

**Sierra Club Santa Cruz Group Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes, January 11th, 2017**

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM, Resource Center for Non-Violence, Santa Cruz, CA

Called to Order 6:37

Attending: Becca Fenwick, Gillian Greensite, Rick Longonotti, Greg McPheeters, Jack Nelson, Ron Pomeraz, Erica Stanojevic, Alex Yasbek
Morgan Eguia, Mary Odegaard, Mark Mesti-Miller, Grey Hayes, Joseph Geist

Online Votes

Welcome – Member comments

Approval of Minutes - December Minutes - Gillian moves to approve first version of minutes (with info regarding leaf blower discussion); Ron seconds; unanimous except for absentions due to absence

Treasurer's Report (Mary)

Checking account and savings - both positive; net positive for March appeal; 6 evening events raising about \$500

Got about 100 new members in December - quite an increase

Issues still with communication with chapter - for example payroll expenses haven't been billed in last 6 months

Greg will reach out to Rita to check in; Mary offers also to meet in person about this

Election Committee (Greg)

- Elections Reporting, Welcome New and returning Committee Members

A request to see the actual vote tallies; which was supported by others in the committee

Greg says he will check in about it again

- Review of Meeting Process, Bylaws, Outreach Guidelines, General Executive Committee Guidelines

- Thank You/Recognition for outgoing Members and those not joining the Committee

Presentation – Grey Hayes, Sierra Club and Castle Rock

General plan for Castle Rock State Park - there is a Black Oak forest there; a fairly rare forest Sierra Club sued then over the general plan being developed; through mediation a settlement agreement was reached in 2003

Settlement agreement had asked to have a resource advisory committee formed and a carrying capacity analysis for numbers and types of visitors (since then the concept has evolved and includes info such as type of use - wilderness or more crowded); also asks for a cumulative analysis; and agreed to look more at parking lot which is in the black oak forest

There hasn't been visible progress with actually implementing settlement agreement; they may have done some work although we don't know what

Would be a good idea to at least ask about what the status is on working on this agreement

An attorney at the Stanford Law Clinic has agreed to pro bono write a letter of inquiry to the State parks; so long as we ask her to

May also get into Loma Prieta territory

Grey volunteers to help with communication work Loma Prieta

Also should check in with chapter

Gillian motions to write a letter and run it by chapter; Ron seconds; unanimous

Becca offers to act as a liaison for Grey

Question about drought - Grey does not report signs of drought stress

Executive Committee (Greg)

Officers

Chair (was Greg in 2016) - Erica nominates Greg; Gillian seconds; Greg accepts; unanimous

Vice Chair (was Gillian in 2016) - Greg nominates Gillian; Ron seconds; Jack nominates Becca; Alex seconds; Becca is nominated

Secretary (was Erica in 2016) - Greg nominates Erica; Jack seconds; unanimous

Treasurer (was Mary / Trician in 2016) - Greg nominates both Mary and Trician for co-treasurer; Becca seconds; unanimous

Committee Chairs

Conservation (Currently Chaired by Gillian) - Greg nominates Gillian for conservation chair; Ron seconds; unanimous

Transportation (Currently Chaired by Jack Nelson) - Greg nominates Jack; Gillian seconds; unanimous

Events and Outreach (Currently Chaired by Nikki) - Greg nominates Nikki; Ron seconds; unanimous

Political (Currently Chaired by Ron) - Greg nominates Ron; Jack seconds; unanimous

Nominations/Elections (both Currently Chaired by Greg) - will do in August

Review Outreach Coordinator Resource for new members.

Meeting Time (confirm best meeting time for all members in 2017)

Will keep 6:30 - 8:30 meetings

Intern requests - How do we deal with this? Gillian meeting with them; different expectations for them. One applying now is for 5 hours per week for 10 weeks.

Events and Outreach Committee (Morgan)

Upcoming Events

- Jan 19, Two weeks kayaking the Grand Canyon, w Haven Livingston
- Mar 16 - "What's Happening on the San Lorenzo River" - Coastal Watershed Council Board - Member Greg Larson and Outreach Staff Lorrie Egan
- April 22 - Earth Day Santa Cruz - 11 - 4pm
- May 18, National Parks in Zambia and Zimbabwe, w Barry Bowman
- Alternate Event Concept - Date TBD - Tom Killion

Motion for Gillian to approve the new events (March, April, and alternate event concept); Ron seconds; unanimous

Gillian mentions a Dark Sky event; Jack mentions that Keresha had mentioned hosting a climate action event - on list for events committee

Next Meeting – February 1 – location at a private house

Conservation Committee (Gillian)

General Updates (Gillian)

- PG&E tree removal update - has been pushback by county; so no cutting yet
- Plastic water bottles ban - Not a great response with Mayor Matthews; may be a better chance to get it going with Mayor Chase; likely to start with just city events
- City trees - Gillian asks to email city arborist regarding a grant; we would like to offer support regarding the grant
- Cowell water quality - pollution numbers have gone down; a few more years of data will be needed to really be sure that the pollution is actually down
- A request to have a strategic discussion soon

Water, next steps and strategy (Erica) - Rick suggests checking in with Rosemary regarding in-lieu transfers; Ron says that getting Soquel moving is more important

100% Renewable Energy Campaign for Santa Cruz (Erica) - Jenny Johnson - Tri County effort - Ron says he will ask her to come to a meeting

Next Meeting: Jan 25, 6:30-8:30, Loudon Nelson

Transportation Committee (Jack)

Petition to RTC regarding rail trail from Friends of the Rail and Trail (FORT) - supports building the trail now and saving the rail tracks for potential future use, not to tear the tracks up - Jack makes a motion to promote the petition to our site and encourage our members to sign it - Alex seconds; unanimous

Gillian concerned about heritage trees that will be removed due to the project

Tomorrow night - January 12th - Unified corridor study at Simpkins Swim Center

Invitation to do tabling at Women's March for January 21st - Morgan can check the date to see she is available - Joseph volunteers to do some tabling

Next Meeting – Date TBD – location TBD

Adjourned at 8:46