

**SUMMARY OF MORCA BOARD MEETING**  
**Monday, July 11, 2016 at 6:00 PM, Golden Tee Restaurant, Monterey**  
**Prepared by Henrietta Stern, Secretary, on 7/13/2016**

**Attendees:** All Directors were present; members/guests included Jason Campbell and Ken Howat.  
**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 on Monday, August 1, 2016 at 6 PM at Golden Tee Restaurant.**

Note: we checked out Mtn. Mikes in Seaside, but they have a 30-person minimum.

**Next Member Meeting:** The quarterly general membership meeting emphasis is on social time; date and time to be determined. We are thinking of a Sunday afternoon pool party in late July or in August. Stay tuned.

**7/11/2016 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. Elections coming soon
15. Other Business – Trash cans for BLM; New MORCA Jerseys

**Item 1: Opening Remarks**– Joel noted that he and Henri spoke to BLM dignitaries last month at Creekside and described our activities. The BLM California State Director wants to join us for a night ride next year! Time to start planning permit and night ride kickoff...

**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 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](http://www.fora.org)) and [www.fora-esca-rp.com](http://www.fora-esca-rp.com). The Army site is [www.fortordcleanup.com](http://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. At present, our grant from Monterey Foundation is on hold but has not been cancelled. Joel to try again to contact Melanie Barretti of County staff. Nick to attend Jane Parker's next "Hot Topic" meeting and apprise her of the situation. Jason will check with Parker's chief of staff. We want to focus on signing trails all agree should be open as part of the

FORHA plan. We still need to write up our opposition and better suggestions about FORHA trails recommended to be closed. Henri contacted Fred Watson but has not yet received a reply re maps etc.

**Item 4: County Update/Toro Park.** Lots of action here. Phil and Henri both had Letters to the Editor in “The Weekly” re positive aspects of having trail committee members who both hike and ride bikes. There was a July 6 Trail Committee meeting followed by July 7 Parks Commission meeting. Phil reported that there will be no change in committee composition. Most committee members agree about the need for multi-use trails with some trails potentially reserved for hiker only or bike only (one member spends more time complaining rather than being productive). Ken reported via e-mail that County is interested in seeing other volunteer agreements to use as a model. [Darius—do you have an agreement with BLM for trail work?] Joel has contacted IMBA staff re examples also. We agreed on the concept of bringing in a person from IMBA Trail Solutions to give a presentation to County on general principles of good multi-use trail design—Joel to contact IMBA regarding potential cost to bring one person out. This could be followed by a more formal proposal for a trails plan concept if desired by the Trail Committee. Joel has filled out Bosch paperwork for potential funding. We agreed that cooperation by land owner (County) and user groups is essential for the trail design team. Current Parks Director Mark Mariscal is retiring at end of July; no replacement is known.

Phil attended July 7 Parks Commission and clarified that several Trail Committee members both hike and bike, and are not “loyal” to just one camp. He also reported to the Commissioners that while hiking on Toro trails, he (and others) have seen “Gus” doing more unauthorized trail building, and MORCA does not support Gus’s free-lance efforts.

**Item 5: Trail Work Update** –Next trail day is July 16 at 9 AM at 8<sup>th</sup> and Gigling. Focus will be on trail trimming north of Trails 59 and 17.

**Item 6: Treasurer’s Report and Other Financial** – Nick reviewed our current status through July 11, 2016 (roughly \$30,344 is current total balance, including \$17,900 in grant account, and \$12,078 in checking). We received \$334 for first quarter IMBA dues. Primary expenses were extra insurance for TAKMBD (\$250) and trail day food (\$93). We have yet to be paid from Sea Otter though we have submitted the paperwork (this was lost and recently found by SOC folks). The original Oakley trail fund has been used up; new expenses will come out of the general fund.

**Item 7: TAKMBD is Saturday, October 1, 2016** – Sue submitted insurance information to County and hopes all paperwork is done by end of July. She anticipates committee meetings soon. We need to contact sponsors from previous years to see if they are still interested. Sue is contacting Cleary bikes. Darius—please check with Subaru re \$500 for lunch). Gary Courtright verbally committed \$250 from Carmel Kitchens and Baths. Also check with Calif Custom Sheds, who has made generous donations in the past. We voted unanimously (motion by Phil, seconded by Sue) to allocate \$750 to donate to high school teams who come out to help, based on hours or tasks performed. Sue to work with Darius re signups for specific positions. Last year’s expenses were about \$2,000. We have about \$1500 from Sea Otter raffle to work with plus sponsor and other donations. Brian to contact Bobcat re “buy a bike and get one free” for small and medium kid’s bike (in neutral colors). Last year’s bike cost was \$400. Sue/Kelly to contact newspapers and other media in the next month or so. We will have fewer raffle items and will try to have plenty

of goodies in each bag. We have 100+ water bottles and sunglasses. Henri was given the OK to miss the event due to out-of-state conference that same weekend.

**Item 8: Bike Park/Pump Track** -- Darius is scheduled to meet with City of Marina, Regional Park District officials and Alex from Action sports (pump track builder) on August 3 at 5:30 pm re pump track options and possibilities at the Locke Paddon Park site. There is positive interest and Park District will include a pump track in their formal management plan description. Goal is to have a very specific layout to be part of the adopted design. Ken Howat noted that the old shooting range area near East Garrison would be a great location, but it is a development parcel—so how do we interest a developer to take this on?

**Item 9: Monterey Peninsula Regional Parks District** – We noted that MPRPD continues to work toward plans to take over management of **Happy Trails**, Jacks Peak and Toro Park from County. (They already own Palo Corona near Highway 1/Carmel Valley). Darius previously 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. Previously he indicated the management plan should be completed in Fall 2016 then goes to their board vote after public review and comment. Phil noted the very "anti-everything" crowd at the June 1 State Parks meeting about the **Management Plan for the Point Lobos area**. This affects access to Palo Corona back-country.

**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** Phil indicated a willingness to go. Joel to check the agenda to see if the potential of sending a local land manager (e.g., BLM, County, Reginal Parks) makes sense.

**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 reported on our separate discussions with various team coaches (who had different ideas). Due to \$\$ limits imposed in our Bylaws, for now we voted unanimously (motion by Phil seconded by Brian) to allocate \$500 toward a separate scholarship fund (different from TAKMBD donation to team volunteers) plus have Wayne's donation buckets at TAKMBD plus other solicitations. Next year this will be a budgeted item with specific protocol on how to spend.

(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 more than 80 members and have met some nice folks, especially at the Beginner Rides. Sue has advised members re October 1 TAKMBD.

**Item 13: Incorporation** -- Joel, Nick and Henri continued to wrestle with incorporation paperwork. We are recognized as a California non-profit corporation by Secretary of state, IRS and Franchise Tax

Board. Henri to work on SI-200 information form. Joel to complete a form for Attorney General.

**Item 14: Elections coming soon**– We started to brainstorm for November 2016 elections. President Joel will be stepping down from the Board so **we need folks out there to consider running.** Other board members indicate willingness to continue to serve (Phil indicated he would step aside if a new person wanted to run). Once elected as a director, the directors then choose the club officers.

**Item 15: A: Other Business/Trash Cans for BLM** -- We await the opportunity from Eric Morgan to formally present/PR opportunity the 10 new BLM trash cans/dog poop receptacles plus stickers showing donation by MORCA and FORT Friends. 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 Final Dog Management Plan** is out. We publicized this via Facebook and Google group. It envisions dogs off leash on certain fire roads farther away from trailheads.

**Item 15: B: Other Business/Voler Semi-Custom Jerseys for MORCA** – Nick created MORCA art work that can be superimposed on many different styles and colors. He is getting one made for himself to share as an example, and will get details on how you can order one. No minimums! Stay tuned for more info.

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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