Called to Order 6:36

Attending: Kereshia Durham, Becca Fenwick, Gillian Greensite, Greg McPheeters, Jack Nelson, Jukka Naukkarien, Ron Pomeraz, Erica Stanojevic
Morgan Eguia, Alex Yasbek

Online Votes
Motion to send letter to city council regarding proposed parking garage on farmer’s market site passed on December 4th

Welcome – Member comments

Approval of Minutes - November Minutes
Gillian motions to approve the minutes with her changes; Kereshia seconds; unanimous with two abstentions due to absence

Treasurer’s Report (Mary)
We did get some paypal donations through our website; Kereshia worked with Ted Merrill to add a Tax-deductible Donate button on the website; Tax-deductible donations go to Sierra Club Foundation and can not be used for political lobbying.
There are some challenges getting chapter to keep up with bookkeeping.

Executive Committee (Greg)
- Executive Committee Elections Update
  Mailer is out; votes will be due January 4th

  - Review of appropriate use of Executive Committee Email List
    Reminder to not share internal emails without having a discussion
    Also Greg’s view that it is about excom items, not as a discussion list
    Kereshia feels that the excom list has been used as a discussion list
    Gillian feels that conservation committee emails are better for discussion
    Jack feels that there is some use of judgement about when to use a list for non-local issues
    Others agree use some discretion and judgement when using lists
    Greg suggests reviewing list membership in January (as is typically done in January/February for Conservation, Outreach, and Transportation Committee lists)
- Review Annual Report, process by which it went out, general process for messages to the membership
  - Positive that it got done; some reaction from an email from one person; Becca also expresses thanks for doing the work; and some requests to have excom review emails of this significance
  - Greg will send out the policy we have regarding sending out group communications, since it was not followed in this case.
  - Keresh suggests adding this policy to the bylaws

- Review Representation of the Club at public meetings
  - We had drafted a letter to the council and a member did not read the letter we had written at the council meeting and rather had discussed tangents during the allotted time
  - A response was that this type of feedback was micromanaging; that the letter was summarized in the time allotted; and that negative feedback will cause people to be less interested in participating for Sierra Club
  - Another excom member present felt that the speaking was done well; and that leaving out a part about the location of the library was fine as that wasn’t an environmental issue specifically
  - Overall when speaking for the club - do stick to what we want said and use the time you have to communicate that message effectively

- Review Level of Detail in Minutes, votes, etc.
  - Should names be in minutes - especially with regards to voting
  - A discussion; most people feel motioning and seconding should be in minutes

**Events and Outreach Committee (Morgan)**
- Report from Outreach Coordinator (Morgan)
- Event Report: Nov 19, Amazing African Adventures w Jan Noto - successful event; people enjoyed it
- Upcoming Events
  - Jan 19, Two weeks kayaking the Grand Canyon, with Haven Livingston
  - May 18, National Parks in Zambia and Zimbabwe, w Barry Bowman
Becca moves we remove the National Marine Sanctuary event and replace it with the kayaking in the Grand Canyon event; Ron seconded; unanimous
  - Gillian wants to co-sponsor a Dark Skies event; and Keresh may want to host a Before the Flood Screening

- Next Meeting – Date TBD in January/February – location TBD

**Conservation Committee (Gillian)**
- Leaf blower ban campaign (target 7:45PM) Carol Wilhelmy and Jeff Ringold
  - CHASE (Coalition for a Healthy and Safe Environment)
- A note that this isn’t a major issue however it is something we would be able to do, (as opposed to say, banning cars) and actually does have more health impacts than would seem obvious
- A need to be sensitive about creating a partial ban which would be sensitive to economic impact on people’s landscaping jobs
- To be careful to not raise the issue publicly until there is enough support to raise it to council effectively
- One gasoline powered leaf blower has very high emissions
- A question about involving the social justice groups
- One thought is to have a certification for people who use quieter electric equipment
- A question about including other gas powered tools; right now that isn’t the strategy however perhaps in the future if this ban is successful

- Update on Wharf Master Plan
  - Sent back for Environmental Impact Report - An op-ed by Gillian, 2,000 signatures; a letter from a lawyer and our letter

- Update on plastic water bottles ban campaign
  - Meeting set for early January

- Cowell water quality group - has another meeting coming up - screened off North end of wharf from birds and has been a bacterial count drop; Gillian urges caution as there is a large sandbar and a current pattern variation may have affected the results and wants to see several years of results before issue is considered solved

- Discussion and action on THP shared previously (UCSC storing chemicals and nuclear waste) with Jukka
  - Returned back to department of forestry because there are some revisions
  - Regulations from UCSC should be on the UCSC site regarding nuclear regulations
  - Using 2005 EIR

- Water - Erica
  - Met with Ron Pomerantz and Soquel Creek Water District
  - Is a state agency to approve in-lieu transfers; maybe get public mobilized to put pressure on that agency to speed up transfer approval
  - We perhaps ought to get involved in the groundwater management agency
  - Santa Cruz water director Rosemary Menard has not yet drafted a specific plan regarding transfers and Soquel Creek is waiting for one

- Next Meeting: Jan 25, 6:30-8:30, Louden Nelson

Transportation Committee (Jack)
Lots of energy at Campaign for Sensible Transportation meeting; the division about Measure D is past and people seem eager to work together moving forward

November 29th - Active Transportation Plan was approved by a city group; should go to City Council early in 2017

Regional Transportation Committee had a meeting - public was against pulling out rail tracks

Highway Widening - may not propose other alternatives and so may have issues with EIR

Also a concern about the plan to build the library plus parking on farmer’s market site - Campaign for Sensible Transportation is looking into alternatives for creating parking

- Next Meeting – Date likely January 3rd or 4th – location TBD

Adjourned at 8:40