

SUMMARY OF MORCA BOARD MEETING

Monday, December 6, 2021 at 6 PM, Taqueria Lopez Restaurant, Salinas

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

Your 2021 Officers/Directors are: Mike McGirr (Prez), (VP currently open), 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.

THANK YOU TO ALL DIRECTORS FOR YOUR SERVICE IN 2021! A special Thank You to departing Directors Christine Brockman and Jim Morton.

YOUR 2022 DIRECTORS are: (returning) Mike McGirr, Henrietta Stern, Julie Hymer, and Rodrigo Sierra Corona; and welcoming new Directors: Lisa Birch, Sheri Covey and Eder Guzman. The directors will pick officers at the January 15, 2022 planning retreat.

Next Special Board Planning Retreat: Saturday, January 15, 2022, 9-noon, Location TBD

Secretary Notes: President Mike McGirr opened the meeting at 6:08 PM. Five directors were present (Mike, Henri, Christine, Julie, Rodrigo). An additional 7 members and visitors also attended, including director-elect Eder Guzman plus Kevin, Matt, Phil, Taylor, Darius and Jake. Many questions were posed and good ideas were offered. *See highlighted text for tasks.*

11/8/2021 Agenda (some renumbering by HS for clarity):

- 1. Secretary Report—(A) Adopt Minutes of Previous Meeting—** The board unanimously adopted the minutes of the November 8, 2021 meeting (Julie motion, Christine 2nd). **(B)** Henri described Bureau of Land Management (BLM) potential activities and constraints for the April 20, 2022 **Tenth Anniversary of the Ft. Ord National Monument.** Note potential coordination with Sea Otter Classic (April 7-10, 2022). Jake, Matt and Kevin posed questions and ideas about youth outreach in South County and funding possibilities. **(C)** Henrietta introduced **Taylor Short, community outreach liaison from Epicenter Cycling** in New Monterey, who can offer assistance in social media and potential partnerships with her shop.
- 2. New Board Planning Retreat—**Mike explained how the directors choose officers each January at a retreat to prioritize programs and events, set committees, finalize budget etc. **Saturday January 15, 2022 from 9 AM to noon** was selected as the date. *Rodrigo is checking to see if his office can be used as a meeting location. Mike to create agenda.*
- 3. Treasurer’s Report—** Mike reviewed bank status as of 11/30 with \$40,329 total. Recent deposits (rounded) totaled \$2,515, including \$690 in donations \$1,750 remuneration for Sea Otter volunteering. Recent expenses totaled \$449 for food trail work equipment rental (\$349) and \$100 for FORT Friends membership. Mike noted 3 donations received in early December. *Henri to send out thank you letters.*
- 4. Trail Work --** MORCA trail days are usually the **3rd Saturday of the month** plus new “Trail Work Tuesdays” roughly **every other Tuesday morning 10-noon** starting December 7, 2021. **(A) Last Month Report:** Darius described tread work on T50 North. Total hours to date = 682. **(B) This Month:** December 18 we will clean and improve drainage on T82 plus vegetation trimming. With expected rains, we will focus on tread work in January 2022. Kevin recommended better documentation and outreach about trail work we do. *Taylor will check to see if Epicenter can provide some swag for volunteer raffle.* Signups are on the website at: <https://morcambt.org/local-trails/trail-work/> or contact trailcrewleader@morcambt.org Darius noted that Santa Cruz Trail Stewardship began work on a new 19-mile trail network at the Cotoni-Coast Dairies National Monument north of Santa Cruz. There are many volunteer opportunities.

5. **Social Media Report**-- Julie continues posting on Facebook and Instagram as she is able. Taylor offered to help. MORCA and FORT Friends posted on Facebook to encourage participation in the **Safe PASSAGES** program, where taking a brief quiz enables you to be entered into a monthly raffle for \$50 REI gift certificates. From previous, *Darius to follow up on Facebook posting rules. Henri, Mike and Julie to work on Frequently Asked Questions for the website.*
6. **President's Report-- (A) Membership**-- Mike indicated we have **131 active IMBA members** and about 800 Facebook followers. **(B) Safe PASSAGES**—MORCA will purchase 6 x \$50 Gift REI Gift Cards to enable the monthly raffle for participants through 2022. **(C) Governance**— we set January 15 as the planning retreat. **(D) Porta-Potties at 8th & Gigling**—Total cost would be about \$10,000 for demo project. Mike suggested better documentation of community need to push County to step up re: funding. Various ideas were discussed and will continue on January 15.
7. **MORCA Jersey**—MORCA member cost is \$75. Friends of MORCA cost is \$85. There was no discussion of a possible tee-shirt.
8. **MORCA Social Rides**-- The next **First Saturday Ride** is on January 8 (actually the 2nd Saturday). Recent rides have been full; thank you to MORCA members who have stepped up to guide. **Wednesday afternoon rides** will remain informal. We agreed to co-host a **Girls Rock Ride** on January 2, 2022; Henri was given permission to purchase snacks and beverages. **NEW!! Night Ride Permit obtained for December 2021!** Weather permitting, MORCA will host a night ride at 6 PM on December 15 (rain within 24 hours cancels). We have permission to host one day per week through December. Signups are at: <https://morcamtb.org/calendar/night-ride/>
9. **Advocacy**—MORCA is working on several fronts to advocate for mountain bike community. Mike noted that the new CAMTB organization could potentially help us work more effectively with various local and state agencies to obtain new and improved access
 - A. **Marina Pump Track**— Darius noted that the city has issued bid requests for this \$1.6 million project at Gloria Jean Tate Park! Completion of an asphalt pump track is hoped by late Summer 2022. Some fund-raising may be needed for extras like wood ramps.
 - B. **Toro Park/County**— Mike, Darius and Rodrigo regularly communicate with Bryan Flores, who is the new County Parks Director. The Parks Commission recently discussed e-bikes at Toro Park (info pending).
 - C. **Palo Corona Backcountry**— This area is slated to be open to the public but no action has been taken to date. MORCA has submitted a Trails Assessment Report and Addendum, with recommendations on a phased opening. We have not received a response from Park District staff and will re-focus on this in 2022.
 - D. **Trail 60 Re-Route**—Trail 60 (The Beach) is a potential alternative to the heavily used Trail 50 North if made more rideable. No recent action. *Darius, John and Mort coordinate with BLM.*
 - E. **East Garrison**-- The County wants to do a comprehensive master plan. Mountain bikers, disc golfers and Scouting folks all want new recreational facilities.
10. **Calendar Review—Upcoming 2021 Dates**
 - **December 15 at 6 PM**—permitted Night Ride (pending weather clearance)
 - **TBD** alternative night ride dates through December 2021
 - **January 2, 2022 at 9 AM**—Girls Rock Ride sponsored by MORCA (GR has BLM permit)
 - **January 8, 2022 at 9 AM**—First Saturday Ride
 - **January 15, 2022 at 9AM-noon**-- New MORCA Board planning retreat; finalize budget

We adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Prepared by Henrietta Stern, Secretary, on 12/9/2021