

**Sierra Club Santa Cruz Group Executive Committee  
Meeting Minutes, February 8, 2017**

**6:30 PM – 8:30 PM, Resource Center for Nonviolence, Santa Cruz, CA**

**Called to Order 6:32pm**

**Attending: Becca Fenwick, Gillian Greensite, Rick Longinotti, Greg McPheeters, Jane Mio, Jack Nelson, Ron Pomerantz, Alex Yazbek, Morgan Eguia, Mary Odegaard, Patricia Matejcek, Nancy Macy**

**Online Votes**

**Welcome – Member comments**

**Approval of Minutes - January Minutes**

**Treasurer's Report (Mary)**

**Guest – Nancy Macy, Valley Women's Club (Gillian) (30 minutes)**

Location: Graham Hill rd -Felton Covered Bridge Park- safeway - mt hermon

-Construction of Christian Amusement Park

-"Felton Meadow Project" - Mt Hermon Association

-Claim- it will maintain open space

-Rivers that could be affected are still under restoration

-Roads in the area are already rated D- and F, claim: 2% worse

-Parking lot will be needed

-Lights/use on at night

-Tourism- mostly for out of town kids

-Soil removal and new soil introduced

-Re-channeling of natural waterways

-Many other environmental concerns

-Valley Women's club Met with Mt Hermon- assured that they would keep it as open space

-There are other more environmentally sound places for the Park - the Quarry.

Action for Sierra Club: Draft EIR to be released at of February, please comment to stop the project from happening. Before EIR comes out send a letter to Planning dept asking for the comment period to be extended from 45 to 90 days.

### **Guest – Monterey Bay Community Power (Ron) (20 minutes)**

Would cover all of Santa Cruz, San Benito, and Monterey Counties.

Community Choice Aggregation (CCA's) model. Now called Monterey Bay Community Power (MBCP). Voluntary for customers.

Joint Powers Agreement form of governance will establish MBCP- Buy, produce, and sell electrical power- keeps revenues and should aim to keep production local, and democratize our local electrical utility. How profits are used will be decided in a public process.

Issues and ways to improve presented by Andy Hartmann of the IBEW.

PGE will still operate the Distribution side and Billing

Wants to make it truly sustainable: better the environment, invigorate our economy, and improve our community.

Please Join Us- upcoming Board and Council meetings to get areas to join CCAs

Andy Hartmann of the IBEW asked the Group to support his proposed amendments to the draft Joint Powers Agreement of Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz Counties at upcoming meetings of Santa Cruz County (Feb 28, 9am) and City of SC (Feb 28, 2:30pm):

1. Prioritize the development of local renewable resources (rather than the less localized "state" renewable resources. Andy explained that this emphasis would create more local jobs and make our community more energy resilient.
2. Develop a business plan that includes a roadmap for development of local renewable resources, as well as labor standards for the CCA.
3. Improve Governance Structure. Give each jurisdiction a seat on the Board and use MCE's 50/50 approach to weighted voting, so that every jurisdiction fairly represents its ratepayers.

Sierra Club Action: Invite people to advocate for CCAs at upcoming meetings before the March 15th deadline. Draft letter to be sent by the next Santa Cruz County and Santa Cruz City meetings (date still unknown).

### **Executive Committee (Greg)**

March Appeal – Proposed Plan for Annual Appeal (Greg)

Made money last appeal

Sent out a mini ventana last year

Broke even last two years

Lots of new members -500 this last year

Focus more on fundraising for this year, direct appeal, with return envelope

Gillian- we should work on a fundraising event for next year

Becca- Events committee want to do one later in the year just not call it a fundraiser

Rick- let our members know we are here

Becca- include local projects we are working on

Greg Action: work on a draft with a more targeted appeal letter with a return envelope and local projects we are working on.

Group Priorities: Request from Rick for discussion about how the group plans events, identifies campaigns

Erica Action:

-4 hour priorities retreat to strategize about how the group plans events, identifies campaigns and budget? No time Frame - coordinate with Jane

Executive Committee Annual Calendar

- Jan – New Executive Committee Members Seated, Officers and Committee Chairs selected
- Feb - Committee Rosters formalized
- March - Fundraising / Annual Appeal window
- June – Executive Committee Hike (on date of monthly meeting)
- August – Nominating Committee Formed
- October – Executive Committee Candidates Statement of Intent to Run
- November – Candidates confirmed, Petition Candidates Notified
- December – Ballots out for Voting

**Events and Outreach Committee (Nikki/Morgan) -**

Committee Membership for 2017

Motion by Becca to approve new membership, second by Ron. Unanimous approval

Outreach Committee Guidelines, Review and update (Greg)

-New Document- to be approved next meeting

**Report from Outreach Coordinator (Morgan)**

Upcoming Events

- o Mar 16, Tom Killion event (approved)

- o April 22, "Earth Day Santa Cruz" 11-4 San Lorenzo Park (approved)
- o May 18, "National Parks in Zambia and Zimbabwe" - Barry Bowman (approved)
- o May 21, "Watsonville Open Streets" (approved)
- o June – date TBD, Beach Bonfire and Potluck (approved)
- o July 20, "What's Happening on the San Lorenzo River" – Coastal Watershed Council Board Member Greg Larson and Outreach Staff Lorrie Egan (approved)

Motion by Gillian to approve Open Streets and Beach Bonfire events Second: Jack, unanimous approval

Next Meeting – tbd (likely late April or May)

### **Transportation Committee (Jack)**

Committee Membership for 2017

Motion by Jack, to accept membership, second Alex, unanimous approval

Support for Santa Cruz Active Transportation Plan (Alex)

Net increase of people choosing rather than cars

Gillian- where not possible for sidewalk to go around tree, the heritage tree be saved and use sidewalk on other side of street.

Alex Action: letter of support in adopting the plan, but change Heritage tree removal to make sure sidewalks avoid trees, within city regulations.

Motion: Jack, to make changes to letter of support, second: Becca, unanimous approval.

Morgan Action: Post event about parking construction.

Next Meeting – Wed. Feb 15th, 2017 – Debbie Bulger's house

Upcoming meeting May 15, Aug 14, Nov 13- Mondays

### **Conservation Committee (Gillian)**

Committee Membership for 2017

Motion: Gillian, to accept membership Second: Ron, unanimous approval

-Drones in State Parks

-Bird club wrote letter, to have state parks off limits to drone

Sierra Club Action: write letter to to have state parks off limit to drones. Check with national sierra club state to see if it is okay with them

#### City Parks Master Plan

-Pogonip and Delaveaga: downhill mountain bike riding trails proposed

-Possibly only a Neg Dec

-Sierra Club to weigh in, but out of time.

-Project with save our shores

-Gillian meeting with mayor with Save our shores, to ban city sponsored events use of single use water bottles.

Next Meeting: Postponed

Adjourn