

**SUMMARY OF MORCA BOARD MEETING – CORRECTED March 16, 2022**  
**Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 6 PM, Springhill Suites, Marina**  
**For more info, visit the MORCA website: [www.morcambt.org](http://www.morcambt.org)**

**YOUR 2022 DIRECTORS are:** Lisa Birch (President), Mike McGirr (V.P.), Henrietta Stern (Secretary), Rodrigo Sierra Corona (Treasurer), Julie Hymer, Sheri Covey and Eder Guzman (Members-at-Large).

**Next Monthly Board Meeting:** Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 6 PM, Springhill Suites, Marina

**Secretary Notes:** President Lisa Birch opened the meeting at 6:09 PM. Six directors were present, with Eder absent. Members included: Darius Rike, Ken Howat, Brian Tomasini, Jim Morton, Phil Craig, Kevin Tatsugawa, Rachel Santos, Dave and Matt Marr. Guest visitors included Scott Waltz from FORTAG.

**Corrected minutes include new section 4-C-iii.**

**3/1/2022 Business Meeting Agenda** (some renumbering by HS for clarity):

1. **Secretary Report—(A) Adopt Minutes of Previous Meeting—** The board unanimously adopted the minutes of the February 8, 2022 meeting (Mike motion, Lisa second).
2. **Guest Speakers—**There was one guest speakers as follows:
  - A. **Scott Waltz from FORTAG (Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway)—** FORTAG was approved by Monterey County voters in 2016 (Measure X), and phase 1 is ready for construction in the Del Rey Oaks area. See [www.fortag.org](http://www.fortag.org) for information. A group of DRO residents are opposed to the project and have gathered signatures for a ballot measure on June 6, 2022 to restrict any trail in the City to roads only, such as dangerous Highway 218 (Canyon Del Rey). This restriction could jeopardize the entire \$10 million project. After answering several questions, including concerns about the frog pond, Scott asked MORCA to join other groups to publicly oppose this ballot measure (i.e., preserving the full FORTAG project). The **board voted 5-0 (plus one abstention)** to allow MORCA's name to be used in materials (with review of draft mailing text). MORCA did not vote to donate money to this effort, but individual members may do so.
3. **Treasurer's Report—** Rodrigo reviewed status as of 2/28/2022 with a balance of \$42,614. Major income source was one \$50 donation. Major expenses included \$660 for CAMTB membership and \$100 for the January Board retreat cleaning fee. **Henri to send out thank you letters.** Brian has ordered and received the MORCA bells approved last month. General Liability insurance is due on March 12. Directors and Officers insurance is due in May.

**Item 4. 2022 MAJOR OBJECTIVES:** Seven objectives set by the Board include: Committees, Advocacy, Membership Activities, Community Outreach, Social Media, Government Relations and Fundraising.

- A. **Committees: Organize for specific programs or tasks.** Darius chairs the Trail Work committee. The Sea Otter Committee chair will be Rodrigo (chair/booth) working with Ken H (slalom) and Sheri (raffle). Julie is leading the cheer group. Bridget (BobCat Bikes) was suggested as the TAKMBD chair [she later accepted!] and the board agreed to gift an IMBA membership for her time and efforts. Eder and Jake confirmed (via email) they wish to be involved. We agreed we need a Marketing committee with Sheri as chair.
- B. **Advocacy: includes CAMTB, FORTAG, Marina Pump Track, Toro Park, T60 Reroute and East Garrison area.**

- i. **CAMTB** (California Mountain Bike Association) -- Lisa reviewed her/Mike meetings with CAMTB, which MORCA joined in January. She described how helpful the slack channel is, with many different topics and useful information. Lisa noted that board members can join CAMTB's slack channel and CAMTB meets quarterly.
  - ii. **FORTAG** (see Item 2)— Scott Waltz noted the possibility of additional federal funding to connect Marina and CSUMB to the Jerry Smith access corridor into Fort Ord—this is not confirmed but would be a positive addition.
  - iii. **Marina Pump Track**—Darius noted a builder has been selected and the pump track should be completed in 2023 at the latest (hopefully earlier). MORCA did not make it past the second round of the Saris grant to fund components that are not covered by the City's funding.
  - iv. **Toro Park**—No new information.
  - v. **Trail 60 Reroute/Alternative to T50**— this is part of the Federal Take Pride in America Act grant we are submitting on March 7. See Item C-iii for details.
  - vi. **East Garrison potential skills area**- no new info on County plans for Prop 68 grant.
- C. **Membership Activities: includes Social Rides and Trail Work**
- i. **Social Rides**—First Saturday rides (sign-ups, leads and sweeps) remain popular; informal Wednesday evening rides continue.
  - ii. **Trail Work**—Darius noted 11 folks at February 19 trail day. Cassady's Trailwork Tuesdays continue. March 12 (not 19) is the next trail day continuing on upper T42 drainage. Darius, John and Cassady will meet 3/22 with BLM re trail work coordination and priorities.
  - iii. **Take Pride in America Grant** -- Mike gave an update on final work for the grant application for Federal Funds due March 7. **The board voted unanimously** (6-0, Mike motion, Henri second) to approve submittal of the grant application with the understanding that it entails volunteer and financial commitments by MORCA over roughly 2 years. The project involves a 50-foot bridge over Couch Canyon (pass over eroded creek bed) and an alternative relief trail to Trail 50 North to reduce congestion. The application requests \$99,735 in Federal Funds that will be matched with \$28,728 via MORCA Time and Effort (843 hours). The proposed period of performance is 7/1/2022 –01/31/2024. The official title is: *"Reducing Trail Users' Environmental Impact and Conflicts on the Fort Ord National Monument Through Sustainable Trail Improvements."*
- D. **Community Outreach—events we participate in or lead.**
- i. **Cyclovia Salinas on March 20**; MORCA booth, bells. Brian/Mike/Eder/Lisa to attend.
  - ii. **Sea Otter Classic April 7-10**— Leads gave a report on their respective components-- dual slalom (Ken), booth (Rodrigo), sweepstakes/fundraising (Sheri) and we agreed to also have Julie organize a "cheer squad" which counts toward Sea Otter hours.
  - iii. **Ft Ord Natl Monument 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is April 20**-- Henri reviewed status. We agreed a series of smaller events makes the most sense. MORCA is committed to April 16 trail day, April 20 Wednesday evening ride and BBQ, and April 23 Saturday birthday ride. With Sea Otter we agreed to not have the April 2 First Saturday ride. Henri described the two types of commemorative T-shirts that BLM is willing to manage with cool 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary logo. Stay tuned for more information.
  - iv. **TAKMBD (Take-a-Kid Mountain Biking Day) is October 1**— Committee needs to develop an event plan. Bridget from Bobcat Bikes has agreed to lead and BobCat Bikes wants to be involved! Recall the possibility to partner with Ecology Action and

Community Bicycle Collective (see February minutes). Decide whether to donate larger stunts once repaired and which to keep. Develop storage unit plan.

- v. **Social Media/Marketing**—engage members and public to join, participate and/or donate. Julie is posting on social media; Sheri is reviewing fund-raising possibilities and restrictions.

**E. Government Relations—interactions with land managers**

- i. **MPRPD Palo Corona**— see Henri comments from last month.
- ii. **Monterey County/Porta-Potties at 8&Gigling**—no new info—see comments from last month. Mike working on questionnaire for folks at 8&G to demonstrate need.
- iii. **BLM Safe PASSAGES**—MORCA co-funds monthly \$50 REI gift certificate raffle award for those who take the etiquette quiz. We post winners on our Facebook page.

**F. Fundraising—various opportunities**

- i. **MORCA Jerseys**—suggest having examples at all rides, events and Sea Otter.
- ii. **Other Options**—Sheri investigating sweepstakes, crowd-funding and reported on initial findings—she will send subsequent emails to the board.

**5. Presidents Report/Membership**- We have 137 IMBA/MORCA members as of February 27. Lisa suggests 150 members as the next goal (and hopefully more).

**6. New Business** — See Item 2 re FORTAG. No new topics raised for future discussion.

**7. Calendar Summary** Busy months ahead!

-- **March 5 at 9 AM-- First Saturday Ride**

-- **March 20, 2022 at 9 AM**—Cyclovia Salinas (Mike+Brian+Eder+Lisa); MORCA booth

-- **April 5 at 6 PM**— Board meeting

-- **April 7-10, 2022**—Sea Otter Classic.

-- **April 16, 2022** – Trail Day

-- **April 20, 2022 at 6PM** —10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of FONM – Wednesday eve ride)

-- **April 23, 2022 at 9 AM**—4<sup>th</sup> Saturday FONM Birthday Ride—

--Future—Sept 17-18—Dirt Series Camp in Monterey

-- Future—October 1, TAKMBD

**We adjourned at 8:10 PM**

**Prepared by Henrietta Stern, Secretary, on 3/14/2022 (corrected 3/16/2022)**