

Sierra Club Santa Cruz Group Executive Committee

Meeting Minutes, February 13, 2019

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Branciforte Small Schools

840 North Branciforte Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Called to Order 6:31

Attending: Steve Bakaley, Keresha Durham, Gillian Greensite, Mike Guth, Jane Mio, Rachel O'Malley, Bruce Sawhill, Erica Stanojevic

Mary Odegaard, Jack Nelson, Steve Leonard, Mark Mesti-Miller; Bruce Rienzo; Mike Fierra; Rick Longinotti

Online Votes

Motion to ratify a substitute chair for elections committee passed on January 15

A motion to support the Campaign for Sensible Transportation lawsuit regarding highway 1 passed on January 30

Motion to send comment letter regarding recirculated IS/MND of Segment 7 Phase 2 of the Rail Trail passed on February 1

Motion to co-sponsor AmeriCorps Watershed Stewards Program passed on February 10

Welcome! Introductions...2 mins.

Approval of Minutes...December meeting... mins.

Rachel moves to approve; Jane seconds; unanimous (with three abstentions, two who weren't at meeting and one who didn't get a chance to review)

Treasurer's Report (Mary)...2 mins

Have positive balance in checking and savings; events have been

Erica will check minutes regarding giving donation to Branciforte Small Schools for meeting use

Executive Committee (Gillian)...20 mins

Elections:

Chair

- Mike moves to nominate Gillian for chair
- Steve moves to close nominations for chair; Mike seconds; Gillian is voted in as chair
- Gillian notes that she definitely wants to work on increasing diversity for our group and wants to create a sub-committee for such

Vice chair

- Bruce nominates Steve for vice chair
- Jane nominates Rachel for vice chair
- Mike moves to close; Gillian seconds; unanimous
- Statements by candidates and questions
- Four to four

Secretary

- Mike nominates Erica; Jane seconds; Rachel moves to close nominations; Erica is voted in as secretary

Treasurer

- Mary and Trician are willing to continue as co-treasurers
- Steve nominated Mary and Trician; Mary and Trician voted in

Committee chairs ...chairing passed to new chair.

Steve moves we wait until March for committee chairs; Jane seconds

Summary of by-laws responsibilities (Gillian)

Events Committee (Steve)...5 mins

Upcoming slide shows

Donna Meyers – Paddling the Roadless Alaska National Wildlife Refuge on March 21st.

Leonie Sherman – Camping on the Channel Islands on May 16th.

Perry Brohmer - Walking the Camino de Santiago in Spain on July 18th.

Danny Wright – Gravity Water Project in Three Countries on September 19th.

Rachel Kippen– Walking the Monterey Bay Coastline on November 21st.

Rachel moves to approve events sent by email; Bruce seconds; approved

Website usage

People visiting website - now using calendar as well!

Grange contract signed - Steve

Election Committee (Steve)...Disposal of election ballot and tally sheets...1 min

Steve moves to dispose of election ballots and tally sheets; Mike seconds; unanimous

Transportation Committee (Jack)...5 mins

Roster for the year - will bring next time; likely similar roster and may add Steve

Request for letter writing process in future agenda

Segment 7 Phase II site update - Site has changed a bit due to fires; mobile home park has done tree clearing due to this; homeless encampment much more visible

Guests from Loma Prieta Chapter (45 mins) No voting on this at this meeting

Introductions

Chapter reorganization: from Ventana to Loma Prieta: review (Gillian)

In 70's our group was under Loma Prieta Chapter; we since have moved to Ventana

We have of late pretty much have been operating on our own

Thoughts that it may be positive to have interactions with a chapter that is more active

Had some difficulty with finances being accounted for in past; that has since improved

Where we are at (Bruce Rienzo)

1963 - Monterey split to become Ventana chapter; sometime after that Santa Cruz joined

Currently have someone with National who is ready to move on this

Last week Loma Prieta voted to approve of Santa Cruz joining the chapter

National board meets in February and May;

A person (Susanna) who may present the case to the Board of Directors will be termed out in May

Questions and answers

Educational outreach; legislative; administrative oversight - parts of how chapter may interact with group

Ventana allows us to have full discretion about decisions within the county

A concern that the process under Loma Prieta may slow down our ability to address local concerns

A note that Loma Prieta doesn't have to get everything under their excom votes; for Loma Prieta trick is to make sure everyone is aware of what is going on - have to keep a record of what happens

A clarification that if we are under a very quick timeline then we would share it with them as a report afterwards as it wouldn't necessarily be feasible to get Loma Prieta in time

Would be required to have someone attend both Loma Prieta Excom meetings and Conscom meetings

A question about if possible for Santa Cruz to become chapter and Ventana to become group; that hasn't been carefully explored and is a possibility; would we want to take on chapter duties?

If a group member doesn't show for a meeting then the group isn't represented

A comment that it may be best to strengthen our group and look south - which has huge agricultural lands that need to be addressed

- Bruce Rienzo and Mike Ferreira observed that we would be a different sort of group from the other regional groups within Loma Prieta in that we are better organized and behave currently on our own almost like a chapter, and they wouldn't want to drain our resources or limit our ability to react to local situations

Finances - we would basically ask for funds on an annual basis and report how we would spend it

A suggestion that if there are more questions then to send to Gillian so we can aggregate the questions and send them

Conservation Committee (Erica)...5 mins - tabled

Retreat - Saturdays; **Fridays; Sundays** - Erica will send out doodle; maybe Mondays

Earth Day - Erica will send info to Steve; yes we will sign up; several people volunteered to staff

Caltrans lawsuit (30 mins)

Lawsuit is primarily about CalTrans not exploring alternatives

Bill Parkin will look towards Campaign for Sensible Transportation for funding; not towards our group

We will not be able to withdraw only for financial reasons once we start

A comment that it may be politically feasible for Board of Transportation to vote against Measure D voters

A comment that this is really about that alternatives have not been adequately explored in environmental documents

Rachel moves that the group become a co-plaintiff with Campaign for Sensible Transportation in the lawsuit against Caltrans on the EIR for Highway 1; Keresha seconds; unanimous

Next Meeting: March 13th, 2019