

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 June 13, 2012 at Louden Nelson Center.

Committee Members Present: Mike Guth (Chair), Greg McPheeters (Secretary), Tawn Kennedy, Mary Odegaard, Patricia Matejcek (arrived 7:14, departed 8:05)

Committee Members Absent: Charles Paulden, David Casterson (Vice Chair), Keresha Durham, Fred Geiger

Also Present: Charlie Dixon (Treasurer), Josh Hart (Stop Smart Meters)

Presided by: Mike Guth (Chair)

Called to order at: 7:10 PM

- 1) Member Comments: none
- 2) Agenda adopted
- 3) Minutes: Motion to approve by Tawn, second by Mary, Minutes Adopted
- 4) Treasurer's Report:
 - a. Noted that with Ventana no longer in print, we may need a revenue source for elections in December.
- 5) Presentation by Josh Hart of Stop Smart Meters on plan for 7 new cell towers on Highway 1 between Santa Cruz and Davenport. Request for us to write a letter to the Coastal Commission opposing the project. General discussion about the issues involved vs. the issues that would be effective at actually affecting the outcome of the project. General support to explore further and see if we can support the campaign.
- 6) Web committee: Site updates can be made now via our Webmaster. Targeting end of summer for Content Management Functionality on our site.
- 7) Events Committee: Swanton Berry Farm, Happy Boy, and Twin Sister Farms donated produce for the Muir Ramble Event - we had about 100 people attend.
- 8) Conservation Committee:
 - a. Draft letter compiled regarding Storm Water Management Plan for the Central Coast Region. Letter due July 6th (final letter will be email vote).
 - b. Aptos Village Plan (also Trans Com Issue). Housing Development Project behind Bayview Hotel in Aptos. The project has major transportation issues if it doesn't also correct the narrow bridge access to downtown Aptos. There are also some major runoff concerns.
- 9) Transportation Committee:
 - a. Nomination of Saskia Lucas, Paul Hempstead, and Jack Nelson to Transportation Committee. Nominations Accepted.
 - b. Committee will work on letter regarding RTC Vehicle Registration Fee Proposal
 - c. Committee will work on position on Watsonville Trails and Greenways Master Plan, working to gather more input from Watsonville. The plan appears to have many good elements.

- 10) Nisene to Cabrillo College Trail: We have supported this trail in the past and we have been asked to write a letter of support for the latest step in the process. The connection is a key part of the vision of a Skyline to the Sea Trail via Nisene Marks, connecting across Highway 1 at New Brighton. Motion by Charles, second by Mary, to write a letter of support of the project. Motion passed.
- 11) Presentation by Charles on Monarch Butterfly windbreak/habitat at Moran Lake County Park where 7 trees were recently cut down after one fell. New native trees should be replanted but the money to do the planting needs to be found. Mike and Charles will work on response for next meeting.

Meeting adjourned 9:00PM

Respectfully submitted by Greg McPheeters