

SUMMARY OF MORCA BOARD MEETING
Monday, February 6, 2017 at 6:00 PM, Turn 12 Restaurant, Monterey
Prepared by Henrietta Stern, Secretary, on 2/8/2017

Attendees: All six Directors were present; members/guests included Ken Howat, Darius Rike, Phil Craig and Jason Myers.

2017 Officers/Directors: Gary Courtright (P), Brian Tomasini (VP), Henrietta Stern (S), Nick Madronio (T), Mike McGirr (MAL) and Sue Benjaram (MAL).

Next Board Meeting: The Board meets monthly, usually on the first Monday of the month. **The next meeting is Monday, March 6 at 6 PM** at Turn 12 Restaurant, Monterey.

2/6/2017 Agenda Items were as follows:

1. **President's Opening Remarks**
2. **IMBA Chapter 2.0 Discussion**
3. **FORA/ESCA Update/Fort Ord Reuse**
4. **County Update/Happy Trails signage/FORHA Trails**
5. **Toro Park Issues**
6. **Trail Work Update**
7. **Treasurer's Report**
8. **Pump Track Update**
9. **Take-a-Kid-Mountain Biking Day (TAKMBD)**
10. **Monterey Peninsula Regional Parks District (MPRPD)**
11. **Calendar Review – major events in 2017**
12. **Meet-Up**
13. **Incorporation**
14. **Other Business – Many topics**

Item 1: Opening Remarks– The meeting opened at 6:07 PM. President Gary Courtright presided and asked for concise reports due to the major task regarding IMBA 2.0 (Item 2).

Item 2: Review of IMBA 2.0 Proposal. Gary walked through the IMBA slideshow on how IMBA wants to reorganize the organization, and then we worked to respond to specific questions posed by IMBA to all chapters. In short, IMBA lost one-third of its funding when Subaru pulled out as a major sponsor. Key changes include: higher membership fees (\$49 base), similar revenue sharing; national insurance program that all chapters must use; Subject Matter Experts available for pay rather than free regional directors; create regional leadership councils; major new member recruitment effort; create national trail building fund.

==In brief, we are OK with higher membership fees.

==We're OK with continuing the 60/40 revenue split as there is value in IMBA handling all membership logistics, using their 501-c-3 for IRS and brand recognition by land managers.

==We have concerns about the mandatory national insurance program as costs were not identified clearly and we have a good program now; also the insurance needs to have General Liability for directors. The insurance is very limiting and allows handwork only on trails (Add \$500 if any machinery is used; coverage for members/guests only on rides and not the general public, and other special event concerns.

==The Subject Matter Expert concept has merit especially if phone or e-mail consultation is free, but situations vary throughout the country so knowledge may not be topical for our local issue.

== The Regional Leadership Council concept has merit but folks get so busy it is difficult to add yet another set of meetings and tasks to already busy schedules.

==We wonder how many new members we will actually get as this growth will likely occur in other areas such as Arkansas.

Gary will be on a conference call Thurs 2/9 to discuss these issues.

Item 3: FORA-ESCA/Army/Fort Ord Reuse Update— The FORA-ESCA noontime meeting was not held in January 2017. A schedule has yet to be received.

The County/Seaside Oak Woodland corridor assessment within the development parcels is something to watch over time. Public meetings may occur in March 2017. The website is: <http://oakwoodlands.org/>.

We noted the February 25 Army bus tour as a calendar item. There has been no action by US Army on its Work Plan for BLM Area B. See FORA website (www.fora.org) and www.fora-esca-rp.com. The Army site is www.fortordcleanup.com.

Item 4: County Update/Happy Trails Signage/FORHA. After a flurry of activity last month, Nick Madronio reported there has been no action by the County on this project. Nick's spreadsheet of 168 needed signs for County GIS staff (Jackie Estrada) is on her desk. See January 2017 summary for more information.

Item 5: County Update/Toro Park. No trail committee meetings have been scheduled since June 2016 and County has been silent, likely due to reorganization of Parks to RMA and no money. Phil Craig volunteered to contact County staff and ask how we could help jump start the committee in some way. Committee members include Darius, Ken C, Phil and Sue (Phil often hikes and Sue walks dogs at Toro).

Item 6: Trail Work Update – To date we have 178 hours in 2017 with 2 trail days per month working on major re-route of T43 (lower Ewok). We will assess progress and weather conditions in April regarding whether it should be open before or after Sea Otter. There are several very wet areas. Thanks to MORCA members Dawn Hartsock and Cassady/Christina Elischer for providing lunch for the last two work days, respectively. More folks are needed to help the roughly 10-15 stalwarts who come every time. It's beautiful—come help!

Item 7: Treasurer's Report— Nick reviewed our status as of February 6, 2017 we have roughly \$36,028 in combined assets. The grant savings account for trail signage project is \$17,902, with \$18,110 in checking. Major expenses last month were trail day expenses (\$91), night ride fees to BLM (\$80), Xmas meeting (\$80) and Sea Otter campsite reservation (\$460). Major income was Night Ride deposits (\$110), and donations (\$1,821), primarily from PG&E employee Sabrina Ruehl, plus Calif Custom Sheds (\$500) and Darius Rike (\$500 toward pump track). Thank you letters were sent to all.

Item 8: Marina Pump Track proposed for Locke Paddon – In January 2017, Darius and Joey met with Recreation Director Terry re the Locke Paddon site. They are also looking at alternative sites (e.g., Gloria G. Tate near Denny's) that may be workable due to opposition by some to Locke Paddon. Darius is working on a power-point presentation to accurately describe what a pump track is and answer questions that are likely to be posed. See January 2017 summary for more info. Stay tuned for future meetings when your support is needed. The estimated cost for construction is \$15,000-30,000.

Item 9: TAKMBD Update October 7, 2016—Brian checked with Bobcat and they want roughly \$2600 to purchase a nice bike to raffle at Sea Otter to fund TAKMBD. Since we grossed about \$3,100 from the raffle last year, that return does not provide enough funding. Gary will check with Bobcat about other options as we need to implement soon as possible. Gary will also ask if Sea Otter could publicize the raffle in their e-newsletter they send out every month. Sue prepared a list of TAKMBD volunteer tasks and is beginning to assess the logistics for an event at Fort Ord. Folks who don't do trail work have asked about TAKMBD tasks they could do instead.

Item 10: Monterey Peninsula Regional Parks District – Same report from last month reprinted here:
Ken Chrisman attends all MPRPD public meetings that may affect bike access, especially the **Palo Corona** Management Plan with the decommissioned Rancho Canada golf course as a major trailhead. We advocate for bike access throughout the park. Henri to write a draft formal letter to MPRPD for Board review.
There has been no reported action on Park District plans to take over management of **Happy Trails**, Jacks Peak and Toro Park from County. MPRPD seems supportive of bikes in the future **Fort Ord Regional Park** concept. MPRPD would like to see an integrated trails management plan, given the FORTAG trail/greenway project, the BLM/Monument trails and the County FORHA trails plan. The Habitat Conservation Plan also affects trail use.

Item 11: Calendar Review – Major events in 2017 include:

April 20-23—Sea Otter Classic. Ken Howat is volunteer lead; new SOC volunteer coordinator is Teresa Harrison. Volunteer signup will be electronic this year. We will marshal dual slalom again (Slalom now runs Fri-Sat-Sun but Enduro is Thursday). We have confirmed booth #241 next to IMBA for 2017. We have campsite near the entry kiosk. A raffle at SOC is a major funding mechanism for TAKMBD.

April 19-21 – Calif. Trails and Greenway Conference, Monterey (see page 4)

May—Old Cabin Classic (MBOSC at Wilder)—Karl will deliver structures for kids

May 27-June 4—Darius trip to Durango

July 15-23—Latino Conservation Week (trailwork 7/15) at Fort Ord

October 7-- TAKMBD

Late October – Public Lands Day and Night Ride Kickoff (TBD)

Unscheduled—Laguna Seca Twilight Ride (try to avoid October)

See Nick for other out-of-state races!

Item 12: MeetUp.com Hosting -- Sue has been posting MORCA rides and events on the MeetUp.com. We have 118 “members” and have met some nice folks, many from out-of-area. Henri noted it is important to have MORCAN leaders on days where Meetup folks have RSVP'd attendance (especially Creekside Sundays).

Item 13: Incorporation -- We are recognized as a California non-profit corporation by Secretary of State, IRS, Franchise Tax Board and Attorney General/Registered Charities. No need to submit Sect State form for two years. Gary/Henri to check with Joel re revised Tax filing for 2016 for Atty. Gen office. Gary said his business address can be the new contact site.

Item 14A: Other Business— Volunteer opportunities. If people ask, besides trail work itself, volunteers needed to make lunch for trail workers, many TAKMBD tasks, or many Sea Otter tasks. Watch website for updates or ask a board member.

Item 14B: Other Business- Jason Meyers re Hosting Endurance Race/Ride. Jason would like to see a 4 to 8 hour event in Fort Ord. He envisioned it as same day as TAKMBD but we thought summer would be best (“Beat the Heat”). We described key logistical issues and encouraged him to continue his research and outreach. Issues include permits, sponsorship, volunteers, insurance/safety, marketing (what entity would be the beneficiary) and timing (not conflict with other events). Gary believed 2018 would be more likely as things take a lot of time.

Item 14C: Other Business--Website upgrade. The 2017 budget has \$2000 for this. Darius noted Ian Ferguson has drafted up a new concept and it looks good.

Item 14D: Other Business—Purchase Second Canopy. The Board voted to buy a gently used, high quality white canopy for \$100 that was offered to us. (Motion: Gary/Sue, unanimous)

Item 14E: Other Business- MORCA “Adopt a Picnic Table” for BLM-- The Board voted to spend \$549 to purchase a picnic table to replace the decrepit tables at the Lightfighter LZ rest area (bottom of Redrock T42). The table will be inscribed “Donated by MORCA”. (Motion: Sue/Brian, unanimous)

Item 14F: Other Business- MORCA Trailworker Shirts. We concurred they should stay the same. Darius says there is one “small” left. Brian researched a printer and the Board approved \$313 for a run of 24 shirts by Mike’s Signs (with longer sleeves). Darius will query group about size needs. Three trail days gets you a shirt! (Motion: Sue/Henri, unanimous)

Item 14-G: Other Business-- Waivers –Nick checked with the insurance company re waiver policy. The Board concurred that **we all should sign new waivers that must have the date January 1 through December 31, 2017 written on them.** Gary to print out Avery labels that we can affix on existing waivers. The Board also felt spending some money to have an attorney review the waivers we have would be good (Nick was given names, and will check out potential cost). It looks like we need to keep waivers for seven years. We discussed scanning and Ken Howat/Henri will contact Joel about possible help with this.

Previous-- Trails and Greenway Conference, April 19-21, 2017 -- We have fliers about this conference in Monterey. About 350 folks from all over California will be there. One complicating factor is this is also Sea Otter week (April 20-23, 2017). There is also a **Bike Industry Conference** those same days! Are we able to have booth or make a presentation?

Previous-- Return address stamp. Henri to pursue this at Staples.

The meeting ended at 8:05 PM.