

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 August 8, 2012 at Louden Nelson Center.

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

Committee Members Absent: Charles Paulden

Also Present: Charles Dixon (Treasurer), Aldo Giachino

Presided by: Mike Guth (Chair)

Called to order at: 7:15 PM

- 1) Member Comments: none
- 2) Agenda adopted with some additions.
- 3) Minutes: Motion to approve by Patricia, second by Fred, Minutes Adopted
- 4) Treasurer's Report:
 - a. Money still coming in from March, otherwise, no major changes to finances.
 - b. \$500 ahead of beginning of year
- 5) Presentation of Desal Ballot Initiative Support Letter and request for Sierra Club endorsement. Our group has a history of supporting this ballot issue, many concerns with the letter as presented, but there is a very short time window. Motion by Fred to approve the letter as written and add our name to it, with a check by the policy committee on our purview in this process and facts presented, Motion seconded by Keresha, with amendment added to only use Club's name on letter if possible. Motion passes. More information, citations, etc. at rtvod.org
- 6) Outreach to Group members. We would like to send a notification out to our memberships that highlights our committee meetings to members so they can attend meetings of interest to them. Some discussion of when to do this.
- 7) Soquel Park. Lots of discussion about how to work with the groups that are interested in the disc golf course project to make the project more environmentally sensible.
- 8) Possibility of linking up with other groups for election outreach. We have been invited to join a local coalition to do this. Some discussion of how our organizational structure would limit our ability to openly endorse issues and candidates and how this would ultimately limit our ability to participate with this group. No action taken.
- 9) Need to figure out ExCom Election Process without Ventana. David, Keresha, and Mary have volunteered to look into this and lay the groundwork for the nominating committee.
- 10) Web Committee – Waiting for National Webmasters to set up our new CMS Server
- 11) Events Committee – 45 people at the Lyme Disease Event/Presentation. Prior event was a beach bonfire with 26 or so people coming out. Tuesday September 25th Don Horschmeier presenting on toxics in the environment. Keresha is very interested in

how to support GMO labeling initiative locally. Mike would like to have some sort of Pajaro River related event to educate people about what is happening there.

12) Transportation Committee –

- a. Watsonville Trail Plan official feedback date has passed but we would still like to get our comments in to them. Motion by David for Committee to put letter in with our comments on the plan within the week, Second by Keresha, motion passed.
- b. Opportunity to be a sponsor of Santa Cruz's inaugural Open Streets Event. Motion by Greg, second by Tawn, to be a sponsor at the \$250 level. Keresha and events committee are interested in having a booth at the event to engage attendees. motion passes.
- c. Request for us to help with National Plug in Day Sept 23rd noon to 3 at Staff of Life. Motion by Greg, second by David, to sponsor this event in line with National's existing sponsorship.

13) Forestry Committee – big issues happening right now with local forestry regulations. Motion by Mike to fund \$1500 for the third quarter of this year for Jodi with the condition that she come to one of the next two ExCom or ConsCom meetings to report/educate us on what she is working on right now and what the big issues are that we should be working on.

14) Political Committee – Finalizing interview process with election candidates in coming weeks. Attended Chapter ExCom meeting and discussed election process with them in absence of print Ventana. Discussion of plan related to new Big Basin General Plan. Mike has been looped in on this discussion recently and will check in with them and update the appropriate committee.

Meeting adjourned 9:40PM

Respectfully submitted by Greg McPheeters