

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

Attendees: Ken Schechtman, Caitlin Zera, John Feldman, Caroline Pufait, Stephanie Todd, Diana Oleskevich, Glenn May, Ashton Kuehnel

1. Approved January minutes
2. Treasurer's Report –
 - Ken told Gretchen we agreed to give the Chapter \$5000 in 2022 as opposed to the \$8000 requested. Motion to approve 2022 budget by Ken. Seconded by Diane. 2022 Budget approved unanimously.
 - Still need to approve 2021 actuals. Ex-Com will respond with approval/non-approval by email to Ken, who will then forward the results. This is due by Feb. 14.
 - In the January meeting, Robert expressed his desire to no longer be treasurer. Discussed how to find a replacement. A notice will be put in the newsletter for anyone interested. Also, Ex-Com members and others will do outreach to find a new treasurer.
3. E Newsletter Planning – Caitlin is looking for articles and photos for the next newsletter, which should go out in two weeks. On track to send out a newsletter monthly.
4. Earth Day – We are registered for the Earth Day Festival and the fee has been paid. Caitlin will be attending the Zoom meeting for exhibitors in March. John Feldman will be in charge of Lemonade. Asked for Ashton's help getting volunteers for the booth.
5. Conservation Report made by Caroline with the main items below:
 - Caroline thanked John Feldman for work on Kirkwood City Park concerning putting in a mountain bike trail. The mountain biking group asking for the trail rescinded their request.
 - 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.
 - Caroline sent a notice to the Ex-Com on the proposed Ostara fertilizer plant that would recycle phosphorus recovered from sewage. A decision has not been made as to our position. Caroline recommends paying attention to any potential permitting issues.
 - Dark Sky training will be held in March covering light pollution. Stephanie will send a link to register.
 - Request from St. Louis Kayak and Canoe Club to share information on Eleven Point River plan. They would like someone to give a presentation to their club in March.
 - Request from Palisades Group to share outings information between the two groups.
 - Invitation from Clean Steam to go to Robertsville State Park on March 19th (Saturday) for an event and would let EMG set-up a table. Caroline to get more information.
6. Outings and Trails Report by John Feldman
 - The Sierra Club office is moving sometime in May, so the Outing Group will need to find a place for all the outings things, which includes camping stuff and several bicycles. We will probably have to pay for storage. John checked prices and found a storage unit for \$160/month.
 - Working on a new half mile trail in Hahn State Park from the park office to Pickle Creek. Will be approximately a one-week job.
 - John reported the Outings Leader Workshop on Feb 12 was moved to March 5.

7. Legislative Committee
 - Meeting virtually Friday, Feb. 11 at 3:00. Contact Michael Berg if you would like to attend.
 - Trying to keep Covid money from going to anti-environmental activities.
 - Setting up meetings to meet with State Senators and coordinating people to attend meetings via Zoom. Could use help calling people to attend – Let Michael Berg know if you would like to help make calls.
 - Ashton reported that a message went out on redistricting.
8. Intervention Training – If missed training, there are equity modules on Campfire.
9. Next Meeting – March 15.