

# Mt. San Jacinto Natural History Association

## Board of Directors Meeting

March 5, 2013

### MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Iona Scapple at 5:45 PM. Quorum confirmed.

Roll Call: Directors present: Kurt Leuschner, Duane Bambusch, Marsha Hansen, Joe Migliore, Maureen McCarty, Bob Pellenburg, Dennis Schimer, and Elize Van Zandt. Phyllis Keys, Bookkeeper. Absent: Peter A'Hearn. Guest: Art Davis of Global Local.

State Park Representatives: Bart Grant, Supv. Ranger, John Beringer, Sr. SP Aide/Visitor Center Manger.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of Feb 5, 2013. MPS MC/JM. Two corrections: funding approval for Ina's Interpreter Position-\$6,000 and \$4,500 for display cases for Museum at Mtn. Station were approved in February.

- I. Guest speaker Art Davis presented a plan to increase traffic to our MSJNHA.org website. He stated the way you increase traffic on our website is being first on the Google page when certain key words are used. There is a cost per hit charge by Google. The Board decided not to spend more money on the website at this time, but to improve traffic by adding more links from other key sites such as: links from PSAT, PS Chamber of Commerce, Friends of Desert Mountains and other State Parks.
- II. STATE PARK REPORT, Bart Grant, Supv. Ranger
  - A. Bart read a Thank You letter from Garratt who is moving to a new position and will no longer be part of our SP.
  - B. General Jackson, the new CA State Park Director recently visited Idyllwild SP and wants the Idyllwild HQ improvement project back on line and said he will get the "green light" from Sacramento.
  - C. Funding for Taxidermy of various animal specimens on ice at Lake Perris SP were approved up to \$2000 and including \$750 for bird specimens. Gene Cardiff of SB County Museum will be our taxidermist.
  - D. All the items on the March 5 State Park agenda were approved for a total of up to **\$12,500**. Motion EV KL/MM. These include **1)** Idyllwild Interpretive Program Supplies, \$3,134. **2)** Visitor Center Kiosk Upgrades – Staff, Rob Howard, \$3,000. **3)** VC Display Cases Mtn. Station- Staff, Rob Howard, (\$4,500 previously approved in January). **4)** Taxidermy as discussed above, \$2,000. **5)** Rescue gear, Staff: Aaron Gray & Todd Friedman, \$1,850. **6)** Ham Radio Equipment Staff: Aaron & Todd, \$400. **7)** Crosscut Saws (2) for Idyllwild & Long Valley, \$800. **8)** Table Saw for Long Valley, Staff:Bart, \$700. **9)** Misc. Carpentry Tools for Long Valley Ranger Station, \$500. Total: **\$12,384**
  - E. Palm Springs Aerial Tramway, (PSAT) is celebrating 50 years on September 13, 2013 and many State dignitaries will be attending the festivities, including Jerry Brown, Gov. of CA and our own NHA Directors, Kurt and Joe.
  - F. The City of Palm Springs will be celebrating 75 years mid-April, 2013.
  - G. On May 13 the Amgen Bike Race will finish Stage 2 cycling up Tramway Rode to finish at Valley Station. The Road will be closed to traffic and a shuttle is being arranged for visitor and supporters to watch the finish of Stage 2.
- III. STANDING REPORTS
  - A. Treasurer's Report Phyllis Keys  
There is a balance \$84,173.47. Our net income for January was \$1, 331. Visitor Center Sales for Jan. were \$7, 429.55- over budget by \$1,549.55. Our Verizon phone line at Visitor Center is on an auto pay through Bank of America. This billing needs to be changed before our account is closed. Bob P. will make this change. Please see the attached financial report for more information.
  - B. Science Collaborator, Dennis Schirmer  
No report this month.
- IV. Committee Reports
  - A. Retail John Beringer
    - 1) John reports the high sales for March were on Mar. 2- \$432 by Marsha, Iona & Pierre, Mar. 4- \$333 & Mar. 5- \$597.
    - 2) There was a Motion to appropriate a Safe Box for the Long Valley Ranger Station. MPS KL/EV - Bob P. abstained.
    - 3) Ralphs Grocery Store: Our organization needs to sign up every year to receive a portion of money from shoppers who sign up to donate money to MSJNHA.

- B. Membership           Maureen McCarty  
90% of our membership is from Life members. Discussion of changing the dates of renewal was tabled until next month.
- C. Education            Peter A'Hearn                               No report.

V. Old Business

- A. **Peaks** will be published three times a year (Jan 1, May 1, Oct1). The following features need new articles: 1) President's Notes, **Iona**. 2) Natural History articles, **Rob**. 3) State Park Report, 4) Treasury Report, **Bob**. 5) Visitor Center/Retail Report, **John**. 6) Special features, i.e. Photo contest, **Joe**. 7) Calendar of Events; summer Picnic and Holiday Party. 8) Tram News; Tram closure dates and 50<sup>th</sup> Anniv. Articles are to be submitted to Elize by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication. She will edit them send them on to the Publisher, Joe Migliore.

- B. WEBMASTER       Maureen McCarty

- 1) Maureen will place a box on our website posting the monies & items we have funded for the State Park year.
- 2) Joe will speak with Nancy Nickols about a link to our website from their PSAT website.

V. New Business

- A. Iona will host a light meal for our next meeting.

VI. **Next meeting: Tuesday, April 2 at Joe's Home 5:30pm**

VII. Adjournment 7:38 pm