

**Sierra Club Santa Cruz Group Executive Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes, August 14, 2019**  
**6:30 PM – 8:30 PM**  
**Louden Nelson Community Center**  
**301 Center St, Santa Cruz, CA 95060**

**Called to Order 6:35**

**Attending: Steve Bakaley, Gillian Greensite, Jane Mio, Rachel O'Malley, Ron Pomeraz, Erica Stanojevic**

Mary Odegaard; Bruce Daniels, Rick Longinotti

**Online votes**

Motion to co-sponsor Transportation Justice Conference passed on July 15

Motion to send letter to Bureau of Land Management regarding management plan of Cotoni Coast Dairies passed on July 31

Motion to send focused email blast regarding Bird Safe Design Standards to Jimmy Panetta passed on August 5

**Welcome & Introductions...5 min**

**Approval of Minutes:** July meeting...5 min

Steve motions to approve; Jane seconds; unanimous save one abstention due to absence

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

Have raised significantly more than normal for fundraiser; this is a year when we had included stamped envelopes

**Announcements...5 min**

Hike Saturday August 17 at UCSC/Wilder, starts at 10am meet at Barn Theatre parking lot entrance to campus

Sep. 21th Bay Chapter is having annual fundraiser dinner; Steve Bakaley is getting award for being an awesome outings leader

A note that on website article about CA poppies does well

- A note that it is good to keep website current by adding new articles periodically
- A thought that Sudden Oak Life may be a good topic

An email blast is about to go out for a call to action with Jimmy Panetta

- Thanks Steve for organizing it!
- Thanks Jane for tracking down picture origin and in the process linking us to New York Audubon Society

An observation that around Crown College in UCSC there have been a lot of trees taken down, and other trees look thin

- A note that it is all over the state

**Guests Presentation...** 25 min total: 10 min presentation, 15 min discussion

Bruce Daniels: Pure Water..Soquel Creek Water District

- Main concern is about salt water intrusion
- Goal is to to make basin sustainable
- Bruce says City's plan for aquifer storage and retrieval does not necessarily make aquifer sustainable
- Did studies that show
- Says both plans together - city ASR and Pure Water - can make sustainable; otherwise may need to ration
- Shared info regarding quality of water
- Orange County - low level of contaminants of those tested; Pure Water Soquel will be using same technology for purification
- Question about what happens to waste water produced
  - Goes back to Neary Lagoon Wastewater treatment plant
- Are thousands of septic system throughout San Lorenzo; that is untreated contaminants
  - Test for indicator species of bacteria
  - Some processes - ultraviolet light may tear apart some molecules and break them down into more harmless parts
- Question about placement of injection wells to protect against salt water intrusion
  - Have a modeling program that can help predict best placement, combining ASR and Pure Water as what ifs as well as other possibilities
- In drought year, may need 1.2 gallons to recharge basin; in those conditions Loch Lomond may not be enough to have recharge - may drop groundwater below protective elements (draining Loch Lomond to 70%)
- A request to see the data from the models
- We are declared by the state to be in critical overdraft
- Taking public comment now on plan to make basin sustainable
- Pure Water Soquel will be treated to tertiary - irrigation level plus groundwater recharge
- Question about how well conservation can account for predicted need
- A comment that the Pure Water Soquel project did not fully study water transfers as an option
  - A comment from one person who prefers lower tech solutions - less fragile
  - A response that climate change shifts need - a lot of evaporation increases with temperature increase

- And then this falls as rain again
- Question about energy use - will use community power plan energy
  - Because we are buying power from other areas
- A concern about this aiding to growth in county;
  - A response that the models are only for sustainability not growth
  - A comment that there will be growth whether or not the plant occurs
- A question about whether or not restrictions on new accounts will be kept or not - requirement to offset twice demand for water
- 1/3 of energy use of desal plant
- Will put solar cells in various places
- Cabrillo didn't want to get involved in controversy and so bailed out
- A comment that one concern from community - is water quality - comment that other districts produce cleaner water using this process than the water that we currently have
- Rainwater does have things in it; including lead
- Hard to build new reservoirs - locations hard to find
- Thanks to Bruce Daniels for visiting again

**Executive Committee** (Gillian)... 25 min

Nominations committee - September is when we are looking for; will write out milestone dates

- Should meet early September

Ecology Action - asked for sponsorship electric car event; asked for \$400 dollars and we said we couldn't do that however would be happy to publicize

Gillian thanked Rita for helping with the election

Rick Longinotti: update on Transportation Justice Conference

- Mike Guth will be on panel - discussing having density along transportation corridors
- Protected Bike Lane workshop
- Inspiring people with stories about communities that have better transit systems
- Rick wants to work with Steve to make sure to get word out well
- Registration is up online

Sierra Club Foundation funding - discussion in closed session as relates to a lawsuit

Steve moves to have Gillian work on asking chapter about available c(3) funding; Ron seconds; unanimous

Meeting attendance - just as an FYI

- Bylaws allow for 3 missed meeting in a year
- After three are missed, can be a vote to remove the person; Gillian will send out an email regarding this policy
  - Such a vote requires 2/3 to pass

**Political Committee (Ron)... 10 min)**

Update on Steve Leonard's outreach to Mark Stone - discussion with Maureen McCarty, his staffer as he is in Sacramento

- Two dates to available
  - Wed. 11 - 1 or Thursday after 2
- Items proposed for discussion:
  - Buy Clean Campaign
  - SB1
  - Bird Safe design
- Comment to appreciate Steve Leonard for doing a lot of work on connecting with legislators

**Conservation Committee (Erica)...30 min**

- Pure Water Soquel
  - Discussion
  - Desire to develop maybe 20 questions and ask both parties to answer
  - Erica will create document for questions
- Juristac/ Amah Mutsun sacred land.
  - Ask Rachel to keep on top to make sure we don't miss EIR
  - Tribe is unrecognized by Federal government; so government will not hear them legally
  - A comment that it was a very meaningful presentation
  - Is another potential use of C(3) funds

Meeting adjourned 8:40

**Next meeting: Wednesday September 11th<sup>th</sup> 2019**