

Sierra Club Santa Cruz Group Executive Committee

Meeting Minutes, July 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, Mike Guth, Jane Mio, Rachel O'Malley, Erica Stanojevic

Mary Odegaard; Nina Donna, a few other community members

Online votes

Letter to CALFIRE regarding Timber Harvest Plan 1-19-00043 SCR POST/Sempervirens passed May 19

Letter to Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency regarding the Draft EIR for College Lake passed on June 20

Welcome! Introductions...5 mins

Approval of Minutes...May meeting...5 min

Mike moves to approve minutes; Keresha seconds; unanimous

Treasurer's Report (Mary)...5 min

March fundraiser more in the positive than ever before; note that we sent a postage stamp included

Donors of more than \$100 received a handwritten note from Trician

Should receive April allocation soon

Got C3 account for Highway widening lawsuit is approved

Announcements...5 min

AB 857 Public banking moving! Past two Senate Committees; please have friends in rural districts contact both CA senate and assembly reps!

Mountain forest people documenting PG&E tree cutting - Mike I missed some of this if you can add

- Steve will put editorial on website - Jane sent out Nancy Macy's editorial (Valley Women's Club) regarding PG&E tree cutting

Executive Committee (Gillian)... 25 min

- Nominating committee (for ExCom candidates) plus timeline
 - Thanks Steve for making a timeline! A suggestion to put out two emails before October date - one in August and one closer to October
 - Put timeline itself on website
 - A comment that it is best to talk in person to people to recruit members of the committee
 - A comment that we should work doubly hard to get underrepresented groups (in all ways) to be included
 - Gillian is happy to chair
 - Mike
 - Steve
 - Nina
 - Rachel
 - Gillian moves that membership is as above; Rachel seconds; unanimous
- Update from Diversity Task Force meeting.
 - Recommendations including mapping membership and comparing with census demographics; translating website into Spanish; reaching out to existing environmental leaders/endorsed candidates and offering gift memberships; broaden scope to be more inclusive
 - Idea to have conservation committee be umbrella committee for many committees in order to strengthen organization
 - Mike is interested in group
 - A comment that we really need to diversify geographically (i.e. South County) as well as demographically
- Transportation Committee chair, charter and membership
 - A suggestion to discuss item later as charter was emailed today
 - A question about requested changes to charter; those were not incorporated
 - A suggestion that we re-nominate Keresha as interim chair for another month
 - A concern about the previous transportation meeting
 - Item will be tabled
- ExCom meeting space change
 - Next school year will be \$15 an hour (\$30 a meeting) to rent space at Branciforte
 - Mike explored options further about meeting further south; will send out info
 - Will meet here in August and then explore issue further
- Code of Conduct: reminder of obligation to keep disagreements internal to ExCom
 - Suggestion we all look at it

Transportation Committee (Keresha)...15 min

- Transit with Trail (Rail-Trail)
 - Looking to expedite rail trail - concern that our Sierra Club position is not to expedite this; members concerned with environmental review were excluded from meeting
- Soquel Lawsuit
 - Sustainable Soquel thanked us; Nissan car lot issue; asking for a letter of support
- Kaiser building - concern and may eventually ask to not re-zone area
- Campaign for SENSible Transportation - Auxiliary lanes Highway 1 - CalTrain - having Transportation Justice Conference in October - looking for funding to support event
- Downtown Parking Garage - Council approved alternative plans
- Jump Bike Concerns
 - Mike moves to adopt letter; Rachel seconds; Mike amends to include a comment about Jump Bikes found in the river itself; unanimous
 - Comment that city council and city manager should also receive letter
 - Bike/Pedestrian Safety-Vision Zero Capital Improvement Program (Zero injuries)
 - Brainstormed about meeting with individual council members regarding this

Political Committee (Gillian)... 15 min

Whether and how best to support the campaign against the recall of two candidates endorsed by the Sierra Club for SC City Council: Drew Glover and Christopher Krohn

- An ask that groups who support Glover and Krohn by signing on to a letter asking to not have the recall
- Discussion
- Concern about checking in with State/National regarding issue; Rachel will look into
- A thought about events/radio shows regarding supporting Glover/Drew
- A thought we should show where they have voted to support environmental issues
- Mike motions that we are willing to state that we are against the recall campaign with the caveat that before we go public with this that we check with State for approval; Steve seconds; unanimous (Rachel recused herself)
- Rachel will send more info soon

Conservation Committee (Erica)...30 min

Updates:

- The Buy Clean Campaign - likely to be on August 8th meeting; thanks Mike for working on this!
- Utility Task Force/ City Adopt a Park for Estuary Project co-sponsorship - Jane

- February meeting voted to support Estuary Project; asking to look into details about restoration; ask to have excom support co-sponsorship of event
- A comment that should have a liability waiver and a first aid kit and someone able to use it in order to support event
- If the project gets “Adopted as a Park” then the City has a budget
 - Valley Women’s Club would “Adopt the Park”
 - Tools, etc needed
- Steve moves that the Sierra Club co-sponsor ongoing Estuary Project subject to signing liability waivers and having a first aid kit there; Erica seconds; unanimous
- Jane will get info about Adopt a Park program to present to excom
- Bird-safe Design/Panetta sign on House bill H.R. 919 - a good idea to put some pressure on him
 - A suggestion to get a petition or something sent to Panetta so members can put pressure on him
 - A suggestion to follow up with a phone call regarding our letter in a week; Jane will call
- Streambed Alteration Agreement - ongoing

Announcements:

- Clean Earth Diaper Project
- Pure water Soquel: Alternative viewpoints. Conservation Committee presentation July 24th meeting

Events Committee (Steve)...10 min

- March 19th 2020: John Howerton’s slide show trip to Vietnam...needs vote
 - Erica moves to approve Howerton event; Rachel seconds; unanimous
- Review of upcoming approved events
 - Grange - Galapagos presentation
 - Gravity H2O
 - Walking Monterey Bay -
 - January 16th - Madagascar
 - Steve will send out this list of events

Next meeting: Wednesday August 15th 2019

Adjourned 8:40