

Minutes of the TWA Board Meeting April 6, 2011 – Kirsten Whitsett's house

Present: Eric Schroeder, Gary Fitts, Kim Abbott, Susan Palo, Morris Older, Ute Frey, Marilyn Tersegge, Kirsten Whitsett; Lila Abdul-Rahim, Page Shorer, Alison Martin, Jane Binder.

The Minutes of last meeting: discussed, moved to accept and accepted unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Kim Abbott: \$16, 230 balance (\$ 13925 6 Day Ride account and \$2300 twha account. Do not yet have revenue from Night at the movies; approx \$150 in the red for that event. Discussion of Section 501c3 status and whether we should undertake. Should we have a specific purpose before we do this? Would it be worthwhile?

Page Shorer: membership report :63 current; 17 expired at 1st of year + 42 expired earlier.

Newsletter – Morris Older – next issue - article about Cooper doing 100 mi ride by Kim Zwick. David Whittal article about Quincey. Lila will remind him to send it. Deadline May 1.

Article about Joaquin Miller Park trails signs; article about Tri Valley Trailblazer member saved by helmet. Article about texting abbreviations related to horses; cow jumping story in the news; Greenways Conf, Arroyo Trail project;

Marilyn Tersegge: CHSA working on Stampede; Mallard Creek shavings offered at ½ price during stampede; Diane Offett, trails chairman worked a deal for recycling baling twine –gather 20 bags and will pick up and recycle. Blm will be at stampede;

Morris -EBATC – met last month and made long presentation on master plan update for EBRP - at very preliminary stage; hearings end next year; more multi-use trails but not likely changing characterization of the existing trails. Picnic – do in july/aug.

Susan Palo: Trail work day – last meeting decided 5/14 would be the date; work on section of Arroyo that is worked on the 5/6 REI day; but there is a competing trail day Ivan Dickson in Wildcat on 5/14 – do we want to change our date? Discussed and moved and decided to do 5/15 Sunday. Susan will determine what needs to be done on Arroyo.

Trail Ettiquette flyer – will send around again, people will comment on it; ways to distribute it: horse fair Heathers Farms, Greenways conference, other horse organizations.

Morris - Benefit Ride: discussing inviting max 15 bicyclists; will

have to work out their own trail routes. Discussing start at Crocket Hills for hikers and try to connect to Fernandez Ranch,; has been offered an option to organize volunteers on the web instead of endless calling around - on the Ridge Trail website. Actra ride link: was beautiful and wants to mimic -need someone who can design web pages.

For hike - RT signs up hikers on web; offered to do same for the ride. Enable us to do online regist for the ride; however, more money would flow through their account. This is done through a separate company. Eventbrite? Page said he can create online reg for our site. Alison said it can be done. Motion: subcommittee to examine this option for 5 day ride consisting of Alison, Page, Gary, Morris. For 2012. Voting: 1 abstain and the the rest in favor. Motion passed.

For this year, do we want to use the RT method? Would not go up till 1st wk in May; if want to come up with alternative by then, would not lose time. Would also have flyers that have direct mail-in registrations.

If bikers come in, will limit riders to 35.

Alison - we have been working as a Board to keep funds from RT separate; the idea of using RT website is counter to this. Do short term solution for now.

Morris will ask if can do contract with the company they use and have separate equestrian reg page, and deposit to TWHA account.

Greenway's Conference - - did not get any riders for TWHA scholarship. RT, VoCal and CHSAsaid we could put our flyers on their tables. Morris is going as a rep of VoCal; could have If you Meet a Horse; Trail Etiquette as part of flyers. 2 pages from last newsletter on how we benefited trails also. Morris will get them printed and make enough for horse fair.

Kirsten: wants board to consider donations to horse rescue organizations? Look at overall picture of who we donated to in past; we used to have meeting once a year re this? A number of organizations. Kim: Concord Mt Diablo, Xenophon, MHA, Pacific Coast Trails; BABT. Motion: Kirsten and Kim come up with history of donations in past, make presentation and come up with a proposal - 2nd - consider it in terms of overall budget; all in favor - motion passed.

Heather Farm Horse Fair 4/23: we can hav our own table if someone there to staff it or literature on other tables. Jane will take literature to the park. She has a table.

Meet a horse day - MHA did horses meet dogs day. Becky is interested in working on this. Ute will ask Becky re this. Kirsten will provide Becky with contact info for EBRPD liason. Position on Multi-Use trails - Gary - always have had this as informal policy. Is it our official position? Will this reduce the emotion of the debate; diffuse tension.

Motion: TWHA supports the conversion of existing trails to allow bicycles as long as user safety is maintained and supports multi-use design for new trails whenever possible.

Morris says the bicyclists have given up trying to convert existing trails through the EBATC process.

Kim: we support multi use trails as long as safety is maintained for all users. Don't use the word conversion.

Morris - safety" is a red flag word for the bicyclists. Need to consider this more carefully. Topic will come up trails and Greenways; hike and ride in Sunol;

Kirsten: TWHA has a long 30 year history of supporting MU trails. Our cooperation is not an issue.

Susan - why bicycle not as interested in safety? Control? They think they can ride past it. Need more thought and discussion.

We need to have statement of what we support. Not just a statement , but the ways that we work with other groups. Have donated over \$100K for development of MU trails. We should do more touting. Gary will start circulating some language.

Used tack sale - Tri Valley is doing one Concord Feed is doing it. Do we want to do one. In the Fall?

Ute - Membership survey - we need to know facts concerning our membership.

Next meeting June 1, 2011 Lila's house. Need directions. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes of the TWHA Board Meeting April 4, 2011 - Kirsten Whitsett's house

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