

**DATE: September 17, 2016 (copy)**

**CALL TO ORDER:** 1128, by Joe Migliore

**QUORUM (5 Board Members):** No

**BOARD MEMBERS/DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Joe Migliore President, Suzanne Tracy Secretary, Jim Forneris Retail, Bob Pellenbarg

**MSJ VOLUNTEER REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:** Vince Llacer, Carl Maples

**BOOKKEEPER PRESENT:**

**CA DPR REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:** Mark Hudgens Sector Superintendent, Allison Barnes Park Interpreter

**ABSENT:** Kurt Leuschner VP, Royce Jones Treasurer, Dennis Schirmer Science, Iona Scapple, Phyllis Keys Bookkeeper, Todd Friedman Supervisor

**APPROVE MINUTES PRIOR MEETING August 8, 2016:** Quorum not present

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Treasurer's Report,** Received by email from Phyllis Keys, Bookkeeper

**Statement of Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets for August, 2016:**

Report attached to minutes and includes following:

Total Assets Checking at US Bank: August 2016 \$35,442.03

Total Current Assets (Includes CDs, Education Grant, Cash at All Locations, Rescue Funds):  
August 2016 \$155,851.43

Total Liabilities & Equity: August 2016 \$155,851.43

Net Income: August 2016 \$2,872.90

Net Income January-August, 2016: \$2,408.31

**State Park Report:** Mark Hudgens Sector Superintendent

**GENERAL DISCUSSION:**

Working with WPA/Winter Park Authority to provide a locker for MSJ Park Aides to store work gear at the PSAT/Palm Springs Aerial Tramway Valley Station; locker will be provided by PSAT.

A long gun safe and carrying case is needed at the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway Valley Station. MSJNHA will consider purchase of the long gun safe and carrying case.

MSJ State Park maps: Worked with another sector to receive an allotment of maps.

Recycle Funds: Cash earned from recycling should go to MSJNHA; possibly consider Dennis Schirmer for cash transfer from Idyllwild. Need to consider who will transfer recyclables from Idyllwild; currently this is done by a California state park employee.

**Park Interpreter Report,** Allison Barnes

**GENERAL DISCUSSION:**

Attended Girl Scout rally in San Bernardino utilizing an interactive booth. 300+ visitors stopped by the booth. Booth was one of the most popular booths at the rally. Way to go Ali! Booth was funded by the Palm Springs Aerial Tram.

Family Day at Mt San Jacinto over the Labor Day weekend had over 400 visitors with 70 Junior Rangers earning their badges. Family Day was supported by Copper Mountain College. Vince Llacer assisted with Family Day.

**Natural Science,** Dennis Schirmer, No report

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**MEMBERSHIP:** Joe Migliore,

Nothing to report, working on membership campaign

**WEBSITE:** Joe Migliore

Nothing to report

Facebook updates: Royce Jones, No report

**EDUCATION:** Allison Barnes is filling this position

**RETAIL:** Jim Forneris

Retail is doing well, will report more at the txt board meeting

**DATE: September 17, 2016 (copy)**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

STATUS COMPLETE: Trail maps (Email attached to meeting minutes).

STATUS COMPLETE: Request Form for Educational Funding. This is complete and approved for use.

STATUS COMPLETE: Nature Trails Press (Email attached to meeting minutes).

STATUS COMPLETE: Idyllwild State Park Supplies (Email attached to meeting minutes).

STATUS INCOMPLETE: Review and revise bylaws. This remains on hold.

STATUS TABLED PENDING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Woodworking Router

STATUS INCOMPLETE: Volunteers MSJ

Joe Migliore is working on a membership campaign

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Partnership Skill Building: New ideas, Remains open for discussion

Tracy Albrecht, Interpretive Specialist, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, Bureau of Land Management, requests further funding. (**Email attached to meeting minutes**)

Quorum not present, moved to next MSJNHA board meeting

Stone Creek Campground: Wood Sales, Safe (**Email attached to meeting minutes**)

Wood Sales: Closing for winter season, consider a credit card reader for next season

Safe: Needed for cash

Holiday Banquet: (**Email attached to meeting minutes**)

Date changed to December 10, 2016

MSJNHA will pay costs for members and guests (proposed)

Speaker has been located at no cost to NHA. NHA will provide dinner for the speaker and guest.

Mail Delivery Service: (**Email attached to meeting minutes**)

Changed to USPS

New Address: Mt San Jacinto Natural History Association

PO Box 1424

Palm Springs, CA 92263-1424

Additional changes need to be made to Web site, Facebook page

Stickers with address change suggested for pre-existing addresses. Sample received.

Vince Llacer met with a Cathedral City council member regarding funding a children's program at Mt San Jacinto. Allison Barnes, MSJ Park Interpreter, will prepare a presentation for the council.

Board Member: Maureen McCarty introduced to board members. Maureen was on MSJNHA board and is interested in a board position again.

Photo Contest: Request to return to annual contest received.

Cooperating Association Partnership with State Parks: Contract received by Joe Migliore. Contract is renewed every five years. Joe will email contract to MSJNHA board members for review and possible changes. New address is one change for this contract.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:** October 10, 2016 @ 5:30pm

**REFRESHMENTS:** Jim Forneris

**ADJOURNMENT:** 1155, By Joe Migliore

Motion by: Jim Forneris, Seconded by: Bob Pellenbarg, ALL IN FAVOR & CARRIED: Yes

**EMAIL NATURE TRAILS PRESS DONATION:**

August 18, 2016

Nature Trails Press,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your donation in kind to the Mt. San Jacinto Natural History Association in the amount of \$2784.01. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Joe Migliore

Board of Directors President

Mt. San Jacinto Natural History Association

A 501c3 nonprofit organization supporting education and interpretive programs of Mt. San Jacinto State Park

**EMAIL IDYLLWILD STATE PARK SUPPLIES:**

Dear Ranger Palmer and Allison,

The NHA Board approved the purchase of the requested items. The order was placed tonight.

The items are to be delivered to the Idyllwild park office.

Sincerely, Royce Jones NHA Treasurer

Hi Royce,

That's wonderful! Thank you so much. I truly appreciate the NHA's willingness to support Junior Rangers, and you are always welcome to attend a class in order to see the benefits it brings to the kids.

Please also send a hearty thank you to the NHA Board. Sincere Regards, Allison Fedrick

**EMAIL ARROW PRINTING TRAIL MAP COST:**

From: Arrow Printing Art <art@arrowprinting.net>

**Subject: Pricing**

Date: August 5, 2016 at 12:02:03 PM PDT

To: JMIGLIORE <jayseem@dc.rr.com>

Joe,

Here is current pricing for the project:

10,000 = 3,531.00 .35 ea.

15,000 = 4,217.00 .28 ea.

20,000 = 4,750.00 .23 ea.

25,000 = 5,427.00 .21 ea.

No sales tax with resale information.

Computer graphics: 245.00

thanks,

Kevin

Arrow Printing Inc.

951.654.9101

[art@arrowprinting.net](mailto:art@arrowprinting.net)

**EMAIL NATURAL SCIENCE COLLABORATIVE FUNDING REQUEST:**

From: "Albrecht, Tracy" <talbrech@blm.gov>

**Subject: correspondence with NHA for Mtn HIKE funding**

Date: August 15, 2016 at 3:02:20 PM PDT

To: Kurt Leuschner <kleuschner@collegeofthedesert.edu>

Cc: Joe Migliore <jayseem@dc.rr.com>, Joanna Stark <joannastark@aol.com>

Hi Kurt

This is a request to place an item on the agenda for the next NHA meeting:

Mtn HIKE program funding request by Natural Science Collaborative (NSC).

Would you please communicate this to the person who organizes the meeting agenda? Ali said a formal request needs to come from NSC. As I understand the next meeting is being held before the NHA picnic on

Sept. 17 @ 11:00 in Idyllwild. Many thanks,

Tracy Albrecht, Interpretive Specialist

Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

Bureau of Land Management

1201 Bird Center Drive

Palm Springs, CA 92262

ph 760/833-7127

## **WOOD SALES AT STONE CREEK CAMPGROUND:**

Hi Bill and Royce,

Thanks for the heads up Bill. If you are suggesting a charge machine, we do have a land line at Stone Creek and if need be I suppose we could have a dedicated line put in for a credit card Machine. Another option would a cell phone credit card reader. it certainly would make sense given the volume of sales not to mention the risk and hassle of handling lots of cash. The Fishers will be leaving on Sept. 5 so we don't need to get this done until next April or May when the Stone creek reopens. We should also consider a safe for the office/VC at Stone Creek. Royce, maybe would could add the credit card terminal to our existing accounts. Would you check it out and then we can pass it by the board for approval. Joe

From: Royce Jones <cooterj2432@gmail.com>

**Subject: Re: Wood sells in Stone Creek CS**

Date: August 25, 2016 at 2:02:01 PM PDT

To: "Solylo, William@Parks" <William.Solylo@parks.ca.gov>

Cc: "jayseem@dc.rr.com" <jayseem@dc.rr.com>, "Hudgens, Mark@Parks" <Mark.Hudgens@parks.ca.gov>

Thanks, Bill for sharing this information and insight on how the business is conducted in Idyllwild.

Is Jim asking for a greater bank amount for giving change to customer's?

Joe and I have worked with Phyllis, NHA book keeper, to come up with a process that will get the fire wood supplier paid in a quicker fashion. Royce

Royce

On Thu, Aug 25, 2016 at 1:56 PM, Solylo, William@Parks <William.Solylo@parks.ca.gov> wrote:

Hello Joe & Royce, I just wanted to give you a heads up on NHA sells at the Stone Creek Campground. In past 5 + years it has been ran by camp hosts Jim & Cec Fisher who live there during the summer months and then head home in their RV back to Arizona. I know Jim has always taken pride in wood sells, that man is a wood selling machine. They were just telling me that they have sold over 1100 bundles of wood this summer which may compete with local business's. What makes these folks remarkable is they maintain a minimum change fund of \$500 dollars of their own money to keep the enterprise alive. Cec says the NHA \$35 dollar change fund would last about 5 minutes because everyone that is coming up to camp just back from the bank and has only large bills. I've never been comfortable with them being so isolated and to keep that amount of cash but they do it. They do not have a credit card machine so it's a cash only transaction. I enjoy watching Jim tell customers that want 2 bundles of wood, "I'll tell you, if you buy 3 bundles and you don't use the 3rd I'll give you your money back" (they rarely if ever bring back the 3rd). I just wanted you know what I'm seeing in Stone Creek and in the future you may need to update the way we are doing business there. These are great folks that really care about the park.

**William Solylo**

State Park Ranger/Officer

Long Valley Ranger Station

Mount San Jacinto

P.O.Box 308

Idyllwild, CA 92549

Phone/Fax 760-327-0222

Email [william.solylo@parks.ca.gov](mailto:william.solylo@parks.ca.gov)

## **EMAIL HOLIDAY BANQUET:**

Hello Board,

In preparing the invitation for the holiday banquet I noticed that in the past we have held it on a Saturday. This time we chose Dec. 8 which is Thursday. I don't recall if we chose a Thursday deliberately. I could probably change the reservation to Saturday Dec 10 but I won't be able to check on that until Monday. However if you all get back to me soon I'll check tomorrow if Saturday is chosen. I tend to favor Saturday. Regarding the cost. We have charged all guests including board and liaison \$25 per person. Our cost the last time in 2013 averaged \$52 each all inclusive less \$25 from each guest. The statement is attached below. It would be about the same this time John Fritch tells me but I expect to get it soon, confirming our conversation.

I propose that we offer the banquet free to our guests. Our cost, as you can see, would be about twice our net cost as on previous occasions. I think we will have greater attendance from all sectors; board, park staff and membership. Think of it as promotional for NHA membership with renewals and new.

I would also like to have a short presentation that would stimulate attendance. Any ideas?

We may have to pay an honorarium. Are you up for that if necessary? If so, what do suggest as a maximum for someone that is well known for public speaking? I am thinking 200 or 300 hundred but it depends somewhat on proximity and traveling, etc. Free is better if it's good!

Look forward to hearing from you soon!

Joe

yes it was always on a weeknight up until a year or two ago.

that is because the tram restaurant did not want to give up a busy weekend night.

but maybe things have changed with the restaurant and they don't mind doing a Saturday for us. you might check with them first.

Kurt

I received exactly one half of a reply about the email below! So I acted alone and changed the banquet date to Saturday Dec. 10. However I asked another question about charges. Please give me some feedback as that is something I cannot do unilaterally. Free or not? And what about a speaker? Please read below. Thanks, Joe

Hi Joe,

I was busy this weekend and didn't get to my e-mails, until now.

As I understand it, you've already made a change to the day of the dinner to Saturday evening. The volunteer patrollers, park aids, and rangers won't have time to go home and shower to dress up for the event. So we may be grubby depending on the days events, or not make it all. Thursday, would've been better.

\$300 for a speaker is what I'd like to set the ceiling on. I hope we get a good speaker for this fee.

I think a \$25.00 a head is an acceptable fee for members to attend the banquet. We don't want to spend too, much of the NHA education funds on a dinner, even though we have a good amount of reserves.

Sincerely, Royce

Joe, I think it is a good to consider paying for each guest. Maybe we will generate interest in becoming a volunteer and/or an NHA member (hopefully both). I think all the volunteers want that sense of unity that we saw last Saturday at the training.

I don't have a suggestion for a speaker but it seems like a good idea, even if we have to pay. Suzanne

Thanks Suzanne, so far 3 to one in favor of free. I now have a great speaker lined up too at no cost to us except free dinner for two! Joe

PSAT/Palm Springs Aerial Tramway Catering Contract: Estimated Cost of \$1560.00

## **EMAIL POSTAL SERVICE:**

Board Members,

I just checked the box tonight on my way home, and this letter was in it. I don't know who's responsibility this is, but I am willing to go to the Palm Springs Post Office tomorrow as I go there for my regular job and try to find out what has happened. If we need to get another box somewhere I suggest we get one at the Post Office, I have had issues before with these private mailbox place. We have paid for a full year just a side note. I don't have the time right now to get a new mail box if that is the case. Sorry, I work full time and do the NHA on my off time. Attached is the letter, if you need to talk to me my home phone is 760-568-5517 where I can be reached tonight otherwise you can call my cell tomorrow 760-567-3253. Thanks Phyllis **Postal Service Letter Attached**

Sounds like we should get a PO Box at the PS Post Office ASAP

I would vote for that Kurt

I concur, Royce

Yes, I also agree. Suzanne

Board Members,

I went to the Post Office and found out that the lady that took over the mailbox place is refusing to sign an agreement with the post office. They do have mailboxes and I have picked up an application, I will fill it out and get a box at the post office, 1 year is 86.00 with one free month thrown in, the private mailbox we had was 149.00 a year. I will get this box rental tomorrow. I have other checks that need to be sign as I met with Jim Forneris today. I will drop them by Joe's on Friday on my way home from work. Kurt you or Royce will need to get together with Joe to sign any checks over 500.00. Thanks Phyllis

Friday September 9, 2016

Dear P.O. Box Holders,

Around 11am this morning we were informed by our postal carrier that this will be her last delivery here.

For reasons that are still unclear to us, the United States Post Office has informed us that after 30 years of excellent service, they will no longer be delivering mail to 255 N. El Cielo Road, Suite 140 or any private mailbox here beginning Saturday September 10, 2016.

This is the first and only communication from the Post Office we have ever received about this sudden decision and really do not know where to go from here.

As you can imagine this comes as a complete and unwarranted shock with a great degree of devastation to us as individuals and as a business owner. Many of you know that we too have been box holders here for years as well.

Since taking over this business "on the fly", after the previous owner left without telling anyone, we have been working "overtime" to provide excellent service to our box holders and are proud of all the hard work we have done turning the mess we encountered back into successful and friendly business.

We are attempting to address this issue with the head post master, but can make no presumptions as to what the final outcome will be.

As a taxpayer and citizen of this Palm Springs, I find this to be an appalling violation of my personal right to receive my mail. I urge you to **PLEASE** contact the main Palm Springs Post Office at 333 Amado Road (760) 322-4111. Ask for Judy (manager) directly. She is the manager who when asked, by our mail carrier "what will happen to the customer's mail?", simply stated, "We will just return it to the sender". Maybe if we all make enough noise, they'll hear us!

You can be sure that we will do our best to resolve this situation, but ultimately the decision lies with the United States Post Office.

Amiee Wyant

A Place of Healing LLC.



**MOUNT SAN JACINTO NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
DATE: September 17, 2016 (copy)**

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Transcribed from original notes on September 25 , 2016  
Original notes attached  
Suzanne Tracy