

## Minutes from EMG Ex-Com Meeting – Mar. 8, 2022

Attendees: Ken Schechtman, Caitlin Zera, John Feldman, Caroline Pufait, Stephanie Todd, Diana Oleskevich, Robert Roberson, Jim Rhodes, Glenn May

1. **Approved February minutes**
2. **Treasurer's Report** –
  - Robert reported there was no activity in month of February. Therefore the balance remained the same as ending January 2022.
  - Gretchen has some outings fees but they have not been deposited  
Food was purchased for Outings Training and will be reimbursed if the expense is submitted.
  - George Behrens has stated there will be CPR training March 22 and we will need to pay for this; 13 people at \$55 each. Robert recalls that training is in the budget and Ken added that CPR training is routinely paid.
  - We may want to store budget and account information on Google Docs. Jim Rhodes will give the info to Robert on how to do this.
3. **Meetup Account** – Jim Rhodes reported that EMG has a Meetup account that is underutilized. It is mainly used to post Outings Information but since the start of Covid, most outings were canceled and people have not started using the account again. Account costs \$90/six months. It is a good way to spread outings information because it goes out to 3500 people on the account. One complaint is that often people sign-up for an outing but do not show-up. John recommended keeping the Meetup account through the end of the year and see if we get enough interest to keep it. Ken recommended the Outings Committee post outings on account. THB group uses Meetup for Outings with very good results.
  - **Action:** Stephanie will contact the THB Outings lead and report at the next meeting. Also, an item will be put on agenda for next month to discuss how we can better utilize the account and find someone to monitor.
4. **Newsletter** – Caitlin reported that the newsletter committee met last week. She is putting out a call for both the March e-newsletter and April print content. Goal is to expand print newsletter, both reach and inclusion. As a way to do this, information will be posted on social media. Planning on having the print addition ready for distribution prior to Earth Day and will distribute at our booth at the Earth Day Festival. The newsletter is bringing back the Featured Volunteer in print newsletter. Let Caitlin and Tim know if you would like to nominate someone. Also trying to make newsletters easier to find on website.
  - **Action:** Diana – to add to connection to newsletter on Meetup.
5. **Earth Day** – John is in charge of volunteers for Lemonade. Gretchen said we need to have a safety management plan for the event and it needs to be approved by Chapter and maybe National. However, unclear what the safety management plan is supposed to cover. Also, unclear if the Information booth needs to have a plan.
  - **Action:** Caitlin will ask Gretchen for clarification on action plan and relay information to John.
  - **Action:** John will give Caitlin the action plan for the Lemonade booth.

6. Conservation Report made by Caroline with the main items below:
  - Chapter has developed comment guidelines for Eleven Point River Management Plan. Requested link in e-newsletter. Comments due March 25. Not to be confused with Eleven Point River State Park issue.
  - March 19 – Clean Stream table in Robertsville State Park. Need volunteers. Diana and Glenn will set-up a table.
  - Proposition D on April ballot concerning leasing the Jarvis House in Queeny Park. If approved, the land and a building would be leased for 40 years to Raintree Foundation for preschool and primary school. Caroline contacted County Parks but did not get any information. County Parks is required to put any leases of park property on the ballot for approval. EMG- ExCom agreed to provide factual information in e-newsletter and EMG will not make a recommendation.
  - **Action:** Caroline - Will put a neutral description of the proposition in the e-newsletter to make people aware that the proposition that will be on the ballot.

A significant amount of effort is going toward opposing several developments in floodplains in Maryland Heights. Both the Legislative Committee and Conservation commitment is working on this. One issue EMG opposes is Maryland Heights using Covid Relief Funds for pumps and levees so the flood plain can be developed.
7. **Outings and Trails Report** by John Feldman
  - Will be doing trail work at Roger Pyror Backcountry in Pioneer Forest. Staying at Current River State Lodge.
  - Outings Leader training last Saturday, about 20 attended.
8. **Legislative Committee**
  - Upcoming Lobby Days and other events will be in the newsletter
  - April 6 – Lobby Day May 3 – Coalition Meeting virtually Friday, Feb. 11 at 3:00. Contact Michael Berg if you would like to attend.
9. **Next Meeting** will be held April 19, instead of the standard second Tuesday of each month due to Current River Outing.