

**Sierra Club Santa Cruz Group Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes, April 10, 2019**

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Branciforte Small Schools

840 North Branciforte Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Called to Order 6:35

Attending: Steve Bakaley, Keresha Durham, Gillian Greensite, Jane Mio, Rachel O'Malley, Ron Pomeraz, Bruce Sawhill, Erica Stanojevic
Mary Odegaard; Guests from Cabrillo class

Online votes

Welcome! Introductions...2 mins

Approval of Minutes...March meeting...2 min

Jane move to approve minutes, Rachel seconds; unanimous save one abstention who didn't have a chance to look

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

Good response from March fundraiser - 33 donations totaling over \$1000, added expense this time of putting stamps on return envelopes
Slowly but surely are getting allocations from Ventana
Checking and savings balances are positive

Executive Committee (Gillian)...80 mins

Committee membership ratification. 5 mins

A comment that chairs are expected to send committee membership list to Steve so he can check that people are Sierra Club members

Events and Outings members:

- Steve Bakaly, Trician Comings, Mary Odegaard, Charley Dixon; new members - Holly Tyler, Marlene Misassou, Helena Ivatt
- Most of these members are actively helping with events and also tabling; Marlene also helped with observing the elections counting

Conservation Committee members:

- Erica Stanojevic, Gillian Greensite, Rachel O'Malley, Jane Mio, Keresha Durham, Mike Guth, Mary Odegaard, Steve Leonard, Patricia Matechek, Celia Scott, Jukka Naukkari
- New: Steve Bakaley

A discussion about membership for those who aren't actively attending meetings

Political Committee members:

- New Members - Steve Leonard

Transportation: All same except Jane Ng

Elections: Political Committee Chair: 5 mins

Gillian nominates Ron as chair of the political committee; unanimous

Potential litigation - a request for support for the group involved with the UCSC meadow housing project

- Involves C3/C4 issues - first we would pay upfront with C4 funds and then request reimbursement with C3 funds
- C3 - education, public interest lawsuit, not for political campaigns - is tax deductible for the person who donates it
- C4 - not tax deductible for the person donating
- A request that some information is directly on the website so people who donate can get tax deductible status if they want it
 - A comment that it may be a little more complicated than that
- A note that with Trump's new tax law there is are fewer tax deductible donations

Rachel moves that we set up a specific account a restricted C3 account for a specific lawsuit (so donors can have their donation be tax deductible) Steves seconds;

Committee Charters:

- Events and Outings
 - A discussion on the distinction between outings and events; during an outing people need to be accounted for for safety reasons
 - A comment that it would be nice to see a little bit more on the hikes as they are amazing and may deserve a separate bullet point
- All charters:
- A comment that it would be a good idea to table the discussion so the individual committee members can see it first
- A comment that for the transportation committee there may be so many members that it may be hard to include all their input; it was sent already to the more involved committee members
- A discussion; some people feel it is good to share this information and some feel that people may not be interested or give too much feedback to be meaningfully able to incorporate
- A proposal to incorporate some feedback from tonight and then give it to committee members so feedback from them can be incorporated as well

Diversity Committee formation. 10 mins

Rachel, Jane, Gillian, Steve are interested in; Keresha and Erica interested in supporting however may not be able to give a lot of time

Cultural, ethnic, age, socioeconomic diversity all much needed

Retreat (Jane and Erica) 10 mins

- Will finalize the Friday May 10th date
- An intention to have a more freestyle, free form event so we can interact together in a more relaxed, comfortable situation
- A plan to do the values cards again
- Question about having the "Goals" section as we have a poor track record of following through on the goals
- Comment about how just talking about oneself can help form bonds/create community
- Values game - a type of icebreaker
- A desire to have concrete objectives about the retreat so that we can check at the end of the retreat to see if objectives are met
- A comment that it may be better to have objectives met rather than just to "feel good"
- A desire to have a skill to learn - something concrete like how to comment on EIRs or look through the database or something
- A desire to have an article to read
- Request to have some information about "smart growth"
- Request to have some discussion about restorative justice/communication tools

National Board of Directors. 10 mins

Perhaps Steve can send around his choices and reasons

Question about political committee making recommendations

Conservation Committee (Erica)...30 mins

PG&E update - Resolution sent out - will be presented to the California state conservation committee

- Monday on conference call - a discussion about how to do media outreach and contact politicians

California Conservation Committee discussion - sending delegates

Streambed Alteration Agreement

- Gillian, Jane and Erica met with Mark Dettle to discuss streambed alteration agreement that got renewed for another five years
- Concerns around dates not being consistent in the agreement
- We have been in contact with Monica Oey from CDFW
- A question about what type of standing we have to sue if needed if they violate agreement

Segment 7 Phase 2 Rail Trail response to city

- Concern that the response from city regarding Monarch Butterflies was inadequate

- City comments that we didn't provide evidence; Rachel volunteers to respond to it saying indeed we do have evidence and will work on it by Friday
- Jane did a bird count for a bit of time - found many birds there
- We have a photograph of a monarch this year
- A concern that this truly is a habitat area and that this is underestimated
- Mitigation plans to plant at Antonelli pond isn't appropriate - is already slated to be restored

Lawsuit discussion

Kerasha moves that we request that Chapter Funding set up an account to receive donations regarding this specific lawsuit with the understanding that reimbursement may take time (several weeks) and no other Sierra Club funds will be used for reimbursement; Rachel seconds; all in favor and one abstention

Adjourned at 8:39

Next Meeting: May 8th, 2019