

**Sierra Club Santa Cruz Group Executive Committee  
Meeting Minutes, February 14, 2018  
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM, Louden Nelson**

**Called to Order 6:35**

**Attending: Steve Bakaley, Keresha Durham, Gillian Greensite, Rick Longinotti, Mark Mesti-Miller, Jane Mio, Rachel O'Malley, Ron Pomerantz, Erica Stanojevic**  
Greg McPheeters, Mary Odegaard, Jack Nelson, Steve Leanord, Paul Johnston, Kevin Collins, Mike Guth, Lisa Sheridan

**Online Votes**

On January 23rd a motion to approve December 2017 executive committee meeting minutes passed.

On February 8th a motion to send a letter to the EPA regarding changes in water quality standards passed

**Welcome – Member comments**

**Approval of Minutes – December Minutes Approved By Email Vote**

**Executive Committee**

Welcome New Members (Greg)

Vote on Officers (Greg / New Chair)

Steve nominates Rick Longinotti as chair - Ron seconds; Rick accepts

Jane nominates Gillian as chair, Keresha seconds; Gillian accepts

Gillian is voted in as chair

Steve nominates Rick for vice chair; Rachel seconds; Rick accepts; Rick is vice chair

Celebration of Greg's time as chair

Steve nominates Erica as secretary; Rachel seconds; Erica accepts; unanimous

Rachel nominates Mary and Trician as co-treasurers; Steve seconds; Mary and Trician accept; unanimous

Review of bylaws for new and returning members. (New Chair)

Review of Committees and Committee Chairs (recommend ratify Committee Members in March)

Transportation committee roster:

Continuing members:

Jack Nelson - Chair, Debbie Bulger, Keresha Durham, Rick Longinotti, Mark Mesiti-Miller, Bob Morgan, Jim Danaher

And prospective new members, OK'd to add, once they confirm joining:

Connie Wilson, Sally Arnold, Bruce Sawhill

Gillian nominates Jack as chair - Jack will continue as chair

Next transportation meeting Wednesday Feb. 21st 7 - 9 pm

Steve moves to approve list of committee members; Mark seconds; unanimous

Discussion of Executive Committee Norms - tabled for time

Retreat - Erica and Jane will work on this

### **Treasurer's Report (Mary)**

Report on checking and savings account

Chapter is still not working out communicating regarding finances; Greg is communicating with National

### **Events and Outreach Committee (Steve)**

Upcoming Events (approved)

- o March 8, Rail With Transit
  - Keresha motions, Rick seconds to spend \$572 dollars for ads for this event
  - Discussion
  - Motion passes
- o March 15, Donna and Peter Thomas "Anything that is Wild"
- o May 17 "America's 13 National Marine Sanctuaries—our Underwater Treasures"
- o July 19 Walker Hum, "Triple Crown of Backpacking/Long Distance Hiking"

Proposed Events (need approval)

- o Request to Sponsor Transportation Justice Conference March 17th (Rick)
  - Erica moves that we co-sponsor event (\$100 plus putting it out to our members); Steve seconds; unanimous
- o Brief Presentation for a joint Sierra Club and Bird Club members walk (Jane)
  - 100 Years of Migratory Bird Treaty act - Celebration with a walk;
  - Steve moves to approve the event; Rachel seconds; unanimous
  - Steve may help with co-leading it so long as dates work for him
  - Enthusiasm for Elkhorn Slough or Watsonville Wetlands

Next Meeting – tbd

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

Recommendation to approve letter opposing Nissan Car dealership on Soquel Ave./41st. Guests Lisa Sheridan and one other for brief (5-10 minutes) presentation. Letter will be shared prior to meeting.

- Nissan Dealership is applying for change of zoning from C2 mixed use commercial zoning to C4 commercial zoning
- Lisa Sheridan has reviewed the Draft EIR is poorly written and lacks much information
- Traffic study may be skewed
- Regarding the letter, a concern that the letter wasn't focused specifically on environment
  - traffic is mentioned however not other aspects of the environment; Lisa responds that traffic is one of the primary concerns
- Rick is willing to work with Lisa to improve the letter to incorporate more sustainable language
- Rachel motions to accept the letter with the concern that Rick works with Lisa to make the land use section more clear; Ron seconds;
  - Gillian cautions that any language must be carefully worded to make sure that we do not take a position on the corridors plan before discussing it
- Friendly amendment to add a sentence regarding greenhouse gases and environmental concerns
- Motion passes

Recommendation to approve letter re city Parks Master Plan Mitigated Negative Declaration. Letter makes case for EIR.

- Rick questions if it makes sense to ask the city to hire an environmental analyst for these types of plans
  - Rachel says it would help however city may or may not actually use information
- Ron moves approval; Rick seconds;
  - Steve notes that the acronyms be explicit and also notes a grammar error
  - Rachel notes a few other typos as well
  - Unanimous

Recommendation to approve letter re Sanborn Park Master Plan, supporting at their request, Loma Prieta

- Kerasha notes an error in email at bottom
- Also notes an ask about keeping Sierra Club updated and about the mechanism about how this would be done
- Also a question about headwaters instead of watershed vocabulary
- Rachel moves approval of letter; Kerasha seconds; unanimous

Update on county Cannabis issue. Important hearing date. Need for liaison. Kevin Collins presents

- Shows a map which shows lands being opened to cannabis cultivation
- Concern that there are residential neighborhoods that will be impacted
- Concern about rodenticide use
  - Concern that this affects bobcats and other wildlife as well
  - Concern about rodenticides being in our watershed
- Would like an email message out about this issue
- County is attempting to use exemption for their EIR
- Kevin will draft the email; Keresha, Gillian, and Rachel will help review and Steve will send
- Steve will ask if he can send out an extra email this time, otherwise email will go out early March
- Rachel motions to send out an email; second from Keresha
- Unanimous

Adjourned 8:33