

Sierra Club ExCom  
April 15, 2020  
Minutes

1. Present: (by ZOOM)

Micah Posner  
Jack Nelson  
Keresha Durham  
Mike Guth  
Diane Dwyer  
Steve Bakaley  
Nina  
Steve McGirk  
Bob Morgan  
Lisa Hochstein  
Bruce Sawhill  
Diane Drier

2. Rail Corridor. Diane moves that the Group put in a letter (to whom-- RTC?) endorsing the alternative analysis for the rail corridor plan. Mike informs her that the ExCom has submitted a letter, and that it's available on the "Stay Informed" section of the Club's website.

3. Youth Climate Action. Micah announced that an email will be sent out about an online action the the Youth Climate Action group.

4. Chair and Member Nominations. Conservation Com: Micah nominates Mike Guth; unanimous vote in favor.

Transportation Com: Micah nominates Bob Morgan as chair of the Trans Com; unanimous vote in favor.

Transportation Com Member: Lisa is unanimously approved as a member.

5. Parking Garage Project. Bob prepared a letter for submission to the city regarding the parking garage that reiterates the Club's position in the last several years. The letter will be shared within ExCom and comments will be sent to Bob who will edit the letter before sending it to the city council. Mike moves that the letter be shared with the ExCom regarding the parking garage, and that Bob and Keresha will write the letter, and send it out for an up or down vote. Approved unanimously.

6. Parking Garage: Education Event with CFST & Sierra Club. Bob discusses a joint event with CFST. Mike makes a motion to approve Sierra Club's participation in the event. Steve seconds. Passes unanimously.

7. Closure of National Parks. Steve B brought up the issue of the blanket closing of the national parks. His objection was to the Club taking a blanket position on closing all National Parks, which would include local parks like Fort Ord and Pinnacles, without consulting Chapters and Local Outings Support Committee in complete disregard for the Club's own Jemez principles.

Mike is in favor of sending a letter from ExCom to the Club Board of Directors, Outdoor Activities Governance Committee, and the Club's Outdoors-for-All campaign. Micah believes the Group does not need Chapter approval to send the letter. A motion passed in support of sending the letter with 6 votes in favor, with one abstention.

8. Re-Opening Beaches and Parks. Micah proposes that the SC write a letter thanking the County for re-opening the beaches and parks. Keresha requests that the letter include a request to the county that signs requiring social distancing be posted. Bob requests that the letter include language referencing the CDC recommendation regarding the use of masks while outside. A discussion is held about informing the County that access to the open areas in the county are important for a number of reasons, and asking if other closures are planned for the future. Passes unanimously.

9. State Parks Closure. Micah wants to send a letter to State Sierra Club, encouraging the state SC to write a letter to State Parks Department about about state parks remaining open, at least for limited usage. In favor: unanimous. Micah mentions that these are communications and not position papers, and therefore will not be on the website.

10. Medical Facility on Soquel Avenue Frontage. A Notice of Preparation has been published regarding this proposed Kaiser facility. Bob thought that the Sierra Club should take a position on this on the grounds that this area has limited non-auto accessibility. Comment deadline is May 1st. Jack says we should focus on alternatives (under CEQA). Mike will put this on the agenda for ConsCom meeting.

11. Leaf Blowers. Mike would like to see leaf blowers on the next ExCom agenda.