

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 May 9, 2012 at Louden Nelson Center.

Committee Members Present: Mike Guth (Chair), David Casterson (Vice Chair), Greg McPheeters (Secretary), Keresha Durham, Fred Geiger, Tawn Kennedy, Mary Odegaard, Patricia Matejcek

Committee Members Absent: Charles Paulden,

Also Present: Allie Chavez (intern), Maggie Dickson, Allan Neymark.

Presided by: Mike Guth (Chair)

Called to order at: 7:08 PM

- 1) Member Comments: none
- 2) Agenda adopted
- 3) Minutes: Motion to approve by Fred, second by Tawn, Minutes Adopted with minor correction to details about Political Committee Endorsement Vote.
- 4) Reporting on Actions since last meeting:
 - a. Mike reported on email approval of supporting the following Resolution: The Northern Alameda County Executive Committee of the Sierra Club urges the Club to issue a statement of support for the development of UC Davis' 21st Century Invasive Pest Policy and a statement of opposition to the preparation of the CDFA's Pest Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (Pest PEIR).
 - b. Clarification that Patricia is our formal representative on the Soquel Corridor Plan, Tawn and Mike took pictures and did a full photo study of infrastructure problems in the Corridor and it was well received. It was noted that nobody else had done a study like that.
 - c. Sierra Club National is trying to link "outings" to the "resilient habitats" campaign. They are suggesting we have outings where we discuss the habitats campaigns in our region. Basically, we should discuss how can we showcase our most sensitive local habitats in an outings event(s)
- 5) Treasury Report – Charlie is not present, general discussion of report provided by Charlie.
- 6) Convio was sent out yesterday. Discussion of how to get email addresses into Convio as members provide them. Review of the message, which explained to members that the print Ventana was no longer in print, and directed them to our website and MeetUp pages. Some discussion about getting Convio messages out in a timely manner, and general strategy for using the system effectively. Plan set to send a Convio on July 1st listing all July events. Deadline of June 15th to get submissions so that the Convio can go out in a timely fashion.
- 7) Postcard Update. General discussion about cost and process for getting the postcard out that will inform members about our transition away from the print Ventana.

- 8) Web Committee Update. The committee met on Earth Day and is working on a meeting with the Ventana Chapter Web Team. Outings Leaders Maggie Dickson, and Allan Neymark presented concerns that Group and Chapter events are not both on MeetUp and that ultimately, members would really like to have one place with all events posted (Chapter and Group) and no log in required. Additional discussion of how best to handle group and chapter scheduling.
- 9) Events Committee Update.
 - a. The group had a great booth at the event which was brought to the festival entirely by bicycle. 240 signatures were collected to send to National Sierra Club supporting their clear-cutting campaign.
 - b. Tibet Photo Show / Potluck went really well despite very little publicity. 12 members attended, the slideshow was wonderful and everyone really enjoyed the potluck. Event was almost zero cost, which makes it a great, fun event for members.
 - c. Next Event May 31st – Peter and Donna Thomas on their “Muir Ramble Route.”
- 10) Political Committee.
 - a. Committee met on May 3rd. Minutes were sent out. Reviewed Draft of Letter to Editor Supporting John Leopold for Supervisor.
 - b. Political Committee would like to propose a Desalination Plant Forum Event in September, to educate and inform our membership/the community on the impacts of the project. Motion by Fred, Second by Keresha, to plan for the event as described by David. Motion passed.
 - c. Watsonville Annexation. Watsonville is attempting to annex more farmland along the freeway. General discussion of the issue and what our role will be on this issue.
- 11) Coastal Committee.
 - a. Watsonville Annexation Issue has been discussed.
 - b. East Cliff Drive Proposal, Coastal Committee is opposing the project. Mike reviewed the points on this issue that were discussed by the Conservation Committee. Much discussion on Coastal Act Compliance, removing all car parking, adding bike parking, making it only one lane, etc.
- 12) Conservation Committee.
 - a. Minutes went out.
 - b. Reviewed long list of projects that Committee is tracking.
 - c. Currently Committee is Mike Guth, Celia Scott, and Keresha Durham. Mike is nominating Mary Odegaard and Nick Droback (sp) and Patricia Matejcek. Motion by David, second by Fred, to ratify those nominations. Motion Passed.
- 13) Transportation Committee.
 - a. Draft Charter and list of members proposed, adding Tawn Kennedy, Fred Geiger, Patricia Matejcek, and Holly Tyler to the committee. Motion by David, second by Fred, to ratify, these members, motion passed.
- 14) Water Resources Committee. Dierdre has clarified that she prefers to be a committee member, not the committee Chair. This means that we no longer have a Water Resources Committee due to lack of Chair person.

15) Member input from Allan Neymark relaying concerns about illegal mountain bike activity on hiking only trails in Nisene Marks. Concerns that hikers are scared to hike on the trails because of high speed mountain bikers, many of whom are thought to be shuttle riders. Conservation Committee will look into this issue further.

Meeting adjourned 9:20PM

Respectfully submitted by Greg McPheeters