

SUMMARY OF MORCA BOARD MEETING
Monday, June 7, 2021 at 6 PM via Zoom Conference Call
For more info, visit the MORCA website: www.morcambt.org

Your 2021 Officers/Directors are: Mike McGirr (Prez), Jen Acorn (VP), Henrietta Stern (Secty), Jim “Mort” Morton (Treas); Julie Hymer, Christine Brockman and Rodrigo Sierra (Members-at-Large). Social Media Coordinators: Julie Hymer and Christine Brockman

Next Regular Board Meeting: Monday, July 5, 2021 at 6 PM at Turn 12 Restaurant (to be confirmed)

Secretary Notes: President Mike McGirr opened the meeting at 6:18 PM after tech issues were resolved. All directors were present. Darius Rike, John Beardshear and Phil Craig also attended. *See highlighted text for tasks.* And **Congratulations Mort** on your retirement from teaching! Now we’ll put you to even more volunteer work for MORCA!!

6/7/2021 Agenda (some renumbering by HS for clarity):

1. **Secretary Report—(A) Adopt Minutes of Previous Meeting—** The board unanimously adopted the minutes of the May 3, 2021 meeting (Mort motion, Julie second). **(B) Other—**none.
2. **Treasurer’s Report—** Mort reviewed the May bank statement. The 5/28/2021 combined checking and Paypal balance is \$36,476. Income included a \$2,166 transfer from Paypal (several donations plus BLM payment for T65 trail work by professional machine operators); \$1,249 from IMBA quarterly dues and \$20 from Amazon Smile. Expenses totaled \$3,147 for Directors/Officers insurance (\$1,043), trail food (\$38), PO Box rental (\$134), and Santa Cruz trail machine operators (\$1,932). Mike also noted two donations via Paypal were deposited in early June (\$537). *Henri to send out thank you letters.*
3. **Advocacy—**MORCA is working on several fronts to advocate for mountain bike community.
 - A. **Marina Pump Track—**Darius reported the city anticipates completion of an asphalt pump track in July 2022. Asphalt preferred due to low maintenance.
 - B. **Toro Park—**Darius and Rodrigo reported that the County has not reinstated the Trail Committee meetings. Darius reached out re trail trimming in Fort Ord on County lands but did not receive a reply. Darius and Phil plan to attend County Parks & Recreation meetings when they resume.
 - C. **Palo Corona Backcountry—** This area is not yet open to the public. Henri reported on the May 23 second trail assessment ride that MORCA representatives on the MPRPD Task Force were allowed to do. This ride focused on side loop trails that have potential to connect to the future California Coastal Trail that will run through the backcountry. There is good potential, but extensive vegetation removal will be necessary on some trails. The top priority is to get this area open, then trail improvements can occur in the future. Rodrigo noted potential trail work cooperation from the Santa Lucia Preserve and the Big Sur Land Trust, who own adjacent properties. There are also hike/run and horse groups doing similar trail assessments. The second meeting of the Task Force will convene once the Park District receives reports from these field assessments. *Henri to write Addendum report.*
 - D. **Trail 60 Re-Route—**Trail 60 (The Beach) is a potential alternative to the heavily used Trail 50 North. T60 is underused due to deep sand. Mike reported that BLM manager Eric Morgan is open to the concept of a major re-route next wet season to enable better use of this trail and take some pressure off T50.

- E. **FORTAG Virtual Public Meeting**—Thursday June 17 at 6 PM is a public Zoom meeting on Phase 1 of the FORTAG multi-use paved trail, which will start in Del Rey Oaks. Comments are welcome. Julie Hymer noted she plans to attend. <https://www.fortag-canyondelrey.com/>
 - F. **Other/East Garrison Bike Park**— Darius suggested re-engaging the County about a pump track/bike skills park near East Garrison in the pistol range area. MORCA had previously submitted a conceptual design. There is public demand for such amenities. We briefly noted a potential new trailhead near Parker Flats or top of T65 in the farther future. We were advised that the BLM Safe PASSAGES program is also ramping up again with trail ambassadors rewarding courteous behavior.
4. **Trail Work** — MORCA trail days are the **3rd Saturday of the month** plus ad hoc days as appropriate. **(A) Last Month Report:** Darius reported that the May 15 work day on T50 North had 15 total workers and focused on brake bumps and better sight lines. Tread work is on hold until November but vegetation trimming will continue. **(B) This Month:** The next trail day is **June 19** to brush out T22 and assess tread repair for next Fall, including a reroute around the deep sandy stretch at the end. With the state opening on June 15, signups will be available to all on the website.
 5. **Social Media Report**— Julie continues posting on Facebook and Instagram. *She'll work with Darius re trail day announcements.* From April meeting: *Mike, Julie and Henri will create some text on the benefits of membership* to IMBA and MORCA specifically.
 6. **Latino Conservation Week July 17-25**-- MORCA July 17 trail day lunch will be funded by FORT Friends. *Henri to contact George Garibay* re his Seaside ride group with many Latinx members. FOCP is doing a ride July 18. *Henri and Julie to brainstorm on a quick Facebook feature* of local Latinx riders and leaders during that week.
 7. **Sea Otter Classic (SOC) is October 7-10, 2021.** Event registration begins June 26. We should get a feel for expected participation in the next month or two.
 - A. **MORCA Booth**-- We have booth G37 on the grass. Christine volunteered to manage the booth (thank you!) and will consult with Molly, who ran it last year. *Christine, Mike and Rodrigo to assess materials in storage* and determine what is needed. Mort and Phil volunteered to help with booth set-up. Folks needed to help staff the booth. We brainstormed ideas for giveaways such as bells, socks or bandanas for memberships over a certain amount. Also, the Iconic sportswear sleeves etc can be given for donations of \$5+.
 - B. **Dual Slalom**—Ken is coordinating with SOC re volunteer logistics.
 - C. **Other**—We have Campsite 166M; John B to provide trailer for Ken to camp. There may be tent space as well.
 8. **President's Report-- (A) Membership**-- Mike indicated we have **124 active IMBA members** and about 800 Facebook followers. From last month: *Rodrigo is working with Mike* to have MORCA **"yard signs" in Spanish.** Rodrigo is also reaching out to Latinx riders he sees on the trails. We agreed we need **MORCA stickers** with our URL printed on them as easy item to hand out. See previous minutes on suggested survey of members and others. **(B) Federal and State Filings**— Mike completed all required filings (thank you!).
 9. **MORCA Social Rides**—We held the second First Saturday Ride on June 5 with 12 participants (7 beginners and 5 intermediates). The July ride is postponed a week to **July 10** due to July 4 holiday. We decided to keep Wednesday evening rides on an informal basis until the formal night ride season begins. Note permit tasks and ongoing management logistics) for night rides.
 10. **Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day (TAKMBD)**—IMBA has set this for **Saturday, October 2, 2021.** Given that Sea Otter is 5 days later with lots of kid's events, we agreed a simple family ride would work on October 2, which is already the date for the First Saturday Ride. We can add a category for families and/or perhaps host Community Bike Collective or other youth group.

11. MORCA Jersey—Rodrigo provided updated info from Voler; the cost would likely be around \$70. He will communicate with Voler for more detail, and report back.

12. Calendar review--

--July 5 at 6 PM-- Board meeting

--July 10 at 9 AM—First Saturday Ride (postponed one week)

--July 17 at 8 AM—trail day (Latino Conservation Week)

--July 17-25—Latino Conservation Week

--October 2-- Take-a-Kid Mountain Biking Day.

--October 7-10—Sea Otter Classic.

--October 16—Run for the Fallen (to be confirmed)

--October 23—Public Lands Day (to be confirmed). MORCA typically does a Ride-and-Trim.

We adjourned at 8:01 PM.

Prepared by Henrietta Stern, Secretary, on 6/9/2021

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