As for outings, THB donations were \$1300. Eileen feels there might be more this year. She feels Kanza will be \$300 this year.

John Hickey contacted National regarding whether it's appropriate to contact members for donations, since the chapter only has one window to raise funds. Jim suggested we could just contact individuals who have been involved with the lemonade stands. Dave suggests we bump C4 donations to \$100.

Outflows:

Leave conservation expenses the same.

Regarding outings, the brochure should be the meetup costs (\$50). First aid was more in 2013, but many people got caught up, so we shouldn't have as many expenses. Regarding the lending library, this should remain the same. Other expenses would be pizza parties, mailers, etc. Eileen is trying to get money from a grant for the Walk for Wilderness. This will be a 2 mile walk through the Discovery Center grounds and over to Theis Park. She will buy bags and include the ten essentials (compass, whistle, water, bars, etc.). This will all likely cost \$500. David comments that the budget for this event isn't set yet and that we can revisit later in the year. Eileen included \$250 as other in case she doesn't get the grant.

Newsletter: that's up in the air depending on how many issues we have. We discussed just having 2 issues and staggering with national. The budgeted amount is based on 3-4 issues. For 2 issues, we should budget \$500-\$600. Dave, Ellen, and Eileen think having 2 issues makes sense. Postage is \$500. We no longer have distribution expenses. Printing is \$500. Our postage permit goes up to \$210.

Membership: this will be for postcards to new members. Eileen suggests \$200 and that we send to all members and not to just to members in the immediate area. Dave agrees with \$200.

Calendar sales: if Eileen gets 12 new calendars, she feels \$275(?) is realistic.

Other program expenses: second lemonade stand is a dummy entry.

Education committee: Patty requested 200 for the book club.

Hospitality: Patty requested \$150 because we had the Lake Jacomo event. She wanted to spend money to attract new members. If we have general meetings in the church social hall, Jim suggests, we might need money for this to purchase snacks.

Oil reduction: we can remove.

Political committee: Claus says 300 is good.

Population: Patty says she has an agenda. She may need signs and supplies.

Donations: Patty pays \$100 to ASU, but donations can cover that cost. We'll cut this to \$100. Claus says the farmers' market event is a lose/lose. Nobody stops at the table and everyone already knows folks. For KC Wildlands, Eileen wanted to have money for our adopted land. David suggested \$150 for this. We give this to BTG. Jim proposes to double our donation to UCM, since we're considering using it for the general meeting. Jim could sacrifice conservation other costs.

Richard suggests that people might be hesitant meeting at a non-neutral site, such as a church. Eileen says the advantage of the Discovery Center was because it was free, but it is only on Tuesday nights. Jim won't insist on doubling the amount, but he suggests \$200. David says we're not even sure we can get the hall, so we should leave at \$150, and we can vote to increase in August when annual payment is made.

Wilderness Act: we don't know the budget yet. We'll do a vote closer to the event.

Program expenses: \$300 for fundraising. For treasurer, \$90 is just there.

Before approving the 2014 budget, Richard suggests we approve 2013 budget first. We drew down \$1000. David says we don't need to panic regarding going in the red, but we'll develop our plan as the year goes on. Cutting down newsletters will help.

Motion to accept the actuals for the 2013 budget:

Claus moves, Stephen seconds.

Budget accepted unanimously.

Motion to accept the proposed 2014 budget, as amended:

Claus moves to accept, Tom seconds.

Budget accepted unanimously.

Newsletter: the question is number of issues and schedule. We have proposed doing 2 issues a year alternating with the chapter newsletter. Eileen will do outings January thru June and July thru December. She'll have blurbs in December and June. The chapter issue is December to May and June to November. THB would have September (Ellen wonders if we can vote in September. Hickey says we can say voting is open September and October and that votes will be counted in November) David says we can do October (or at least fall). We would adopt 2 a year system, and we can refine our dates and aim to be alternating. We can also print one page in the chapter newsletter. Publishing dates would be April and October. But we won't publish April of this year, since we just sent out a newsletter.

Motion to accept the changer from 4 to 2 newsletters:

Claus moves to adopt new schedule, Stephen seconds.

Revised newsletter schedule accepted unanimously.

Green happy hour merger: Dave and Claus met with Dan Wancoura. He restarted green drinks and was originally in JoCo. He is now doing the program in our area. We'd share resources, membership contacts, and the name. This does not involve handing over a membership list. We'd send out blurbs on meetup and Facebook. When we talk about our social events, we can post on the GD meetup list. This serves as an excellent recruiting tool, and we can hand out postcards. This is also an idea for an alternative meeting format. We would merge under the name green drinks. We previously voted to avoid green drinks, because we were separate, but this is a collaborative effort. Richard wonders if this interests SC to go by the name "green drinks." We consider this an opportunity to recruit new members, but if it doesn't work we can reconsider after the year. We will share programming with Dan. Dan is paying the meetup group cost. Jim thinks this is better—we started the HH, because there was nothing and we wanted something. Now there is something that has a national reputation. The previous KC green drinks had 500 members. To measure success we'll see how many people show up. This is the second Thursday of each month.

Motion to accept the joint effort with Green Drinks:

Clause moves, Stephen seconds.

Motion accepted with Richard voting "no."

General meeting structure: Jim proposes we structure ours similar to the Kanza group. It begins with social time for 30 minutes with snacks and drinks, and it's followed by an activity session. This is an

opportunity to share with people who have common interests. We could identify 3-4 tables that are each breakout sessions. For example, one is the beyond coal campaign, one is based on the Environmental Management Commission, one is to talk about cycling, or urban agriculture. After 20 minutes, the groups report to the entire room. It would be acceptable to include presentation if we had enough interest. Claus agrees and thinks we should try. Tom agrees. Claus: do we abandon the Discovery Center or rotate? Jim says we rotate. We might be overexerting ourselves to do both. He proposes we use Discovery until May, and Claus could see about getting Lewis and Clark back.

Motion to transition out of auditorium session into room that will accommodate refreshments and conversations. Because this was left unsettled before, it made it into the newsletter, and Jim suggests we at least motion to transition to this new model with UCM and Lewis and Clark as possibilities for the space.

Jim moves, Claus seconds.

Motion to transition accepted unanimously.

Richard wants to discuss how he reports the new member postcards, since they were a gift. Jim would like to speak with national about this, as he wonders whether we need to report them. Richard says we should be transparent, because there is a new policy with 2013 reporting. It requires that for donation of goods or professional services that we would pay for otherwise, these must be taken into account based upon fair market value.

Motion to accept the postcards as a gift (\$45 fair market value):

Claus moves, Stephen seconds.

Motion accepted unanimously. David abstains as donor.

For conservation, Jim suggests sending out notices as opposed to hosting separate meetings.

Expansion of streetcar:

Motion to endorse the streetcar expansion, which would include supporting in in communications and in a public endorsement.

Claus moves, Tom seconds.

Motion accepted unanimously.

Bike share system: would expand from Downtown/Crossroads to Midtown/Westport/Plaza. They are looking for endorsement as a voice of support.

Motion to endorse bike share endorsement.

Claus moves, Tom seconds.

Motion accepted unanimously.

Convio situation: Nat'l has allocated 4 to state. Will chapter have to ask for more licenses? We don't currently have the ability to communicate to our members. We used to use national, but they should never have allowed. John Hickey is looking into this.

Regarding the wholesale discount we received on printing for the postcards, Richard told Tom that the treasurer is required to document transactions from approved invoices. Tom stated that he was unincorporated, so Richard says this requires a compliance review in advance. Tom stated that if it was going to be this difficult, he would not offer his services to obtain SC a wholesale discount.

Meeting adjourned.