

MORCA MINUTES for Monday, August 2, 2010 at 6:30 PM at English Ales in Marina.

Minutes submitted by Henrietta Stern, Secretary, on 8/2/2010.

Our website is: www.morcamb.org

Please read carefully-- See website and e-mail group for details on several of these items.

YOUR OFFICERS FOR 2010:

President: Gary Courtright (also IMBA liaison)

VP: Darius Rike

Secretary: Henrietta Stern (also ESCA liaison)

Treasurer: Bob MacLean

Webmaster: Jim Ryan

Toro Liaison: Ken Chrisman

CSUMB Liaison: Chris Villanueva

ATTENDANCE: 12 folks attended, including all officers.

I will try to be brief. Several tasks were directed to committees as described below. Based on concerns by Ken about multiple events from late Sept to mid-October, the group approved a motion by Bob that directs each committee to prepare a detailed written plan of action by the September meeting, or the event will be cancelled.

1. TAHOE TRIP-- Seven folks are going, with a stop in Downieville first. There is the potential for some food and/or campsite paid for by \$3000 grant from Specialized. Gary asked group to bring MORCA banner and wear MORCA jersey. Henri to check minutes to see club voted to help with expenses due to trail work component. There are three spots left at campsite--let Darius know immediately if you wish to attend.

2. TREASURER REPORT-- We have over \$3,100 in account. Must reserve \$800+ for insurance. We discussed need for a budget committee with Bob as lead, and Jason also volunteered (did I hear Ken too?). Henri is interested but may be overbooked. Henri reminded committee to check previous minutes regarding financial commitments we have made such as \$450 for Toro, \$300+ for stickers, \$300 for a big banner etc. Note that we may need to pull financial info together sooner rather than later for IMBA (see below). Recall Bob developed a framework earlier this year. **IMPORTANT--**Bob reminded the group to give him a week's notice for check requests, not a few hours.

3. ESCA/ FORT ORD "HAPPY TRAILS" UPDATE— See Henri e-mails on ESCA and FORT Friends meetings. The late July minutes will be coming out soon. Highlights of ESCA are potential burning in the fall (I passed out sign up sheets for notification); beware an archery group has permit for use near East Garrison. A high-up federal official from US Army will be visiting Fort Ord re public recreation grant potential; new

Gen Jim Moore will have bike path--not sure what will happen with old road--possible bike or trails? City of Seaside held a recent strategic vision associated with large water tanks. Think about use of land in the inland range-- how integrated with trails etc? IMPORTANT-- beware vehicles on Fort Ord roads-- slow down as you exit trails like 70 that come out onto roads. Cars can't see you due to brush and are not expecting a trail crossing. BLM considering painted symbols on the roads to highlight trail crossing area.

FORT FRIENDS-- This group, comprised of the various user groups, continues to work on its 501-c-3 status and getting organized. The County Redevelopment Agency senior staff met with several user groups within FORT Friends, including Gary and Henri of MORCA on July 13. They plan to meet with bicycle folks familiar with trails and roads in August to brainstorm ideas to have an integrated network. The group acknowledged that there is disagreement about the Monterey Downs and concern about impacts of Horse Park, but agreed that FORTF could be a venue for accurate information and to develop win-win solutions .

4. BLM REPORT -- Gary described recent meeting with BLM manager Eric Morgan re night ride permits and other issues (see below). There is the possibility of partial opening of Burmese Trail along with some remediation efforts to protect endangered plants.

5. SUMMER NIGHT RIDE SPECIAL EVENT-- Date is September 25, to be confirmed. This is same day as Public Lands Day and the idea is to continue use of the Ewok Meadows meeting area into the night with early evening BBQ. Committee is Bob, Gary and Joel. Special one-day permit is \$196, plus \$5 per person for insurance. Committee will address route, food, fee to participate, course marking ride leaders etc. Also coordination with Light and Motion.

6. IMBA UPDATE RE CHAPTER-- IMBA has changed its plans-- MORCA, along with certain other west coast clubs, are on a "short list" to be chapters rather than affiliate clubs. IMBA plans to help us and others become a 501-c-3 under their umbrella first (early September), then we must fill out detailed paperwork to have a shot at being a formal chapter. Recall from last month, we need to tabulate volunteer hours and show we are growing.

7. OCTOBER EVENTS-- Take-A-Kid-Mountain Biking Day on October 2 and Laguna Seca Track Twilight Ride on October 20. We plan to have similar set up for Kid's Day as last year (skills + trails) but no teeter-totters due to insurance. Ken described possibility for a small pump track!! Committee is Ken (chairperson), Jim, Darius, Ellie and maybe Gary. Did I hear Gary say he has a couple of kids bikes to raffle? Ken has initiated permission from rangers.

Laguna Seca twilight ride committee is Michael (chairperson), Henri and Gary. Entry is \$10, and MORCA gets \$2 per entry I think. We need to find out from Ann Bixler what our specific responsibilities are and which areas are available and whether BBQ is an

option. Also come up with ideas for fun competition--maybe a "slow race" and/or a cyclocross type event where riders must carry bikes or meander around obstacles as part of their laps around the track. Example: Maybe stop and do 10 pushups and/ 20 jumping jacks and/or toss a ball into a trash can at the top before descending the corkscrew. Send us your fun ideas.

8. TORO REPORT – Ken described concern about too many trail days-- perhaps fewer trail days with more people would be more effective. Ideas for the \$450 the club already committed include signage for Pipeline and also to help create a structure associated with the "tree drop" area. Watch for e-mails re trail days. Toro Trail Days are typically 4th Saturday of the month. ANNUAL COUNTY PARK PASSES-- Gary would like to purchase a minimum of 10 passes. \$75 shows support and is good for all County Parks. Contact Gary ASAP to do this.

9. WINTER NIGHT RIDING-- We have discussed the concept of an Annual Pass with BLM along with the system we used last year. We discussed the potential to alternate 8th and Gigling with a Highway 68 departure point, if a satisfactory route could be developed that works for riders, vehicles and protected species. Another idea is an "A" ride to Toro, if ranger approval is obtained. Committee of Gary, Jason, Joel and Mike to help with parking ideas

10. FOX FACTORY TOUR-- AUGUST 27. We meet at 2:30 at REI lot; tour begins at 3:30 with dinner, beer or whatever afterward. Note that they built a pump track in their "backyard" which would be an idea. Watch for e-mails. Let Gary know if you plan to attend by Wed Aug 4 if at all possible. Also think of thank you gift for hostess Elena. A MORCA item?

11. OTHER BUSINESS

ANNUAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS -- Michael and Darius and Jim have taken this on. See previous meeting notes for ideas folks have thrown out there. .
BUDGET COMMITTEE-- Bob and Jason (and possibly Henri)

OCTOBER ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS-- begin thinking about this.

THANKS TO ELLIE AND CARL-- The group voted to provide Northstar passes as a thank you for Ellie's hard work leading all Ladies' Rides since mid-April and Carl's tractors, fill, gravel etc for trail days.

FROM LAST MONTH...

Henri asked if members were interested in potential Monterey County high school team. Darius, Ken, Michael are curious. More to come on that from Henri and Tom.

Henri to write thank you letter to Clif bar for all the mini-bars and granola bars.

NEXT MEETING IS MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 AT 6:30 PM AT ENGLISH ALES IN MARINA-except that is Labor Day so it could be postponed one week.. stay tuned...
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