

SUMMARY OF MORCA BOARD MEETING
Monday, December 7, 2020 at 6 PM via Zoom Conference Call
For more info, visit the MORCA website: www.morcambt.org

Your 2020 Officers/Directors are: Mike McGirr (Prez), Brian Tomasini (VP), Henrietta Stern (Secty), Nick Madronio (Treas); Jim “Mort” Morton, Jen Acorn and Rodrigo Sierra (Members-at-Large)

Next Regular Board Meeting: Monday, January 4, 2021 at 6 M via Zoom

Secretary Notes: President Mike McGirr opened the meeting at 6:02. All directors were present except for Brian Tomasini. Other members attending were: Darius Rike, Ken Howat, Phil Craig and directors-to-be Christine Brockman and Julie Hymer. *See highlighted text for tasks.*

12/7/2020 Agenda (some renumbering by HS for clarity):

- 1. Adopt Minutes of Previous Meeting**— The board unanimously adopted the minutes of the November 2, 2020 meeting (Mike motion, Mort second).
- 2. Secretary Report**—Henri noted a December 3, 2020 letter she wrote on behalf of MORCA supporting the BLM trails management plan for **Cotoni-Coast Dairies National Monument**. Following up on **Palo Corona access**, (Item #7 from last month), Henri summarized recent e-mail and telephone **conversations with Dr. Rafael Payan**, General Manager of the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (MPRPD). Payan described how the final environmental document should be done this spring, and (hopefully) incorporates some of MORCA’s concerns in our 6-page July 2019 comment letter. Payan said he wants to create a Task Force to create an integrated plan and implementation to link Palo Corona trails with the California Coastal Trail, and host an initial Zoom meeting in late January 2021. He asked for potential names and contact information. Mort, Henri and Darius expressed interest. *Henri will get back to Payan on names. Henri will also contact the Coastal Trail representative.* Payan also believes an update to the 2013 MORCA report on back country trail suitability/feasibility is needed, but this would entail approval by his board (stay tuned). Rodrigo described his conversations with the MPC student (Nate) who has a **600+ person petition** asserting the need for MTB access to Palo Corona. *Rodrigo will advise Nate* about our recent interactions and encourage him to speak via Zoom to the MPRPD board (first Wednesday, January 6, 2021). MORCA should also attend this Zoom meeting and encourage board to move forward on MTB access, Task Force etc.
- 3. Treasurer’s Report**—Nick stated that our combined checking and Paypal balance is \$33,765. Of that \$568 was in the trail fund and \$150 in the pump track fund. However, the Board voted unanimously (Nick motion, Henri second) to move the recent California Custom Sheds \$1000 Paypal donation into the Trail Fund. Mort also requested that his recent \$200 Paypal donation be moved into the Trail Fund. Thus, the Trail Fund should now be \$1,768.64. Income included \$1,498 in donations (including \$345 from Sea Otter Classic Foundation) and \$1,765 in IMBA dues for a total of \$3,263. Expenses totaled \$702 for two trail days (food and equipment rental). **Thank You Nick Madronio** for being a great Treasurer for many years and training the future new treasurer. *Henri to send out thank you letters.*
- 4. Trail Work Report**— MORCA trail volunteers worked 719 hours through November. Recent work focused on T94 with extensive decomposed granite placement and compaction and three culvert drains. [UPDATE: The total is 759 hours as of December 12]. Darius described potential plans for T34 near Creekside for December 12 and 19. [UPDATE: On December 12, the crew instead finished off work on T94; Monterey County Stay-at-Home Order, issued December 9, is effective night of December 13, and will have an impact on trail efforts through early January 2021.] Mike

indicated BLM would like a report on total number of trail hours, people involved and trails worked on. [UPDATE: Darius has provided this info to BLM.]

5. **Marina Pump Track**-- Darius contacted the City, which confirmed they are working with the State regarding a grant. They have verbal approval and hopefully written approval soon. The city plans to have an online survey of community preferences, which MORCA can help publicize. *Darius to continue coordination with City.*
6. **President's Report**-- (A) Mike indicated we have **123 active IMBA members** which is 4 less than last month. Mike posed key question on how to re-invigorate membership. From previous meetings per Rodrigo, we should reach out to the many Facebook followers and members to see what benefits they enjoy and what they want from their club. *Mike, Henri, Mort to work on survey words; Jen to work on tech component of getting survey out and compiling answers.*
(B) Mike is preparing an **invoice to BLM** for our work on T94 for about \$685 (at BLM's request as they have grant funds).
(C) Mike reviewed our **2020 accomplishments** in a difficult year, which included: hosted Girls Rock in January; donated \$2,347 to the Food Bank for Monterey County through the virtual Make Your Miles Matter event in May; volunteered 759 trail work hours through early December despite Covid-related restrictions; selected as one of four beneficiaries of the Sea Otter Classic Foundation fundraiser; and outreach resulted in education and donations for MORCA trail fund.
(D) Mike has prepared a draft **BLM Restoration and Resilience Fund Grant application**, including a budget. The grant is up to \$2,500 for things like maintaining trails that have been damaged by increased use due to Covid. We plan to focus on the upper sandy section of T65. This has been reviewed by the MORCA trail crew leader and BLM. We now need a letter of support from BLM as a partner. The goal is hitting the second deadline of February 1, 2020. *Mike to contact Eric Morgan re support letter and submit application once received.*
(E) Mike noted that the Sea Otter Classic (SOC) is scheduled for May 20-23, 2021 pending the Covid situation at that time. He will be gone that weekend. MORCA has been asked to support the SOC Foundation's recipient charity, which is "**Bikes for Vets**" (e-bikes to homeless vets to enable transportation to doctor, grocery etc). One idea may be something similar to the virtual Makes Your Miles Matter campaign in 2020.
(F) Mike noted that in January 2021, the new Board must pick a **new slate of officers** and also there is a need for specific **committees** to take on certain tasks so no one person feels overwhelmed. We need a new **Social Media Coordinator** (Christine is interested). Each director should think about how they would like to participate in the coming year. For reference, in the past, we also have had a special **strategic plan session** to fine tune our goals and actions to achieve those goals.
7. **MORCA Social Rides**—(A) Jen continues to lead informal "She Shreds" ladies rides on an ad hoc basis. (B) First Saturday group rides have been suspended due to Covid. [UPDATE: The new Monterey County Stay-at-Home Order is effective December 13, 2021 (night) through January 11, 2021 (morning), and asks that people minimize contact with those outside of their household.]
8. **Calendar Review** –
--January 4, 2021 at 6 PM—Board meeting
9. **Other/New Business**-- (A) Rodrigo asked if there were opportunities for the MBOSC professional trail crew to work at Fort Ord? Could this be part of a grant? (B) Julie noted she has a lot of nice SOC merchandise (clothing) from previous years that could be given as free swag for volunteers or other uses. She will coordinate with Mike re inventory and delivery.

We adjourned at 7:30 PM. Prepared by Henrietta Stern, Secretary, on 12/12/2020

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