

Mt. San Jacinto Natural History Association

Board of Directors Meeting

July 9, 2013

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Kurt Leuschner at 5:45pm. Quorum confirmed.

Roll Call: Directors present: Duane Bambusch, Kurt Leuschner, Marsha Hansen, Joe Migliore, Maureen McCarty, Bob Pellenbarg, Dennis Schirmer, and Elize Van Zandt. Phyllis Keys, bookkeeper.

Directors not present: Iona Scapple, Peter A'Hearn

State Park Representatives: Paul Reisman, Superintendent II, Bart Grant SP Ranger, Diana Santiago, SP Visitors Center.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 4 Minutes approval postponed until August 31, 2013 Board Meeting.

I. STANDING REPORTS

Treasurer's Report - Phyllis Keys

- A. Our current assets as of May 31, 2013 are \$105,113.34. Our total Visitor Center (VC) sales were \$10,762 as of May 13, 2013.
- B. The Net Income was minus \$1,001 as we had many purchases of merchandise...stocking up for the summer months.

II. Committee Reports

- A. **Special Programs** Kurt Leuschner
 1. Annual Picnic set for Sat., August 31. 10:30 Board Meeting, 11:30am Picnic at Idyllwild GC. September Board meeting will be skipped because of the late date of this General Meeting.
 2. Holiday Dinner will be held at Mtn. Station on December 7. Lena Zimmescheid of the PSAT will be our speaker, with the 50th Anniversary of the PSAT as the theme.
 3. Stone Creek CG will have firewood and NHA store merchandise for sale.

B. **Membership** Maureen McCarty

1. New membership reminders to be sent again as many members are out of town.

C. **Education** Peter A'Hearn Absent

III. STATE PARK REPORT

- 1) California State Park Association, an extension of Earth Day service projects; has 4 projects - 13 people already signed up.
 - Sat. July 13- Trail project to "brush" Stone Creek Trail.
 - Sat. Aug. 3- Long Valley, Desert View Trail and Shangri-La bouldering area. Clean up trails.
 - Sat. Sept. TBA -- Wilderness project at Wellmans Divide to PCT to clean out exotic plants.
 - Sat. Oct. TBA -- Little Round Valley -- clean up trail and plants.
- 2) Discussion on a negative article published June 8 in the Desert Sun about the "bridge to nowhere" addressing a new bridge that had been built in Long Valley (LV). Several board members expressed the opinion that the SP may want to write a response to the article.
- 3) A new elevator is being installed at the entrance to the Mtn. Station for ADA (Americans with Disability Act) visitors.
- 4) New educational panels are now up in the museum. There are 15 new bird mounts ready to go up for exhibit. Kurt will work with Rob Howard to accomplish this task

- 5) There are over 200 politicians invited to the 50th Anniversary (1963-2013) celebration of the PSAT (Palm Springs Aerial Tramway). Kurt and Joe will represent the MSJNHA.
- 6) Soon students from San Bernardino SD will visit the SP with as many as 80 children a day.
- 7) Stone Creek CG has a small 120sq.' sales building with counter to sell our Visitor Center items.
- 8) Diana has ordered "150 year" pins and shirts available for sale in commemoration of the anniversary of CA State Parks.
- 9) Diana has also ordered outdoor survival gear; organic shirts with Grizzly bears, new style Jr. Ranger shirts with badges and hydro-backpacks.
- 10) Duane brought up the idea to sell plastic water bottles at the LVRS. Discussion followed that this sends the wrong message about the wilderness. Many U.S. National Parks are encouraging re-filling of reusable bottles by building water Refill Stations. Some Board Members suggested we pay for a water filtration system for hikers to fill their reusable bottles.
- 11) This prompted the need for a new sign at Long Valley Ranger Station (LVRS): "Take a gallon a day" for hiking in the SP.
- 12) LVRS needs a new refrigerator for the ranger staff. **The Board Approved up to \$800. MM/RP.**
- 13) Duane will attend a tax exempt seminar.

IV. Old Business

- A. Peaks Joe Migliore
 1. The fall newsletter needs a volunteer to write an article for the Natural History Corner. Elize may contribute an article on plants. All articles need to be submitted by mid-August.
- B. Website Maureen McCarty
 1. The "Go Daddy" web host that we have signed up with costs \$400 + \$74 and includes all domain and licensing thru 2016; it makes our website very fast and easy to create and design new information.
- C. Jr. Ranger Guide Maureen McCarty
 1. The MSJSP Jr. Ranger Guide will be a park specific guide designed by Rob Howard and Ina Lengyel of Idyllwild. The NHA will pay for the publication of the new Jr. Ranger guide.
- D. Letter from Conference of CA Historical Societies was misguided; letter will be discarded. Our NHA is not an historical society. Discussion on our often misunderstood name is one reason our NHA needs to review a new name or tag.
- E. Ideas for an updated "name" or tag for the MSJHNA Duane Bambusch
 1. Suggestions included "Supporting Calif. Highest State Park"; "Take the Tram to Calif. Highest State Park." We can have more than one tag..."Keeping the wild in wilderness", "Supporting MSJSP since 1979".

V. New Business

- A. California State Parks 150 years 1864 – 2014 – Ideas for the commemoration.
 1. We will support this celebration. Tabled for further discussion.
- B. Volunteer access to parking in the upper lots on weekends.
 1. Bart spoke to Tom the supervisor at PSAT. Tom stated this would not be a problem in the future.

- 2) **Next Meetings: August 31, 2013 at 10:30am Idyllwild CG. October 1, 2013 at meeting at Joe's. Refreshments by Bob Pellenberg**
- 3) Meeting was adjourned at 7:36 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Marsha Hansen, NHA Secretary%

