

## **MORCA, A Chapter of IMBA, Summary of October 7, 2013 Meeting**

**Black Bear Diner Restaurant, North Monterey, 6:40-8:20 PM**

**Prepared by Henrietta Stern, Secretary, on October 14, 2013**

**Our website is [www.morcambt.org](http://www.morcambt.org)**

About 12 people attended, including all officers except Joel Trice (vacation).

**YOUR CURRENT OFFICERS THROUGH 2013** are:

President: Darius Rike (webmaster too)

Vice-President: Ken "AmeriKen" Howat

Secretary: Henrietta Stern

Treasurer-- Joel Trice

Members-at-Large – Mary Pozzi

LIAISONS coordinate extensively with officers (or may also be officers). They currently are:

==CSUMB and New Member/Beginners: AmeriKen Howat

== FORT Friends, FONM and FORA/ESCA liaison: Henrietta Stern

==Other Groups: Jason Campbell (FOAA/ForU) and Chris Mack (KFOW)

==IMBA and BLM: Gary Courtright

You are welcome to contact the liaisons to offer assistance.

If you have an idea for an agenda item, be sure to contact officers at [morca@morcambt.org](mailto:morca@morcambt.org) at least one week before the regular meeting. Officers meet the Tuesday before the monthly Monday meeting to review the ongoing task list and set the agenda.

**1. President's Remarks--** Darius welcomed the group and reviewed notable activities last month, including (1) October 5 Take a Kid Mtn Biking Day, (2) October 6 Salinas Cyclovia event and (3) September 21 Trail Day -- 322 hours logged so far this year! Regarding TAKMBD, attendance was about half as what was expected due to conflicting events that same day or weekend. Keith's cyclocross course was great. We agreed we need some very basic skills structures for the smallest children.

**2. FORA-ESCA Update --** (Henri)

== Henri provided an update on land transfer from FORA to the County and efforts to get an up-to-date map on who owns what (affects our right-of-entry permit). She also provided an update on efforts led by the County to reinstate work on FORHA= Fort Ord Recreation Habitat Area, basically a comprehensive multi-use trails plan. County needs to find money to refine and finalize the report, do EIR and adopt plan; and then more money to fund management of 1300 acres of open space (\$86,000/yr estimated?) Attendees urged the County to provide safe access to FT Ord Natl Monument immediately.

==The County Supervisors voted to open Intergarrison but also put stop signs at Jerry Smith access trailhead area and reduce speed limit. Next Ft Ord Committee meeting is October 28 at 11 AM in Salinas.

==As a reminder, Army burn season started July 1, which could entail temporary road and trail closures for two planned burns--date depends on weather. Online registration for burn info

is [www.fortordcleanup.com/burnprogram/notify](http://www.fortordcleanup.com/burnprogram/notify) ESCA website is <http://www.fora-esca-rp.com/>

**3. Monthly Trail Day is Saturday October 26--** Note our normal day is 3rd Saturday (19th) but it is postponed for Public Lands Day on Oct 26 (assuming government is back open by then!) Stay tuned for details-- likely a ride and trim. PLD will feature a nice BBQ and music for all volunteers. Darius would like to take the lead in convening the TRail Committee for projects next year.

**Special Trail Building Class--** Drew from MBOSC is teaching a class October 17 and 24th for us-- see separate e-mails from Ken Howat on this.

**4. Treasurer Report.** We have about \$10,000 in the bank with \$1,592 earmarked for trail fund. TAKMBD expenses were tallied and note two club insurance checks (October and January) are coming up. Insurance is based on IMBA membership (214 members).

**5. Fort Ord Open Space Initiative Request for MORCA Endorsement and Donation --** Last month the club voted to endorse Measure M and donate \$500 and match up to \$500 in club member donations

to Measure M. The \$500 amount was quickly exceeded. A total of \$1000 was donated from MORCA and members donated another \$857 via the website Paypal button. This almost met Jason's original \$2,000 request. Info on Measure M at: <http://www.fortordaccess.org/>

**6. MORCA By-Laws--** Darius reviewed the Bylaw update history, and they have been posted on the website for review since last meeting. IMBA reviewed them and said they are fine. Final discussion centered on clarifying that termination of a member only occurs if actions are damaging to the club. George moved to adopt and Phil seconded. Members present passed unanimously. The most important change is members will run for being one of 6 directors, and not for a specific office like President. The six directors select the President from among them. The Pres works with the directors to assign VP, Secty, Treasurer and 2 members-at-large. The adopted revised Bylaws will be posted on the website.

**7. Final Nominations for Directors for Year 2014--** The October meeting was final chance to nominate folks for directors. Darius noted that Nick Madronio is the 7th person to stand for a director position. So the seven candidates are: Incumbants Ken Howat, Joel Trice and Henrietta Stern as well as Stephan Sandoval, Sue Benjarum, Phil Craig and Nick Madronio. Watch for ballots October 15 with specific instructions. Only IMBA members may vote via e-mail or US mail until October 31 or in person at Nov 4 meeting. Gary Courtright volunteered to be the neutral teller to tally all votes. Teller is not a current board member or running for the board.

#### **8. Other Business and Updates**

A. Niner Demo afternoon-- October 9

B. Twilight Ride at Laguna Seca Race Track November 13-- we are hosting this!

C. Night Ride kickoff-- November 16 with Light&Motion and Specialized demo bikes

D. Christmas Party December 2 instead of regular meeting-- possibly at Ken's house

E. SeaOtter is April 10-13, 2014-- need to start planning now-- we planto volunteer again for night ride and dual slolum. We missed camping signups and not much interest in alternative camping sites-- we hope to share main area with MBOSC.

F. Palo Corona Ranch Assessment-- Henri described efforts to date on trail assessment for this future regional park. It may be several years before open to the public-- management plan and EIR needed first. But Park is getting feedback from hikers, bikers and equestrian focus groups on feasibility, suitability and sustainability issues. IMBA is getting involved in an advisory role.

G. BLM Liaison-- Gary recommended that the board define one trail advocacy position that would work with all the local land managers, including BLM, with IMBA assistance.

H. GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN-- This will affect our night ride permit as it has expired and has not been renewed due to lack of staff at BLM. October 16 was goal start date and will not occur. We may need to shift Wed eve rides to an earlier time in the next few weeks in order to ride until /2 hour after sunset deadline on BLM lands.

**Next meeting is November 4 at 6:30 pm at Black Bear Diner in Monterey.**