

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 October 10, 2012 at Louden Nelson Center.

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

Committee Members Absent: Charles Paulden, David Casterson (Vice Chair),

Also Present: Charles Dixon (Treasurer), Helena Ivatt

Presided by: Mike Guth (Chair)

Called to order at: 7:07 PM

- 1) Member Comments: none
- 2) Agenda adopted with some additions.
- 3) Minutes: Motion to approve by Keresha, second by Fred, Minutes adopted with addition:
 - a. Request to get guidelines for what can go out on Convio notifications.
- 4) Excom Election – this topic was discussed with Chapter since it has traditionally been a joint effort. Chapter is indicating they will do a paper mailing for elections. Cost estimates for online voting services appear to be more expensive than a paper mailer, and the Group only has email addresses for 60% of the group.
 - a. David, Keresha, and Mary had previously been identified as the Nominating Committee. Mary will step in as Chair and keep the committee moving forward, with Keresha and Helena
 - b. Motion: by Fred, second by Patricia, to use one of our October Convio's for the purpose of announcing our endorsements (for both offices and issues), as well as soliciting people who want to run for the Executive Committee (both topics in title). Motion Passed.
- 5) Forestry update from Jodi Frediani – some of the things she has been working on:
 - a. Jodi does work for Sierra Club and is Director from Central Coast Forest Watch.
 - b. Timber Harvesting Plans locally have been relatively minimal, perhaps tied to the economic downturn. 1,000 acres were logged after the Lockheed Fire, they were exempt from any review and the public has no access to the property.
 - c. In Santa Cruz County – there is a bill that would allow timber harvest plans to be approved on parcels up to 15,000 acres (up from 2,500).
 - d. Local rules related to road construction in forested areas, many other stories and anecdotes about local Board of Forestry Meetings, appointees, etc.
 - e. Summit Watershed Protection League is adjacent to property that was poorly harvested in 80's. Successfully fought a rezoning plan that would have opened it up again

- f. Property on Hester Creek, owner was clear cutting property off on isolated road with no THP, worked to get the operation red tagged, now a criminal case.
 - g. Redwoods Meadow Ranch – another Project
 - h. Working with Soquel Demonstration Forest on their harvest plan
 - i. Staying in loop on Cemex Forest/Property
- 6) Endorsement Activities: Helena is covering for David. Letter has been sent to Sentinel reporting on our endorsements (Leopold/Hammer for first and fifth districts, Posner for Santa Cruz City Council, measure P for right to vote on desal). Press release in progress. Previously discussed Convio will go out highlighting these endorsements. Intention to also promote some of the key State Level Club endorsements. Request from Kerasha to be sure we specifically include the State Level endorsement of Prop 37 in our notifications.
 - a. Additional discussion of the Progressive Coalition’s door hanger campaign. General sense that the club rules won’t allow us to contribute to that project. There is a process for Sierra Club Members to send out notifications working through National and that may work for these candidates.
- 7) Mike Guth completed the Helen Training for access to the member database. He is working on a newsletter.
- 8) Soquel Community Corridor Meetings – Tawn will be able to make it to one of the meetings and present our comments.
- 9) Chapter Report –
 - a. Fighting Ford Ord Development
 - b. Raising Concerns about Hampton Inn Expansion in Marina
 - c. Solid Waste Facility in Gonzales
 - d. Charlie gave a report on their election strategy
- 10) Discussion of hacking of our Facebook page, and postings that contradict our position on Proposition 37. Password has been changed, many postings were removed but some were not able to be taken down.
- 11) Web Committee – waiting on National Web Support. Can post content related to endorsements for election and positions to current site.

Meeting adjourned 9:40PM

Respectfully submitted by Greg McPheeters