

**SUMMARY OF MORCA BOARD MEETING**  
**Monday, March 7, 2016 at 6:00 PM, Golden Tee Restaurant, Monterey**  
**Prepared by Henrietta Stern, Secretary, on 3/8/2016**

**Attendees:** All Directors were present; members/guests included Darius Rike, Ken Howat, John Beardshear, Wayne Dominguez, Adam Linder and David Tucker

**2016 Directors:** Joel Trice (P), Sue Benjaram (VP), Henrietta Stern (S), Nick Madronio (T), Phil Craig (MAL) and Brian Tomasini (MAL)

**Next Board Meeting:** The Board meets monthly, usually on the first Monday of the month. The **next meeting is Monday, April 4, 2016 at 6 PM at the Golden Tee Restaurant.**

**Next Member Meeting:** The general membership meeting emphasis is on social time and/or special events. Due to rainy weather, we decided to postpone the quarterly meeting until April, and have a weekend outdoor get-together. Tentative date is April 9 or 10. Stay tuned for details.

**3/7/2016 Agenda Items were as follows:**

1. **Opening remarks + Donation Buckets**
2. **FORA/ESCA Update**
3. **County Update/Happy Trails signage/FORHA Trails**
4. **Toro Park Issues**
5. **Trail Work Update**
6. **Treasurer's Report**
7. **Take-a-Kid-Mountain Biking Day (TAKMBD)**
8. **Bike Park**
9. **Monterey Peninsula Regional Parks District (MPRPD)**
10. **Calendar Review – what's coming up?**
11. **2016 Planning (includes Waiver review and High School Team Fund)**
12. **Sea Otter Classic**
13. **Meet-Up Website**
14. **Calendar Management**
15. **Other Business – Trash cans for BLM;**

**Item 1: Opening Remarks + Donation Buckets** – Joel noted key issues are Sea Otter planning and Toro Park. Lots going on! **Wayne Dominguez** reported on his efforts to find sponsors and locations for 6 donation buckets at Sea Otter and beyond (proceeds to our scholarship fund). He also secured raffle items from Oakley (2 pair of high end sunglasses) and Light & Motion (bright lights), and has contacted Dainaise (knee pads), REI, Subaru and others. He may create 3 more buckets. Thanks to Wayne as our “marketing representative” as he solicits sponsorships and raffle donations.

**Item 2: FORA/ESCA and Fort Ord Reuse Update**— The FORA/ESCA noontime meeting scheduled for February 24, 2016 was cancelled. Next meeting is May 25 (then August 24 and November 23). From last time, note that Army is moving forward with formal Work Plan for BLM Area B trail (planned to be out by April for public comment). They will try to maximize public access but will be strict regarding trespassing during their work. Area B includes Trail 68, Burmese and other popular trails. See also FORA website ([www.fora.org](http://www.fora.org)) and e-mails for info. [www.fora-esca-rp.com](http://www.fora-esca-rp.com) or Army site at [www.fortordcleanup.com](http://www.fortordcleanup.com)

**Item 3: County Update/Happy Trails Signage/FORHA.** Nick met with County staffer Melanie Baretta on February 29 re **trail signage** project, which has been on hold at County request. Melanie asked that we request a 12-month extension from the granting agency, and in the interim only put signs in areas that are marked “open” at present. She indicated the County may be amendable to amending trails slated for closure. This will likely be discussed at the **March 21, 2016 Fort Ord Committee meeting** (11 AM, Salinas), along with transfer of management duties of County land to the Regional Park District.

**Nick, Henri, Phil and Fred Watson** need to meet again to write up our recommendations. Fred previously prepared detailed maps.

Phil volunteered to pick up **Annual County Park Passes** to County Parks for those who want to purchase them. The cost is \$80 per year. Buying them together will show support by MORCA. Phil will send out an e-mail about this. Some of us have already purchased them.

Joel represented MORCA at the TAMC meeting where many cyclists urged the Commission to include the **FORTAG trail network** on the list of projects that will be on the November ballot for a measure to fund needed transportation projects. FORTAG was added onto the list!

**Item 4: County Update/Toro Park.** There has been a lot of media coverage re unauthorized trails in Toro Park, which has segued to a broader discussion of how the entire Toro trail network should be managed. Unfortunately, the hiker’s social media site (Toro Park Watch) has chosen to demonize mountain bikers as anti-nature (so false, and many of us are hikers too!) and the Herald is emphasizing the rift between groups rather than cooperation. Fortunately, Parks Director Mark Mariscal, hosted a meeting attended by 70+ folks and is setting up a 12-person working group to grapple with these issues to meet March 21. The MORCA Board submitted **Darius Rike** as our representative. We also recommended other bike group representatives. Any person may submit their name and qualifications to the County to be part of the group as an individual based on your experience. The potential of bringing the IMBA Trail Care Crew to Monterey is an important asset we bring to the table.

**Item 5: Trail Work Update** – Darius described two planned days in March (**March 12 ad hoc and March 19 regular 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday**) which will likely focus on lower Goat and Couch Canyon. He had a planning meeting on March 8 to discuss ideas and options in the future. Stay tuned for Darius e-mails with details. Come out and help give back to the trails we all use. We briefly discussed buying versus renting a motorized wheelbarrow that was so helpful last trail day.

**Item 6: Treasurer’s Report and Other Financial** – Nick reviewed our current status (roughly \$29,138 current total balance, including \$17,900 in grant account). Income included night ride fees and a donation; IMBA quarterly membership dues will be about \$700. The key expense was \$2,442 to for 10 trashcans for BLM. Thanks Brian for handling the logistics; FORT Friends donated \$500 to MORCA to help pay for the trash cans. Nick is also working on insurance forms as our carrier has changed. We have 190members but about 45 are regularly active. Joel to help with Emergency Action Plan; Sue also has a plan from TAKMBD.

**Item 7: TAKMBD is Saturday, October 1, 2016** – Sue is asking that someone volunteer to be a co-chair with her and also help with finding raffle items. Joel contacted Evil bikes, who could only offer

a 20% discount on a frame. Salsa Fat Bike was also suggested. Wayne is securing some nice raffle items (see Item 1). Sue previously suggested a high-end component like a dropper post. Sue has submitted reservation application at Toro and also grappling with weird insurance language the County has.

**Item 8: Bike Park/Pump Track** -- No report.

**Item 9: Monterey Peninsula Regional Parks District** – We noted that MPRPD continues to work toward plans to take over management of Happy Trails, Jack Peak and Toro Park from County. (They already own Palo Corona near Highway 1/Carmel Valley).

**Palo Corona Management Plan.** Ken C is attending Regional Park's evening meetings. Henri attended a February 23 meeting with the consultant who is preparing a Management Plan. Other attendees were hikers, runners, equestrians, Big Sur Land Trust etc. Henri provided the consultants her detailed photos and trip summary from 10 outings as part of the focus group report. Parks seems resistant to permitted rides to see the area, especially with the recent rains. Darius has prepared a draft letter to state Parks Commission asking that the **Management Plan for the Point Lobos area be consistent** with the Regional Parks Management Plan for Palo Corona regarding consistent public access through State Parks coastal property (San Jose Creek) to reach inland Regional Park's property.

**Item 10: Calendar Review** – Items of note include:

**March 13—Daylight savings begins**

**March 18—First ladies ride of the season**

**April 9 or 10—tentative member social picnic**

**April 14-17 -- Sea Otter Classic**

**May 21 – MBOSC Old Cabin Classic at Wilder Ranch (plus tentative kids rodeo)**

**October 1 – TAKMBD**

**October 5—Twilight Ride at Laguna Seca (we host)**

Note that there will be no Santa Cruz Mountain Bike Festival this year.

**Item 11: 2016 Planning** – Two issues that we will pursue are: (1) **Waivers** – Evaluate current waiver (Brian) and now the insurance company wants us to keep all waivers for 2 years, so address file management (Henri). (2) **High school scholarship** (bike or race fees for deserving student). Wayne's donation bucket will help with this. Henri to contact George Fontes and George Garibay re ideas. Other goals previously included need to redo website (Joel lead on ideas).

**Item 12: Sea Otter Classic (SOC)** – Joel emphasized the **need to obtain a major raffle item**; proceeds go to TAKMBD. See Item 7 above re raffle ideas. Salsa fat bike? Recall Sue suggested a high-end component like a gravity dropper.

Ken Howat will lead the **dual slalom volunteer** effort and will first send personal e-mails to previous volunteers. It is time to ramp up signups for the **IMBA/MORCA booth volunteers**. Wayne and Darius to inventory outreach materials in storage and order goodies as needed. We were able to trade so our booth is next to IMBA's—do we have any decorating ideas? Joel noted the **IMBA member challenge**—if we increase membership by 30% (e.g., more signups or \$50 membership rather than \$35), we split proceeds 50-50 rather than 40-60. How do we achieve this goal?

AmeriKen confirmed he has one **camping spot** (tent size) and is on waiting list for something larger (RV size).

**Item 13: MeetUp.com Hosting** -- Sue has been posting MORCA rides and events on the MeetUp.com site as a MeetUp host; Henri is interested in learning how to co-host. We have 50 members.

**Item 14: Calendar management** – AmeriKen currently does nearly all the Google calendar items. Darius has given Henri and others calendar permission. Henri will coordinate with Darius to learn how to properly add an event.

**Item 15A: Other Business/Trash Cans for BLM** -- **Brian** is leading the procurement and delivery effort for 10 new BLM trash cans/dog poop receptacles. BLM will allow only a 4x6 inch sticker with MORCA and FORT Friend logos as the source of donation. The trash cans have arrived and now Brian is working on sticker graphics.

**Item 15B: MBOSC Kids Rodeo at Wilder May 21** – They would like to borrow our skills structures similar to their annual festival. This would be at Wilder Ranch and part of their Old Cabin Classic weekend. John Beardshear to check with Karl and George F. re logistics.

**The meeting ended at 8:30 PM. Busy days!!**

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