

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

Attendees: All Directors were present; members/guests included Darius Rike.
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 would be on Monday, July 4, but that is a holiday. Stay tuned for confirmation of new date. Location is Golden Tee Restaurant.**

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

6/6/2016 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. Meet-Up
13. Incorporation
14. Wednesday evening rides
15. Other Business – Trash cans for BLM; Other

Item 1: Opening Remarks– None.

Item 2: FORA/ESCA and Fort Ord Reuse Update— The next FORA/ESCA noontime meeting is scheduled for August 24 and then November 23. The May 25 meeting was cancelled. 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. 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 reported that we still have not received a response to our formal letter to the County requesting a 12-month extension and to start initial activities. Joel to contact Melanie Baretti of County staff. At present, our grant from Monterey Foundation is on hold but has not been cancelled. From last time, we still should write up recommendations about County draft FORHA trails plan. Henri to contact Fred Watson and arrange a committee meeting to write up our recommendations.

Item 4: County Update/Toro Park. There has been no action by County staff or the Parks Commission since their recent meeting when Toro Park trails information was submitted. We brainstormed the possibility of retaining a professional trails designer to submit a trails plan concept, but were not sure about who to call or costs. Joel to call Laurel (IMBA) and fill out the Bosch paperwork for potential funding. We agreed that cooperation by land owner (County) is essential for the trail design team.

Item 5: Trail Work Update –Next trail day is June 18 at 9 AM at 8th and G. Focus will now be on much-needed trail trimming in Blair Witch and Trail 19 areas. We will likely rent some weed whackers. Looking to the future, Darius envisions December 2016 day on Trail 47 (Couch Canyon) with High School team volunteers. He also would like to walk T43 (Ewok) and get BLM signoff on realignment of rutted lower section before next Fall rains.

Item 6: Treasurer’s Report and Other Financial – Nick reviewed our current status from through June 6, 2016 (roughly \$30,400 current total balance, including \$17,900 in grant account, with very little income or expenses. We expect roughly \$300 for first quarter IMBA dues (Darius needs to provide check to Nick). We have yet to be paid from Sea Otter though we have submitted the paperwork (appears to have been lost by SOC folks). The Oakley Sunglass trail fund of \$1,000 is now down to \$78. We agreed that Nick will report on specific budgeted amounts next time, and we were leaning toward future trail day funding coming from the General Fund. Nick has copies of tax forms Joel submitted to IRS and Franchise Tax Board for MORCA as a new non-profit corporation.

Item 7: TAKMBD is Saturday, October 1, 2016 – Sue is getting ready to submit insurance information, and anticipates committee meetings soon. She is also contacting Cleary bikes. She has posted a “save the date” to the MORCA Meet-Up group as well. We need to contact sponsors from previous years to see if they are still interested (Darius-- Subaru \$500 for lunch; Carmel Kitchens and Baths \$250). Also Calif Custom Sheds has made very generous donations. We discussed ways to reward high school team kids who come out to volunteer (perhaps a specific donation to team in exchange for each kid who works for at least 3 hours). Nick to check budgeted amounts. We have about \$1500 from Sea Otter raffle to work with.

Item 8: Bike Park/Pump Track -- Darius met on June 2 with Regional Park District officials and also City of Marina folks at the Locke Paddon Park site. There is positive interest and Park District will include a pump track in their formal management plan description. Darius would like to arrange a site visit with actual pump track builder to have a very specific layout to be part of the adopted design to ensure the location makes sense etc.

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). Darius indicated that MPRPD might be interested in a bike park as part of a future **Fort Ord Regional Park** concept.

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. 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. They noted it was a very anti-development, anti-everything NIMBY crowd (except for hiking).

See Item 8 re bike park at Locke Paddon Park in Marina.

Item 10: Calendar Review – Items of note include:

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/scholarship** (example: 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. Phil to contact Bobcat, Sue to contact George Garibay, Adam Linder and Gary Courtright re how donated money would be best used). We noted that some teams already have significant support from sponsors. Funding ideas included a \$1,000 budgeted amount to start, Wayne's donation buckets at all rides, and targeted fund raising ((possible raffle if sponsor is available). We noted there may be confusion with all the TAKMBD fund raising.

(3) **Website upgrade**. Darius and committee members met on April 21, and found a few sites to look at as models. No action since then.

Item 12: MeetUp.com Hosting -- Sue has been posting MORCA rides and events on the MeetUp.com We have 76+ members and have met some nice folks, especially at the Beginner Rides. Sue has advised members re October 1 TAKMBD.

Item 13: Incorporation -- Joel provided copies of paperwork from Secretary of State and we are a recognized non-profit corporation! Henri to work on SI-200 form. Joel previously submitted paperwork with Tax Franchise Board and Attorney General.

Item 14: Wednesday Night Rides Stay at 8th and Gigling – We previously determined that all night rides will be from 8th and Gigling due to half-hour after sunset deadline on BLM property. This gives plenty of time for post-ride BBQ. For next year's BLM permit we will ask for end time of 9:30 PM during the Fall/Winter season.

Item 15: A: Other Business/Trash Cans for BLM -- Brian showed the nice new stickers we received for the 10 new BLM trash cans/dog poop receptacles and will be contacting Eric Morgan re formal presentation/PR opportunity. Brian suggested informing the public on how leaving plastic bags harms the sheep who may ingest it. 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.

B: Other IMBA News – Joel read an IMBA e-mail that noted that Subaru is no longer a major sponsor, which will have a great impact on the Trail Care crew and other programs. IMBA is reorganizing staff and this appears to be a serious blow.

C: Sea Otter Notes – We were able to secure a nice campsite with help from John Beardshear. The Board voted unanimously to pay the roughly \$460 fee for the campsite, which will hold Joel's RV plus several tents, and will serve as a great base of operations.

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 7:45 PM.

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