

SUMMARY OF MORCA BOARD MEETING
Monday, July 5, 2021 at 6 PM, Turn 12 Restaurant
For more info, visit the MORCA website: www.morcambt.org

Your 2021 Officers/Directors are: Mike McGirr (Prez), (currently open) (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, August 2, 2021 at 6 PM at Turn 12 Restaurant

Secretary Notes: President Mike McGirr opened the meeting at 6:09. All 6 directors were present; note that Jen Acorn recently resigned as she moved out-of-area. **Thank You Jen** for your contributions these past two years, especially the tech/Zoom tasks plus ladies’ rides. Members Darius Rike and Phil Craig also attended. Guest Peter Berridge of Pacific Grove also attended. **See highlighted text for tasks.**

7/5/2021 Agenda (some renumbering by HS for clarity):

1. **Secretary Report—(A) Adopt Minutes of Previous Meeting—** The board unanimously adopted the minutes of the June 7, 2021 meeting (Rodrigo motion, Julie second). **(B) Other—**Henri reported on her participation in the **Great American Outdoors Act** Zoom call re: funding criteria for deferred maintenance on BLM properties. This ties into potential trail restoration work at Ford Ord. Darius also was on the call and added additional background information. **Mike to set up a meeting with Eric Morgan** (Ft Ord manager), Darius and others interested.
2. **Treasurer’s Report—** Mort reviewed the June bank statement. The 6/30/2021 combined checking and Paypal balance is \$36,974. Income included a \$537 transfer from Paypal (two donations). Expenses totaled \$39 for trail worker food. Mike also noted one \$200 donation via Paypal was deposited in early July. Mike noted a very generous IMBA/MORCA membership from Christy Wyckoff of Carmel Valley Thank You all!! We briefly discussed thank you gifts such as MORCA bells or donated Iconic arm and leg warmers. **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 Summer 2022. No new near-term information.
 - B. **Toro Park/County—**Darius and Rodrigo reported that the County has not reinstated the Toro Park Trail Committee meetings. Rodrigo, as part of his day job, consulted with Big Sur Land Trust about cattle grazing at Marks Ranch, which could affect Toro trails. Darius reached out re trail trimming in Fort Ord on County lands and received some positive response on that. 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. In mid-June, Henri submitted an Addendum Report to the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (MPRPD) on MORCA’s May 23 second trail assessment ride that focused on side loop trails that have potential to connect to the future California Coastal Trail that will run through the backcountry. There are also hike/run and horse groups doing similar trail assessments. Rodrigo noted that the Santa Lucia Preserve will allow access to do Palo Corona trail work if permission is given by MPRPD. He also noted that environmental impacts of mountain bikes are much less than impacts of cattle grazing on the land. We agreed we need to push the MPRPD to move on opening up the back-country, including convening the second meeting of the Palo Corona Task Force. **Henri to write MPRPD manager asking for status and action—**
DONE.

- 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 take some pressure off T50, but did not like the proposed alignment. He suggested looking into some alternative alignments and will work with MORCA on this. *Darius, John and Mort to develop 2+ alternative routes and meet with Eric Morgan.*
- E. FORTAG Virtual Public Meeting**—Thursday June 17 at 6 PM was a public Zoom meeting on Phase 1 of the FORTAG multi-use paved trail, which will start in Del Rey Oaks. This is part of the larger FORTAG project approved by voters several years ago, with TAMC as the lead. Homeowners are concerned about intrusion into their neighborhood, and others are concerned about impacts to the Frog Pond. For more information, see <https://www.fortag-canyondelrey.com/>
- F. Other/Pebble Beach trail access (guest Peter Berridge).** We met and listened to Peter, who is a Pacific Grove resident and parent as well as an avid mountain biker with several years of marketing experience with Clif Bar. He is concerned about overt No Biking and physical closure of trails in Pebble Beach. He has met with Pebble Beach representatives with win-win ideas of how open and properly stewarded mountain bike trails are a safe outlet for local children, high school mountain bike teams, a show of being a Good Neighbor, and a desired amenity by PB guests and residents, especially give the traffic on roads such as 17-Mile Drive. He noted other cooperative relationships between equestrian and mountain bike groups. The biggest constraint is that Pebble Beach is private land unlike public lands such as Fort Ord, Toro, Palo Corona, where we have more leverage as voters and tax payers. However, we applaud Peter's ideas, initiative and energy, and stand ready to provide positive examples that multi-use trails can benefit all if managed properly. We welcome Peter to MORCA!
- 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 June 19 work day on T22 brushing and recon had 11l workers. Tread work is on hold until November but vegetation trimming will continue. Total volunteer hours to date is 387. **(B) This Month:** The next trail day is **July 17** to brush out Burmese (T61) and T96. Signups are on the website at: <https://morcamtb.org/local-trails/trail-work/>
- 5. Social Media Report**— Julie continues posting on Facebook and Instagram. 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's July 17 trail day lunch will be funded by FORT Friends. Henri contacted Rodrigo and George Garibay on their Seaside ride groups with many Latinx members, and please invite to participate. Fort Ord Cyclepaths are hosting a ride on July 18, with lunch funded by FORT Friends. Henri, Phil and Mort are helping the Community Bike Collective with a YouthNOW ride on July 19. *Henri and Julie to brainstorm on a quick Facebook feature* of local Latinx riders to post during LCW.
- 7. Take-a-Kid Mountain Biking Day 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. *Henri to contact Little Bellas, Craig at Bobcat Bikes, high school coaches, or Glenn Woodson for potential youth participants or leaders.*
- 8. Sea Otter Classic (SOC) is October 7-10, 2021.** Event registration is open.
- 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 has ideas on the booth focus—Who is MORCA and what do we do with emphasis on advocacy. *Christine,*

Mike and Rodrigo to assess materials in storage and determine what is needed. Mort and Phil volunteered to help with booth set-up. Darius and Phil said they would help staff the booth. More folks will be 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 sportwear sleeves etc can be given for memberships or 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. It was suggested to put MORCA signs with QR code out on the trails used by MTB racing for all to see and hopefully donate.
9. **MORCA Jersey**—Rodrigo previously emailed Voler design proofs and we settled on 1 or 2 best options. **Rodrigo and Christine to finalize design selection**. A question was raised on T-shirt but this was not confirmed. Perhaps just use logo on T-shirt?
10. **Presidents report-- (A) Membership**-- Mike indicated we have **128 active IMBA members** and about 800 Facebook followers. From previous 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 needs to redo the Secretary of State information. **(C) Jen Acorn Resignation**—Jen has moved to Oregon. Bylaws 4.8 gives us until next annual member meeting to solicit candidates and hold election. **(D) Computer volunteer opportunity** requested—we really don’t have much but FORT Friends may need help. **Henri to contact student**.
11. **MORCA Social Rides**—We held the First Saturday Ride on July 10 with 15 participants (10 beginners and 5 intermediates). Wednesday evening rides will remain informal until the formal night ride season begins. Note permit tasks and ongoing management logistics for night rides, including fees and specific routes. There was a question of whether the formal night ride should be every other week or once a month as some may shift to afternoon rides in winter. We need to decide soon as the permit process takes time. Another suggestion was for a partner bike shop like Epicenter to co-host and help with logistics. Phil noted the value of social rides as a measure to attract more members and create bonds among members. Henri and Darius noted a lot of behind-the-scenes work to conduct formal night rides and the burnout effect. More help is needed to lead/sweep rides, not just by the board members. **It was suggested to put a call out to members on social media asking for help to conduct these events.**
12. **Calendar review--**
- July 17 at 8 AM— MORCA trail day (Latino Conservation Week)**
 - July 18— 10 AM FOCP easy ride (Latino Conservation Week)**
 - July 19—10 AM MORCA guides Community Bicycle Collective/YouthNOW**
 - August 2—6 PM monthly directors meeting (Mort to be absent)**
 - **August 7—9 AM First Saturday Ride**
 - 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 8:30 PM.

Prepared by Henrietta Stern, Secretary, on 7/11/2021