

## Minutes from EMG Ex-Com Meeting – May 10, 2022

Attendees: Ken Schechtman, Caroline Pufalt, Tim Elwell, Diana Oleskevich, Robert Roberson, Glenn May, Stephanie Todd

1. **Approved April minutes**
2. **Treasurer's Report** – presented by Robert
  - The sources of the deposit reported last month of \$1695 consisted of a donation of \$1000 from a couple, \$500 from a single donor, \$82 in outings fees and \$113 from calendar sales.
  - **A record for Lemonade!** Total sales from the Lemonade Booth at the Earth Day Festival in Forest Park was over \$9000. Forty-two percent of sales went through Square. Expenses were over \$1500 and this does not include the truck rental. Expenses include over \$900 for lemons and over \$200 for ice. Net is over \$7,000 before paying for truck. **Thank-you John Feldman for organizing Lemonade and all the volunteers that helped!!!**
  - Cash position improved due to proceeds from Lemonade.
  - Deposits and expense requests are being held at the Chapter level until they are retrieved by someone from EMG.
  - **Action:** Set-up meeting with someone from Chapter to discuss how to handle incoming mail for EMG.
  - **Action:** Send thank-you note to donors. Coordinate with Natalie on how this should be handled.
  - **Action:** Need internal control for treasurer; someone needs to be appointed to review bank statement. Ken will take this position until someone is officially appointed.
3. **Meetup Discussion** - Tabled until next meeting because Jim Rhodes was unable to attend
4. **Newsletter** report by Caitlin
  - Natalie will start sending out the newsletter. Therefore we need to get it to her a few days sooner than we have been to give her more time.
5. **Monthly Information Meetings** – Ken
  - Do we want to reinstate monthly information meetings? Should they be in-person?
  - Tim suggested quarterly meetings.
  - Ken suggested not starting meetings until we know if the new office is suitable.
  - Action:** Continue discussion next meeting
6. **Conservation Report** by Caroline:
  - May 11 – Chapter Conservation Committee Meeting
  - Silica mine in St. Genevieve County near Hawn State Park.
    - May 19 – Community hearing in St. Genevieve on silica mine. Encouraging people to go. Contact Caroline or John Feldman if you are interested in carpooling. Comments still being accepted by DNR until May 20
  - Street lighting in St. Louis City. St. Louis City is in the process of replacing all the streetlights with LEDs, over 55,000 lights. Stephanie is working closely with a city resident to persuade the City to adopt street lights that are less than 3000K and shielded so light is only directed down. Ashton is helping provide contacts in the City and to "find" the lighting requirements that are being enacted.
  - I-64 Change - MODOT has put out a survey for citizens on the I-64 change. Ashton has sent preliminary emails.

**Action:** Need volunteer to go to Echo Bluff State Park to discuss trails connecting to Roger Pryor State Park. Caroline forwarded request to John Feldman.

**Action:** Ashton to send reminder to members about the Community Meeting on silica mine in St. Genevieve.

**Action:** Stephanie to forward information about the Community Meeting through Dark Sky Missouri and St. Louis Audubon Society group emails because Hawn State Park is regarded as a Missouri Dark Sky Destination and the mine could jeopardize this.

**Action:** Ashton to send members the link to the MODOT I-64 survey along with recommendations.

**Action:** Stephanie to forward the MODOT I-64 survey through Dark Sky Missouri and St. Louis Audubon Society group emails and ask people to request the installation of lights that are less than 3000K and shielded so light is only directed down.

7. **Outings and Trails Report** by John Feldman via email. He was not able to attend meeting.

- Easter week a group of about ten people per day stayed at Current River State Park and worked four days in Roger Pryor backcountry battling thunderstorms, high water, rat in the kitchen, and bad roads. Most of the objectives were accomplished on the 30 miles of trails we maintain. We will get to stay at CRSP one more time this October. Approximately \$500 expense is being submitted to Robert for reimbursement for food and equipment.

- Planning another trail building event at Hawn State Park on Friday, June 24th. A group of over 20 people from US Bank have requested a trail work opportunity. The park manager at Hawn wants to build a half mile trail from the park office down to Pickle Creek trailhead to allow people to park at the office and walk to the popular trail to reduce traffic congestion in the picnic area.

8. **Legislative Committee –**

- Ashton not on call – nothing to report

9. **Next Meeting** will be held June 14.

**Actions for June meeting**

- Ken – Add Standards of Conduct for EMG to agenda.

- Discuss Meet-up

- National is updating vision and strategic plan. Proposed EMG should do the same. Schedule discussion.

- Continue discussion of monthly meetings