

SUMMARY OF MORCA BOARD MEETING – Monday, August 27, 2018

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

2018 Officers/Directors: Gary Courtright (P), Brian Tomasini (VP), Henrietta Stern (S), Nick Madronio (T), Mike McGirr (MAL) and Matthew Lamont (MAL).

Next Regular Board Meeting: Monday, October 1, 2018 at 6 PM, at Turn 12 Restaurant

8/27/2018 Agenda Items: All directors present; Darius, Tony and Tracy M. also attended.

- 1. TAKMBD is Saturday October 6, 2018**—Sue/Nick are trying to finalize insurance requirements (after the meeting it appears this is handled). Sue was absent and we are trying to assess what yet needs to be done (subsequent e-mail exchanges occurred). Gary will be at a wedding so we need a Master of Ceremonies and BBQ guy!! We previously authorized a bullhorn (Brian to buy). Gary to contact NICA teams re helping out. Food to be simple and clarified on October 1 meeting.
- 2. Nominations Open for Board Seats through October 1.** Matt, Henri, Brian and Mike indicated willingness to continue to serve. Darius and Phil are maybes if needed. Note: Since the meeting Cassidy E. and Darrin N. have been nominated. We also discussed need for 7 board members (not 6 as it should be an odd number. We can change Bylaw 4.1 later this year with a ratifying vote of the membership at the 2018 annual meeting. Reaching out to prospective nominees was suggested with emphasis on “new blood” and perspectives.
- 3. Sea Otter Classic (SOC)** -- Campsite has been secured; Nick has reimbursement check for Ken H.
- 4. MORCA Insurance Clarification**—Our insurance does cover “guests” on rides, so IMBA membership is not essential to be covered. That said, we prefer that regular riders become members because the insurance costs us \$940 per year. Our insurance focuses on general liability and protecting board members from a negligence lawsuit.
- 5. Review Ride Policy Again in Light of New Information** — We voted unanimously to indefinitely table the draft ride policy discussed the last two months (Mike motion/Matthew second), especially the requirement to become a member on the second ride. The issue of children on rides may be addressed separately in the future.
- 6. Treasurer’s Report**—Nick reported we have \$30,032 in combined assets. In the past month, no oncome was received and major expenses included: \$940 for insurance, \$586 for SOC campsite in 2019 and \$187 for trail day expenses. There is roughly \$8,000 in the grant account that must be spent by December 31 for County trail signage. County staff liked the idea of military icons placed on posts to designate loops created by Darius and others in MTB Project or Trailforks. Also create and print nice maps and info about the area, included a large rigid map at trailheads.
- 7. Trail Day-** The August trail day focused on Trail 24 and 63. There are about 615 hours total to date. The next trail day is September 15 with more vegetation trimming on 49 and 50. Darius et al will meet with Eric Morgan of BLM on September 11 to walk a potential new alignment for T70! Timing depends on the Army. Also, potential realignments for T68, T67 and T59 might be discussed. Those 3 popular trails have been greatly impacted by Army vegetation removal and new fire road in that quadrant. Mark your clander for October 27 as Public Lands Day—MORCA will lead a trail work event that day rather than the third Saturday. Sign up to work at: <http://morcambt.org/trails/trail-work/>.
- 8. County Parks News—Toro, Palo Corona, Other**— Mike McGirr and Darius Rike are on a small County Toro Park trail committee; each participated in separate walks of Toro trails with other committee members. They noted that there are a lot of badly designed trails that lead to erosion plus there are many social trails created by hikers. Darius did not feel there was good leadership or vision by the County, so the committee will hopefully take the lead to enunciate its goals,

provide recommendations on design guidelines and sustainability. Darius to contact Drew of MBOSC re his ideas as he is a recognized professional. There was no news re Palo Corona but Darius mentioned that State Parks is releasing draft plans for its property near Point Lobos, which includes potential access to Palo Corona backcountry.

9. **Wednesday September 5 California Custom Sheds Twilight Ride**—MORCA volunteers to cook burgers etc for this event. Cal Custom Sheds typically provides a very nice donation to the Trail Fund. Note that MORCA has its own Twilight Ride on October 24.
10. **Eastside Parkway EIR Meetings (now called the “Northeast-Southwest Arterial Connector” project)**-- FORA hosts two meetings on the Notice of Preparation for an Environmental Impact Report (EIR): (1) Wed Sept 5 at 6 PM, 168 west Alisal St., 2nd Floor (Monterey Room), government building in Salinas; and (2) Thursday Sept. 6 at 6 PM at Soper Field Community Center, 220 Coe Avenue in Seaside. MORCA board members will be present at both meetings and it is important that folks show up. The proposed alignment will significantly affect many of the favorite “Happy Trails” along Gigling/Watson Gate roads. The formal comment period ends September 25, and can be sent to: connector@fora.org. See MORCA Facebook posts for links to documents. Issues include loss of trails, loss of safe access to trails, redundant roadways, habitat fragmentation, noise, garbage dumping, lights impact to animals, animal migration, higher fire danger due to cigarettes thrown from cars etc. Plus the proposed road brings traffic closer to the National Monument. The EIR also must consider alternative alignments—what are your ideas?
11. **501-c-3 status**— Mike is finalizing various forms needed because we have held raffles in the past and plan to do so in the future.
12. **Schipper Design Grant**— Mike secured a grant to help with a new logo and branding. Mike, Gary and Brian are a subcommittee reviewing ideas and will present to members once they narrow the ideas down.
13. **County trail loops**— As noted above, we’d like to stitch the County trail segments together to create loops of various distances. Darius suggests using Strava to submit an idea, then it can be imported to Trailforks or MTBproject. We will need to pick military icons to go with the loops.
14. **Night Ride Permit**— is in progress. Eric Morgan of BLM says to be flexible re allowed routes as things are changing a lot out there from 8th&Gigling.
15. **Square card reader**— We unanimously voted to go ahead and purchase the necessary hardware/software (Mike motion/Matthew second). Nick will handle the purchase.
16. **Calendar Review for Rest of 2018** –
 - September 5—MORCA BBQ at Twilight Ride hosted by Custom Sheds; Darius to bring Easy Up
 - October 6—TAKMBD (major effort)
 - October 7-- Cyclovia Salinas; Brian to staff (others welcome!!)
 - October 24 -- MORCA hosts twilight Rides at Laguna Seca—costume contest, pumpkin pie!!
 - October 27—Trail Day for Public Lands Day at BLM
 - Late October or early November???
 - December – Holiday Party and required annual meeting

Also on the radar—

1. **Army cutting and burning**—see www.fortordcleanup.com
2. **Monterey Peninsula Regional Parks District (MPRPD)**— See Facebook posts for details or www.palocorona.org.
3. **Out of Town Possibility**—Kernville Classic, October 19-21

We adjourned at 7:50 PM. Prepared by Henrietta Stern, Secretary, on 9/4/2018

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