

SIERRA CLUB- SANTA CRUZ COUNTY GROUP of the VENTANA CHAPTER

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Executive Committee of the Santa Cruz Group of the Sierra Club was held on March 14, 2012 at Louden Nelson Center.

Committee Members Present: Mike Guth (Chair), David Casterson (Vice Chair), Greg McPheeters (Secretary), Kerasha Durham, Fred Geiger, Tawn Kennedy, Charles Paulden, Mary Odegaard, Patricia Matejcek (arrived 7:17)

Committee Members Absent: none

Also Present: Charlie Dixon (Treasurer), Aldo Giachino, Andy Benkert.

Presided by: Mike Guth (Chair)

Called to order at: 7:07PM

- 1) Member Comments: none
- 2) Agenda adopted
- 3) Minutes: Move to approve by David, second by Mary, Minutes Adopted.
- 4) Report on Recent Club Actions on Issues:
 - a. LAFCO UCSC North Campus Water District Boundary expansion: a letter was mailed in. Aldo brought the Committee up to speed on the issue and that the position in our letter was adopted by the committee.
 - b. Ag Waiver Hearing in SLO: update by Mike.
 - c. Pogonip: update from Mike.
- 5) Financial Report: Report by Charles Dixon including update about expenses related to Ventana publishing and Advertising Revenue. Questions about if financial report is accessible to members, requests for information should be directed to Chair/Vice Chair. Clarification that Sierra Club Foundation Funds are 501(c)3 Funds. (Other funds are unrestricted)
 - a. Motion by Fred, Second by Tawn, to approve various letters for treasury updates for our Treasurer, including to specifically add Charles Dixon and Greg McPheeters as signatories on the account and remove past officers Aldo Giacchino and Mark Sullivan. Motion Passed.
 - b. Discussion about following up with existing Ventana sponsors to see if they would like to continue sponsoring on our web site. Suggestion that a pdf version of Ventana could still go out
- 6) UCSC Earth Summit. Mike Guth attended. Question came up about getting student internships at Sierra Club. Tawn reported on potential for Internships, how they are handled through the University, and shared the form for applying. We can post multiple internships. Tawn offered to be our Intern Coordinator. 5 credit internships are expected to be 12-15 hours per week, 3 credit internships are expected to be 6-8. Committees can define an intern and Tawn will help coordinate listing.
- 7) Outreach to Group Members. Majority of members are not on Convio, Mike proposes we send a mailer to our membership asking them to join Convio and making sure they know about the Meet-Up Calendar and to check out our Group site.

- Suggestion that some of our sponsors might want to put an ad on the mailer to help us pay for it, but that may be restricted. Keresha will work on a mailer for this purpose.
- 8) Group Outings Chair: Discussion of John Howerton being our Group Outings Chair. Some discussion about the fact that he is also filling the role of Outings Chair for the Chapter and that if he is doing it, he should be recognized officially by Chapter as well. Feedback and discussion about how MeetUp is working for our members. Mike called for a vote on John as our Outings Chair, Motion passed.
 - 9) Web Committee. General update from Greg. Motion to add Ted Merrill to the committee, Motion passed.
 - 10) Events Committee. Update from Keresha on Successful “Wild Camping” Event. 55 people attended despite limited publicity. Event Committee will meet third Thursdays. Events Committee is bringing back “Slide Show Potlucks” starting this month on the 29th (with Sigrid McLaughlin(sp)). Guest Speakers who walked from SF to Yosemite are planned for May.
 - a. Events Committee now has seed money for events. Some discussion about best practices for tracking of these funds. Motion by Keresha to allow this money to be added to events allocation and be accessible to them for events related expenses, Second by David, Motion carries.
 - b. Keresha organized our presence at Earth Day last year and is looking for people to help with Earth Day this year.
 - 11) Political Committee. Update from David. Group came up with questions for election questionnaire, and are tracking candidates. All but one have been contacted to ask if they would like to seek our endorsement. Charles reminded the committee of his resignation from the political committee because he is running for Supervisor.
 - 12) Coastal Committee – LAFCO was previously discussed. Discussion of issue of high nitrate well water in Salinas and San Joaquin Valleys.
 - 13) Conservation Committee – Clarification on messages that are forwarded from the sescrg@cruzio.com account – that these are from our group email and people should grab them and run with them.
 - a. CAP Letter is out for review from this committee. Mike has sent the letter to the committee – and requests comments by Friday so he can submit Monday. If he gets no feedback he will submit the draft he circulated.
 - b. Mike is working on a short notice County Code changes response and we should be ready to jump on it in the next week or two.
 - 14) Transportation Committee. Prior Chair has confirmed that he does not want to do it. Greg has expressed interest in the Chair Position. No action taken
 - 15) Reimbursement issue recap. Motion by Charles, second by Fred to concur with the analysis that this is not a reimbursable request. Motion Passed.

Meeting adjourned 9:05PM

Respectfully submitted by Greg McPheeters