

Sierra Club Santa Cruz Group Executive Committee
Minutes July 8, 2015

Louden Nelson Community Center
301 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Called to Order 7:04

Attending: Gillian Greensite, Tawn Kennedy, Greg McPheeters, Jukka Naukkarinen, Ron Pomerantz, Erica Stanojevic

Melissa Ott, Mary Odegaard

Online Votes

Motion to host a social beach potluck on May 14th passes on April 21st

Motion to approve family hike on May 30th passes on May 5th

Motion to send letter to City of Scotts Valley regarding changes to their tree ordinance passes on May 5th

Motion to send letter to Santa Cruz city council regarding city Capital Improvement Programs passes on May 12th

Motion to approve of seven events: 5 intern led hikes, a Leonie Sherman Bicycling Across Cuba event and a Ventana Wilderness Alliance event, passes on May 18th.

Motion to co-sponsor climate mobilization event on June 14th passes on May 21st.

Motion to send letter asking city council not to invest in widening Highway 1 bridge passes June 8th

Approval of Minutes

March Minutes - Gillian motioned to approve minutes; Ron seconds; passes unanimously

April Minutes - Jukka motions to approve minutes with email vote added; Tawn seconds; unanimous with one abstention due to absence

No Minutes from May (we did not have a quorum)

June was a hike

Discussion about email lists: Discussion about how email lists should be reserved for the

direct business of the committee - items that are important locally and/or that warrant some direct local action from the committee.

Treasurer's Report (Mary)

In the negative \$4,000 for the last six months; so we should figure out a means to bring more money in. We still have a savings yet it would be good to keep it robust. Mary is working with communicating with chapter.

Ron clarified something about not spending more than \$250 for federal election candidates.

Events and Outreach Committee (Greg)

Next Committee Meeting - Wed. July 29th, 6:30 (or 7), at local house

Upcoming Events - Thursday Leonie Sherman event about bicycling through Cuba

Conservation Committee (Gillian)

Coast Dairies National Monument Status discussion - We will work to add to Melissa's document (she will send around again) regarding concerns and other comments regarding the National Monument status so we are ready to tell National of our position

Proposed County Zoning Changes - Tues. August 4th Board of Supervisors meetings; Melissa or Erica may try to attend

Gas Line Replacement on Mission Street / Pedestrian and Cyclist Access - Unfortunately is a state Caltrans issue and so our letters may have negligible effect; we can keep an eye on it though

Laguna Trail (Coast Dairies) - Discussion of letter with comments regarding intent, tone and grammar. Ron moves to approve letter with changes; Tawn seconds; unanimous approval.

Cowell Water Quality Group - Issues with Brown Act; it has been 8 months now; also meetings are focus on how to communicate with the press rather than about how to deal with the actual problem of poor quality water at Cowells. Gillian has been in contact with Stanford researchers and they are recommending certain tests which are not being approved by the group. The city is doing testing using an assay (test) that is not considered reliable. The county uses a more reliable test yet has only tested twice in 2015 which does not rule out the possibility of a false negative. There is also inadequate signage as well. There is also a leaky sewage pipe under Neary Lagoon - there is a capital improvement program this year which mentions it. Gillian sent a list of three recommendations which the researchers she is in contact with approve: 1) do DNA testing of for human, birds, and canine fecal matter; using the most reliable tests possible 2) a circulation study and 3) if we still don't know the source then to have an external panel of water experts to review what has been done so far. The group is supposed to vote on the recommendations, including those from other people on the group.

Adjourned at 9:08