

**MOUNT SAN JACINTO NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
DATE: January 11, 2016**

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Time 5:40pm, By Joe Migliore

**QUORUM:** Yes

**ROLL CALL:**

**BOARD MEMBERS:** Jim Migliore President, Kurt Leuschner VP, Suzanne Tracy Secretary,

**DIRECTORS:** Glenn Flood, Jim Forneris Retail, Royce Jones, Dennis Schirmer Science, Elize Van Zandt Education, Jan Welch.

**ABSENT:** Iona Scapple, Bob Pellenbarg

**MEMBERS:** Phyllis Keys Bookkeeper, Vince Llacer, Carl Maples, Paul Reisman

**CA DPR REPRESENTATIVES:** Todd Friedman Supervisor & Acting Superintendent  
George Raymond Interpreter

**APPROVE MINUTES:** By Joe Migliore: From December 11, 2015

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Treasurer's Report,** Not Available

**GENERAL DISCUSSION:** Duane Bambusch has tendered resignation from treasurer position and MSJNHA board; Duane will assist with transition to end of February, 2016.

Phyllis Keys will prepare financial statements; will include sales, cash in bank, daily tally from VC, LVRS, and Idyllwild and bank deposit slips.

Additional reimbursement for Phyllis discussed. Phyllis declined at this time but will notify board if additional duties indicate a need for salary increase.

At present Phyllis has first three days of December, 2015, tallies; financial statement not available. Phyllis will prepare a financial statement for the next MSJNHA meeting.

Phyllis will also prepare 2016 budget.

Cash at US bank \$46,316.81 (includes the education grants) with an expected \$1000 in checks to be written.

Joe Migliore has picked up cash from safe, handed over to Duane Bambusch for tallying and spreadsheet. He or (now Royce) will make deposit in bank.

Discussion about need for a board member to take over the Treasurer position.

Royce Jones volunteered to take on the position.

Royce will work with Duane Bambusch and Phyllis Keys on duties required in treasurer position.

Royce will pickup cash and tallies from LVRS and VC at MSJ.

Dennis Schirmer will pickup cash and tallies from Idyllwild.

Cash should be picked up every 2 to 4 weeks and deposited in US Bank.

In addition to Joe Migliore, Kurt Leuschner, Royce Jones will be added as a signatory at US Bank. Duane Bambusch will be removed as a signatory at US Bank.

**MOTION:** Royce Jones nominated for Treasurer position

**BY:** Elize Van Zandt

**SECONDED:** Joe Migliore

**IN FAVOR:** All in favor

**OPPOSED:** None

CD Renewal voted at December meeting will be allowed to roll over on January 16, 2016.

**Natural Science,** Dennis Schirmer

Nothing to report.

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**State Park Report**, Todd Friedman, Supervisor & Acting Superintendent

Several volunteers have over 200 hours and 100 hours.

Paul Reisman has retired; acting superintendent position will be filled in about six months.

Todd is functioning as Acting Superintendent.

**State Park Report Cont.**

Park interpreter interviews occur in January, 2016; eight applicants for position.

Second movie theater is open at mountain station. Films now split between the two theaters; building of tram and wilderness.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION:**

Router (Old Business) could be use to make signs for sale to public. Ideas include personalized woodwork for visitors and sold to public in Visitor's Center.

Router is computerized.

TRAFx informational brochure attached. Website: <https://www.trafx.net/B4151013TC>

Cost is approximately \$5000 with all attachments.

Additional purchases required for materials include replacement routers and wood.

Location of router at Idyllwild.

Operator to be determined at a later date; Patrick in maintenance at Idyllwild was mentioned but has been ruled out.

**MOTION:** Allocate \$6000 for purchase of router

**BY:** Kurt Leuschner

**SECONDED:** Elize Van Zandt

**IN FAVOR:** All in favor

**OPPOSED:** None

Counting system (for visitors) requested by rangers and park interpreter.

TRAFx System is used by the BLM (for 2 years) and seems to be the best product of this type available.

Would be useful to have an accurate visitor count when negotiations with PS Aerial Tram come up in future. Increased funding would be used for medical gear and other equipment necessary to the safety of visitors.

One unit covers one area only, comes with a five year software database, works using infrared technology, costs \$1200.

TRAFx System details (from website) attached.

Company is located in Canada.

**MOTION:** Allocate \$1250 for purchase of TRAFx system

**BY:** Kurt Leuschner

**SECONDED:** Royce Jones

**IN FAVOR:** All in favor

**OPPOSED:** None

**RETAIL:** Jim Forneris

Sales have been brisk and supplies are exhausted. Jim is taking care of orders.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION:**

Trail maps are in process but pictures need approval from rangers before they can be printed; PS Tram has approved their pictures.

Todd has requested pictures be mailed electronically to him.

Jan Welch will contact printer and have the pictures sent to Todd.

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Jan has tendered her resignation as Director of the Visitor Center retail and from the MSJNHA Board.

Jim will research visitor requests for new books; these include an Usborn book on bats (there are bats at Mount San Jacinto per Park Interpretator) and Emergency Survival-A Pocket Guide by Christopher Van Tilburg. Todd Friedman will review Emergency Survival-A Pocket Guide before purchase is approved. Jan states most companies will send a single copy for review.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Joe Migliore

Sent out 52 renewal notices which included a letter extending membership to June, 2017.

Ten renewals have been received.

Paul Reisman is a life member of NHA; Paul would like to become a member of the MSJNHA board but is precluded from this until two months have lapsed since his resignation from CA DPR.

2500 new brochures had been ordered; printer offered an additional 2500 brochures at half price. A total of 5000 brochures ordered.

Paul Reisman will take 1000 brochures to Idyllwild.

**WEBSITE:** Joe Migliore

Fixes have been completed by Art Davis.

Website is now compatible with HH (handheld) devices: iPad, iPhones, etc

Meeting minutes will be posted on website; Joe Migliore will take care of this.

Urge members to check website.

PEAKS Newsletter discussed, need someone to take responsibility for newsletter, include information on mystery hikes, consider looking at other newsletters for ideas.

Facebook page discussed as an alternative to Peaks with a link established at the MSJNHA website.

**EDUCATION:** Elize Van Zandt

At present environmental education is on hold. Program needs to be developed that complies with State of California Common Core Requirements.

Will work with Paul Reisman and Pete A'Hearn to develop program and obtain grants.

Draft proposal is needed.

Partnership and Skill building is in April.

NHA member and Park Ranger should attend.

Royce Jones will investigate.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

WEBSITE: Move to February meeting

Post upcoming programs, hikes, meetings, activities, etc. on NHA website.

Post Carl Maples Training Schedule at VC and/or NHA website.

Post mystery hike, with signup. Would facilitate cancellation (weather,etc.); signups will be notified; place on members page.

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**RETIREMENT:**

Paul Reisman's years of service to the Park and retirement recognized with and a card signed by NHA members along with a gift certificate.

**VC FURNISHINGS:**

Replace chairs in VC, several chairs discussed with following chair most recommended:

[Flash Furniture Ergonomic Multi-Functional Triple Paddle Drafting Stool with Adjustable Foot Ring and Arms, Black](#)

**Item:** 201216 / **Model :** KCB802M1KGARMS

\$217.89

Non profit organizational discount will be requested.

**NEW BUSINESS Cont.:**

**MOTION:** Allocate \$700 for purchase of 3 chairs

**BY:** Kurt Leuschner

**SECONDED:** Royce Jones

**IN FAVOR:** All in favor

**OPPOSED:** None

Additional heater at VC, telephone replacement (not all keys are functional-#4) moved to February meeting.

**RETAIL:**

Consider raising price of cards Les Wheeler makes to at least \$2.00 or \$2.50. This has already been done at the VC.

**VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION:** Moved to February Meeting

Update plaques for 2014 and 2015 for VIPs who have donated 200 hours or more.

There are pins for 22 volunteers, recommended giving pins to volunteers at the Spring and Fall meetings.

**PLANNING:** Moved to February meeting

Upcoming activities: Family Days, Picnic, Appreciation, Holiday Social, etc.

**VC VOLUNTEERS & PARK AIDES:**

Jacket use: Park Aides wear red, volunteers wear black.

Repair zippers: Moved to February meeting

Leave frayed cuffs as they are and consider replacement when jackets are unusable.

**GRANT:**

Louis L Borick Foundation has granted \$10,000 again this year; a total of \$20,000 for both years. Funds not used from previous year's donation.

Many suggestions for funding such as the Boys and Girls Club in the Coachella Valley, develop junior ranger program, outreach programs in Coachella Valley. Congressman Ruiz is interested in a pilot program to get children into the environment.

Dennis Schirmer and/or Kurt Leuschner will talk to Tracy Albrecht for ideas.

Need to send a thank you which should include some of the activities planned for students/children.

**PARK INTERPRETER OFFICE:**

Chair purchase included with chair purchase for VC

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Moved to February meeting: Telephone

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:**

Location Joe Migliore, Time: 5:30pm, Date February 8, 2016

Refreshment Assignment: Jim Forneris, Suzanne Tracy to provide sodas

**ADJOURNMENT:** 1930 (approx.) By Joe Migliore

Transcribed from original notes on January 13, 2016

Original notes attached

Suzanne Tracy

**EMAIL INFORMATION:**

**CD RENEWAL:**

Check rates before renewal, One West Bank has liquid money market for individuals, check to see if have business accounts and rates

**CHAIRS:** Three suggestions

Chairs with the arms would offer our volunteers the most comfort.

[Flash Furniture Ergonomic Multi-Functional Triple Paddle Drafting Stool with Adjustable Foot Ring and Arms, Black](#)

**Item:** 201216 / **Model :** KCB802M1KGARMS  
\$217.89

Not as comfortable but still better than no arms.

[Staples Extended Height Stool with Arms, Black](#)

**Item:** 886227 / **Model :** 20119D  
\$149.99

Staples ergonomic drafting chairs that

Rise to 50.25 inches, depth 25 inches, Adjustable

Model #18620 black, Check out on Staples website, Free shipping if ordered in store

Price \$139.67 plus tax

**JACKETS:**

Issues with fraying cuffs and failing zippers

Cuffs of 3 jackets fraying or starting to, should be addressed

Colors: Park Aides Red, VIPs Black

Not sure of cost, discuss it with seamstress who put in new zipper.

Amazon: Replacement zipper price has increased to nearly \$8, and shipping costs added

How many state park jackets he purchased, now have 2 XL, 1LG, AND 1 MEDIUM FOR a total of 4. Can't locate purchase records.

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**VESTS:**

Purchased several vests, how many were purchased.

**VISITOR COUNTERS:**

TRAFx Research Ltd., (based inCanada), advanced counting systems for trail use data, designed for: Parks and open lands. Track usage data in Long Valley, could result in more money in future tram contracts. Ssystem has been tested by BLM and seems to work well. The total startup cost would be \$1,210.

Less expensive to purchase starter pack with 3 counters than buying one counter at a time

**VISITOR REQUESTS:**

Emergency Survival Pocket Guide, Christopher Von Tilburg

Bat book available from children's book publisher