

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 December 12, 2012 at Louden Nelson Center.

Committee Members Present: David Casterson (Vice Chair), Greg McPheeters (Secretary), Tawn Kennedy, Mary Odegaard, Keresha Durham.

Committee Members Absent: Mike Guth (Chair), Patricia Matejcek, Charles Paulden, Fred Geiger.

Also Present: Charles Dixon (Treasurer), Students from Soquel High School Disc Golf Club

Presided by: David Casterson (Vice Chair)

Called to order at: 7:11 PM

- 1) Member Comments: none
- 2) Agenda adopted.
- 3) Minutes: November minutes adopted.
- 4) Students from Soquel High School Disc Golf Club came to present their proposal for a 9 hole disc golf course at Anna Jean Cummings Park. They would like the Sierra Club's endorsement of their proposed course. Their goal is to have a more intermediate level course for kids and families. They are proposing to make it a seasonal course, to prevent damage to the vegetation during the winter. Their proposal includes pulling the "pins" Nov. 15th to March 15th to allow vegetation to recover. General consensus on ExCom of wanting to support this youth led project to get students out exploring and enjoying the environment, but need to address environmental impact. We note the following specific features of the proposal that could serve this purpose:
 - a. Proposal is to close the course seasonally. We could additionally recommend that they close the course any time the fields in the park are also closed for heavy rain
 - b. Proposal to include signage about plants and animals in the area, as well as history.
 - c. Annual photo-documentation of the course with review to assess any damage. The Disc Golf Club has been hosting site walks, and we could come walk the site any time with them they would be happy to host us on a walk. There is a desire to have our endorsement, if we choose to endorse it, by early in the year. We could provide some additional recommendations such as native plant restoration. General consensus around getting feedback on this issue from our members, and possibly inviting them on the site walk with the students.
- 5) Election ballots go out December 26th. Mostly being handled by Chapter at this point. January meeting date will still be January 9th even though this is fairly close to the ballot mailing date.

- 6) Motion to make the following clarification of process for content going to website:
Content will come from Club members to Committee Chairs for review. Committee Chair will Copy ExCom Chair on content they propose for the site, and ExCom chair will have 48 hours to raise any concerns before the content can be published to the website. Motion by Tawn, Second by Mary, motion carries.
- 7) Treasurer's Report: Charlie gave us a financial report for the year. We note that Jodi Frediani's Forestry Work is 49% of our annual expenses, followed by our mailing expenses. We also note costs for our meeting room at Loudon Nelson and our cruzio email address. We will explore alternatives to reduce or eliminate these expenses, beginning with getting a free email address to replace the cruzio address.
- 8) Events Committee: we had a well attended meeting on a rainy night, on kayaking the coast. About 50 people came out. Some discussion of a fundraiser event in the Spring.
- 9) Meeting adjourned 9:10PM

Respectfully submitted by Greg McPheeters