

**SUMMARY OF MORCA BOARD MEETING – Monday, October 7, 2019; opened at 6:07 PM;
Turn 12 Restaurant, Monterey**

For more info, visit the MORCA website: www.morcambt.org

Your Officers/Directors are: Mike McGirr (Prez), Brian Tomasini (VP), Henrietta Stern (Secty), Nick Madronio (Treas); and Matthew Lamont, Darrin Noel and Jim “Mort” Morton (Members-at-Large)

Next Regular Board Meeting: Monday, November 4, 2019 at 6 PM, at Turn 12 Restaurant, Monterey.

Secretary Notes: Nick and Matt were absent; other members included Darius Rike, John Beardshear, Mollie Bauer, and Phil Craig. Special guest: Eric Morgan, BLM, Fort Ord National Monument (FONM) Manager.

10/7/2019 Agenda Items: President Mike McGirr chaired the meeting.

- 1. President Opening Remarks.** Welcome to Eric Morgan. Tonight is deadline for board nominations.
- 2. Ballot for 2020 Board of Directors—**Henri confirmed nominations, which were all received at the meeting. The following board members are willing to serve in 2020: Mike, Brian, Henri, Nick and Mort. Darren and Matthew will step down. Four names were suggested to fill the two open spots and Henri volunteered to contact those persons. [UPDATE: Rodrigo Sierra and Jen Acorn expressed willingness to serve]. Henri to provide ballot to Darius to finalize and distribute to active IMBA/MORCA members. Bylaw 4.5 specifies that election is at the November meeting (11/4/2019) and term of office begins on January 1 for one year.
- 3. BLM Update on E-Bikes and FONM Safe PASSAGES Trail Initiative--** Eric Morgan gave an update on the Secretary of Dept. of Interior Order #3376 regarding access for e-bikes wherever regular bikes are allowed. The order states that e-bikes (Class 1, 2 or 3) will not be considered as motor vehicles, and its purpose is to expand recreation opportunities on federal land. This affects five agencies, including National Parks and BLM. It does not affect US Forest Service as they are in the Dept of Agriculture, nor the Dept. of Transportation. This is important as some lands have co-management or overlapping boundaries that could cause confusion. BLM has not submitted an interim policy to date until these consistency issues can be sorted out. Thus, e-bikes are currently prohibited at FONM and the “no e-bike” signs will remain until a BLM National Policy is developed. Notably, a special waiver to ride an e-bike can be requested if you have a disability.
Contact Eric Morgan at: emorgan@blm.gov if you have questions.
In anticipation of e-bikes becoming legal and potentially many new riders who do not know good Trail Etiquette, BLM plans to put out signage regarding passing speed should be less than 5 MPH. As part of the Safe PASSAGES (an acronym) Trail Initiative, BLM also plans to work with MORCA, FORT Friends, REI, Olympian Blake Russell and other partners (potentially Sea Otter Classic, bike vendors) to get the word out on good trail etiquette and have volunteer trail ambassadors give out “reward tickets” to folks displaying excellent trail manners. These will go into a monthly drawing for an REI gift certificate. The text and details are still being worked out and Eric requested MORCA feedback on program components and messaging. *See Item 10-A discussion.*
- 4. President’s Report—** Mike noted there are 139 active IMBA/MORCA members. There is a chance to win a nice bike if you renew in October. Mike sent “thank you” cards to Gary Courtright of Carmel Kitchen and Baths for his food and labor donations for the August and September Twilight Rides at Laguna Seca. Thank you card also sent to Cassidy and Christina Elisher for their lunch donation for a recent trail day. Custom Ink t-shirts fundraiser did not meet

minimum threshold; folks who ordered will get a refund. Molly volunteered to lead an effort to come up with better design and colors and we will try again.

5. **Treasurers Report**—Mike reviewed Nick’s report through 10/7/2019. We have \$27,791 in combined assets, with \$991 in the Trail Fund. A belated donation of \$611 was received from Santa Cruz bikes coffee tip jar during Sea Otter (thank you!). Trail crew supply expenses totaled \$225. Henri to write thank you letters but needs contact info. Henri asked about California Custom Sheds donation on 9/11 twilight ride. Also the **Bylaws 7.1** call for **budget adoption** and approval before the end of the calendar year.
6. **Night Ride Permit**-- We have an amended BLM permit with expanded trail access (and some changes) with first night ride on Wednesday October 16 at 8&Gigling at 6 PM. October 23 will be at Creekside, then back to 8&G for Halloween Ride on October 30, with continued alternating venues. Henri to take lead on October 30 event [UPDATE: Light&Motion will attend with demo lights for use by participants].
7. **Trail Day Report**- We have 746 hours to date with a goal to exceed 1,100 hours this year. Ten folks worked on Whale Trail in Toro Park on 9/28. Oct 12 will be again at Toro for brushing on Red Tail. This will be first opportunity for the new TRai Leader T-shirts in use for those who have earned them. A big **Public Lands Day (PLD) event is Saturday October 26** with carpooling (or ride) to Lightfighter LZ picnic grounds and then MORCA Ride and Trim at **9 AM** from the PLD venue. Focus will be T41, 42, 43 and 70s if time. FORT Friends to sponsor Taco Truck lunch. Check Facebook and website for details. Sign up to work at: <http://morcamtb.org/trails/trail-work/>. Darius noted 14 people have earned trailworker T-shirt by working at least two trail days this season. The board unanimously authorized up to \$400 to purchase t-shirts (Henri motion, Mort second).
8. **Toro Park/County Update**— No real changes from previous reports.
9. **Eastside Parkway/FORTAG/Other Projects** -- Henri noted Fort Ord Committee discussions about fate of FORA (terminates June 2020) and how that will delay or potentially end EIR on Eastside Parkway. **See info at: connector@fora.org**. County not thrilled to take this controversial and expensive project on. FORTAG is moving forward with environmental review and funding. Veterans Cemetery Phase 2 is moving forward. No new info on Palo Corona.
10. **Other Business (several parts)** —
 - (A) We discussed Safe PASSAGES concept presented by Eric Morgan (Item 3). We unanimously voted to participate and support the concept but had several suggestions to make the program more effective (Henri motion, Mort second). These were transmitted to Eric Morgan after the meeting. Suggestions included: not putting all money into “reward tickets” which are somewhat random. Better to have comprehensive education and messaging on trail etiquette to all bike vendors, more signage on the trails, outreach to user group clubs, MORCA/FORTFriend pop-up tents at trailheads with “Be Nice” stickers and related information.
 - (B) Giving Tuesday—we did not discuss—this is Tuesday after thanksgiving focused on donations to favorite non-profit group or charity.
 - (C) Mike and Darius continue work on Mailchimp e-mail service
 - (D) MEMBER PARTY-- The board previously agreed that January is better than a holiday party. Cassidy and Christina recently hosted a thank you party for trail volunteers.
11. **Calendar Review Upcoming in 2019** –
 - October 6—Cycloviva Salinas—Mike and Brian had MORCA booth and gave out many MORCA bells. Specialized donated 12 helmets for kids—THANK YOU!
 - October 26—Public Lands Day at Fort Ord—MORCA to do Ride and Trim
 - October 30—Night Ride Kickoff at 6 PM, 8&G, Light&Motion to attend
 - January 2020— MORCA membership event

January 2020—MORCA board retreat

April 16-19, 2020-- Sea Otter Classic; no camp site; lead for Dual Slalom is needed

12. **Other not agendized—Marina Pump Track**—Darius reported that he and other groups have asked the city of Marina for a formal Memorandum of Understanding before doing any serious fund-raising. City has yet to respond. Henri previously attended a workshop on “How to Raise \$50,000 in 6 weeks.”

We adjourned at 8:02 PM. Prepared by Henrietta Stern, Secretary, on 10/12/2019

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