

SUMMARY OF MORCA BOARD MEETING
Monday, May 16, 2016 at 6:30 PM, Golden Tee Restaurant, Monterey
Prepared by Henrietta Stern, Secretary, on 6/2/2016

Attendees: All Directors were present except Sue Benjaram; members/guests included Tony Cepeda.

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 board meeting is Monday, June 6, 2016 at 6 PM at the Golden Tee Restaurant.**

Next Member Meeting: The quarterly general membership meeting emphasis is on social time; date and time to be determined.

5/16/2016 Agenda Items were as follows:

1. Opening remarks
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. Incorporation
15. Wednesday evening rides
16. Other Business – Trash cans for BLM;

Item 1: Opening Remarks– We chatted about recent vacations and upcoming items.

Item 2: FORA/ESCA and Fort Ord Reuse Update— The next FORA/ESCA noontime meeting is scheduled for May 25 (then August 24 and November 23). Note—the May 25 meeting was cancelled. On May 7, the Army hosted a hike in the closed impact area. The Army is slowly moving forward with formal Work Plan for BLM Area B trails that we use but no information is available at present. They are waiting for a formal Record of Decision (ROD) in order to proceed. They are learning trail names and preparing for public involvement and education. We chatted about possible trail reroutes after the burning and as part of remediation. See also FORA website (www.fora.org) and e-mails for info. www.fora-esca-rp.com or Army site at www.fortordcleanup.com

Item 3: County Update/Happy Trails Signage/FORHA. Nick submitted a formal letter to the County and the Monterey Foundation requesting a 12-month extension but has not received a response despite requests. The May 12 special Fort Ord Committee meeting was cancelled. At present,

our grant is on hold but has not been cancelled. From last time, we still should write up recommendations about County draft FORHA trails plan.

Item 4: County Update/Toro Park. We heard report from Joel, who spoke with Steve Schemick (who wrote an anti-bike letter). Joel met with Steve, who backed off his original comments at the most recent Parks Commission meeting about Toro. Peter Kweik also seemed to soften a bit. The hikers indicated the need to have “some trails of their own” where they need not worry re multi-use logistics. The Park Commission received the working group’s trail maps and information, but did not direct any specific action. John Akeman will be County staff lead. Phil and others indicated that the mountain bike community came off as positive and cooperative. Stay tuned on this.

FYI- Richard Riddle is another involved County staff member.

Item 5: Trail Work Update – Darius emailed info that 9 workers were present on May 14 and 292 hours of volunteer hours is the cumulative total to date. Next trail day is June 18 at 9 AM at 8th and G. Focus will now be on much-needed trail trimming.

Item 6: Treasurer’s Report and Other Financial – Nick reviewed our current status from early March to mid-May 2016 (roughly \$30,688 current total balance, including \$17,900 in grant account). Income included IMBA quarterly membership dues (\$998) and about \$3000 from Sea Otter (raffle plus other donations. Major expenses were annual insurance (\$874) and SOC expenses (\$1900 for purchase of raffle bike and related expenses). We netted \$1426 on the raffle bike. SOC payment is pending. \$5000 donation from e-bike race winner is also pending. We discussed potential uses of that money to include professional trail plan for Toro park or sponsoring a local land manager to attend the IMBA World Summit. Darius noted last month that we had 198 paid members; we’ll see if that changes after SOC.

Item 7: TAKMBD is Saturday, October 1, 2016 – Sue was out of town and did not have a report.

Item 8: Bike Park/Pump Track -- No report except Joel noted that Darius had been meeting with officials about the Marina site; we also note another pump track is going up in Santa Cruz. June 2 is scheduled date to meet with Regional Park District re Locke Paddon Park site.

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 attends Regional Park’s meetings and keeps us updated on meetings and action. No report. Last time, he indicated the management plan should be completed in Fall 2016 then goes to their board vote after public review and comment. There is the related possibility of a bike trail adjacent to Carmel Valley road; he has asked for temporary access for cyclists to see Palo Corona (via a permit system similar to hikers), without success. Breaking: Darius, Ken and Phil attended a June 1 State Parks meeting about the **Management Plan for the Point Lobos area and asked that it 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:

May 18—Amgen Tour of California finishing at Laguna Seca track

May 21 – MBOSC Old Cabin Classic at Wilder Ranch (plus MORCA stunts at kids rodeo)

October 1 – TAKMBD

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

Nov 10-12—IMBA World Summit, Bentonville AK

Item 11: 2016 Planning – Three issues listed 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 and Nick). (2) **High school team fund** (bike or race fees for deserving student). We discussed the need for a formal budget, criteria and selection process and have a specific plan for next year (consult with George F and G). Wayne’s donation buckets at Sea Otter and other venues will help with this. Henri previously suggested a scholarship for a younger girl to the Little Bellas would be another option. (3) **Website upgrade**. Darius and committee members met on April 21, and found a few sites to look at as models. We discussed seeing if a CSUMB student could take this on as a project but there needs to be the ability to pass administration on to another person once they leave. Henri has some names of consultants who helped FORT Friends do the same thing.

Item 12: Sea Otter Classic Recap (SOC)

Volunteer for **dual slalom** went well, and the **booth** slots were also filled. People did a good job engaging the public, but Joel noticed a lot fewer people in the grassy area this year. IMBA folks did not get out and engage. Net raffle take was \$1426 for TAKMBD; we discussed ideas on how best to spend it but made no formal decisions. Thanks to Wayne Dominguez on his efforts to find raffle items, sponsors and locations for **donation buckets** at Sea Otter (proceeds to our scholarship fund). The take from the buckets was minimal but it has potential in a more focused setting. MORCA member Tony Zepeda of Cyclepath Outfitters donated some nice gear too. Thanks!

Let’s be sure we thank our raffle sponsors in social media and tagging them on Facebook etc. We need a list of all the sponsors and donation items.

Item 13: MeetUp.com Hosting -- Sue has been posting MORCA rides and events on the MeetUp.com We have 50+ members and have met some nice folks. Joel suggested changing the meetup wording so readers know that MORCA folks will be there and not necessarily will RSVP.

Item 14: Incorporation -- Joel submitted paperwork to Secretary of State, Tax Franchise Board and Attorney General. We have received certain confirmations and hope to receive the rest very soon.

Item 15: Wednesday Night Rides – Due to changes in BLM policy, we previously decided to have all night rides at 8th and Giggling through May 2016. We discussed a Summer Solstice Ride at Creekside but decided against it. Upon checking the sunset times, it still cramps our post-ride BBQ to be out before 9 PM. Thus we determined that all night rides will be from 8th and G until next year’s BLM permit (and we will ask for end time of 9:30 PM).

Item 16A: Other Business/Trash Cans for BLM -- **Brian** has coordinated delivery of 10 new BLM trash cans/dog poop receptacles and also coordinated sticker graphics, which should be done soon. Thanks Brian for leading this effort!!

Speaking of dogs, the **BLM Dog Management Plan** is out for public comment through June 13. It envisions off leash in less crowded areas farther away from trailheads.

There is also an **IMBA survey** that asks for feedback. Several board members have responded already.

From last time: 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.

The meeting ended at 8:15 PM.

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