

Mt. San Jacinto Natural History Association

Board of Directors Meeting

October 8, 2013

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Iona Scapple at 5:40pm.

Quorum confirmed.

Roll Call: Directors present: Iona Scapple, Kurt Leuschner, Bob Pellenbarg, Marsha Hansen, Joe Migliore, Peter A'Hearn, Elize Van Zandt, Maureen McCarty, Dennis Schirmer, Duane Bambusch, Bookkeeper, Phyllis Keyes.

State Park Representatives: Paul Reisman, SP Sector Superintendent, Bart Grant, SP Sup. Ranger

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES for June 4, 2013 & August 31, 2013. MPS/JM/MC.

II. STANDING REPORTS

Treasurer's Report - Bob Pellenbarg & Phyllis Keys

- A. As of 1 October 2013, all banking functions have been transferred to US Bank. Current assets are \$95,000 and reside in a checking account. Discussion followed on transferring some assets to interest bearing CDs.
- B. Any changes to accounts would require that the signers (President, VP, & Treasurer) be named 'signer with access' in the NHA Minutes. Once the named officers are officially listed as 'signer with access' in the Minutes, the Treasurer can present a copy of the Minutes to US Bank and work with a Bank rep on a series of CDs that would better serve our needs. This was tabled until next month.
- C. NHA now has two copies of our checking account check card. It is recommended that we retain one copy, and provide the other copy to the management staff at the MSJ State Park for use in acquiring small cost items or services in a timely manner using the check card. Voice approval for use by Paul & Bart.

- D. We had a short fall of income (\$7,354) due to the fires and PSAT closures during August. Our total checking account/savings = \$94,960.93. See the August 31, 2103 Treasurers Report for further details.

III. STATE PARK REPORT Paul Reisman SP Sector Superintendent

- The Holiday Dinner Party on December 7 will feature Lena Smith talk on the Engineering Landmark - the PSAT. SP guests will include Paul Reisman, Bart Grant and spouses. Park Aides on duty that day will also be our guests.
- Paul advocated that the NHA offer “value added” classes, hikes or trips to the public and charge a fee to raise more dollars for the SP. Classes could include a Map & Compass course, or Birding trip that could be offered in or outside the SP. Discounts could be offered for the event if they joined the NHA. SP Aides or NHA Volunteers could be instructors or leaders and we could advertise the events on the PSAT website. The VC could sell maps and compasses along with Bird Field Guides.
- Rangers need 8-10 new batteries for radios. Arrow Communication can supply the batteries. Kurt moved to approve 8 new batteries at a cost of up to **\$800. KL/MM**
- Wilderness Patroller patches replaces the old PSAR patches.
- A volunteer Living History actor who portrays Miles Standish was suggested as our speaker for next year’s Holiday dinner. He would need gas money for his trip from his home in Santa Cruz.
- MSA Consulting Engineers has invited our Board to have our next meeting at their offices in Rancho Mirage. They will present their “People Mover” plans for a funicular down to Long Valley.
- CA State Park employees can donate to non-profits from their pay checks. The NHA should look into getting on this CA State Park non-profit list.
- CA Trails & Greenway Conference, sponsored by the SP on April 14, 2014 will be in Palm Springs. The NHA might want to sponsor a booth there next year.
- Bart - On Oct. 17 the PSAT is sponsoring a group on Tourism from Palm Springs. Duane will attend with SP Rangers.
- Ina needs 2 new posters of SP Birds and 2 easels to display them for Idyllwild and Jr. Ranger Program. Kurt made the motion to approve **\$500. KL/JM**
- Bart asked for a new router to make new redwood signs. Kurt moved to approve **\$300 for router. KL/JM**

IV. Committee Reports

- A. Retail John Beringer
 Bart reports for John that firewood bundles are selling very well in Idyllwild.
 - B. Memberships Maureen McCarty
 Ten membership letters came back in the mail. They are no longer members or deceased.
 - C. Education Peter A'Hearn
 - 1. Peter and Duane attended the Winter Park Authority (WPA) meeting to talk about lowering the price of the PSAT tickets to \$5.00 for school children on field trips. There was no decision from WPA.
 - 2. The CA Science Teachers Conference to be held in Palm Springs Oct. 25-27, will feature a field trip up Tram on Oct. 26.
- V. Old Business
- A. Peaks: Joe tells us that Constant Contact is now in use for the first time and would like feedback from the Board on the appearance and content of the 12 page Peaks that went out this month to 82 members.
 - B. Webmaster – No report this month.
- VI. New business
- A.
 - 1. Joe Introduced the idea of sharing our email membership list with Anza Borrego Desert NHA (ABDNHA) as a way to gain new interest and membership for our MSJNHA. Paul wanted time to decide if we should align ourselves with ABDNHA. Tabled until next meeting.
 - 2. Discussion on marketing ourselves to hiking clubs and other organizations in the Valley to promote our membership.
 - 3. Joe mentioned we must get more local school districts involved with our SP. Cost of PSAT tickets is a major barrier for school children.
 - 4. Paul discussed how the SP could get matching funds for the amount the NHA donated. Phyllis gave us the figure of \$75,000 in the last 2 1/2 years.
- VII. The next Board Mtg. will be on November 5, 2013 at 5:30pm at the MSA Consulting Offices in Rancho Mirage.
- VIII. Meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm

Respectfully Submitted by Marsha Hansen, Secretary

