

ENFIA Board Meeting Minutes

July 23, 2019

The regular meeting of the Eldorado National Forest Interpretive Association was called to order on Tuesday, July 23 2019, 12:15pm, at the Amador District Office. President Larry Moore, Secretary Mark Sandperl and Membership Chairman Bruce Odelberg were present. Vice President John Prelip and Treasurer Carl Gwyn were absent. Also in attendance was Retail Manager Kathie Piaszk and USFS Liaison Kristi Schroeder.

1. *Open Meeting*

Meeting opened at 12:15

2. *Approve Agenda*

Approved with the addition of discussing the purchase of manual credit card machines.

3. *Approve Minutes*

Approved

Contractor Reports

Retail (retail manager)

4. *ENFIA received a \$2000 grant from California Alpine Club Foundation*

This grant is earmarked for new tools for the Desolation Wilderness but will have to wait for Forest Service input, right now the FS is very busy.

5. *Desolation Wilderness/Placerville group is asking if ENFIA could pay for the awning valances to have the words "Desolation Wilderness" put on each one. (There is \$508 in the Desolation Wilderness donation account)*

It was moved, seconded, discussed and passed 3/0, the funding will come out of the Desolation Wilderness donation account. Kathie (retail manager) has started the process.

It was reported that the laminated Desolation Wilderness maps that ENFIA provided to the Placerville Ranger District, for trip planning, are being helpful.

Selling "bear canisters" at the Placerville Ranger District, has been an overwhelming success. 11 units sold to date.

Carson Pass (Carson Pass Manager)

6. *Carson Pass Pins*

It was moved, seconded, discussed and passed 3/0 to purchase the pins. The pins will have a representation of Round Top and will say "Carson Pass"

7. *Dennis to update*

Update via email, and board member Bruce.

Carson Pass Station is running smoothly with no significant issues. Income is down from last year at this time. (Probably due to the heavy snow year) We compared mid-July 2018 to mid-July 2019. The Station has greeted about 550 Pacific Crest Trail hikers. The Station has greeted approximately 5,500 visitors.

The first four interpretive walks have been full or close to full. The station is taking sign ups only at the station instead of Face Book or Meet Up. This is our first year requiring sign ups so we'll see how it goes.

There is now a cell phone/device charging station in the station. The solar panels on the east side of the station were destroyed during the heavy winter and will need replacement at some point. It was reported that there appears to be enough electricity to run station operations, but the whole solar electric system is getting old and worn.

USFS

8. *Kristi to update:*

Caples Creek Campground (CG) will not open this year. Woods Lake CG should be opening soon.

Forest Serviced does not know if they will sell Annual Day Use Pass in 2020

There has been no movement on the interconnect trail between Carson Pass and old Hwy 88 or the Carson Pass amphitheater. No news on the Washoe signage for the Station.

Website Update

9. *Carl updated via email to the board and others.*

Carl has sent the board a memo with 8 bullet points, concerning the new website. Please see last page of the minutes for the complete memo.

10. *Consider reestablishing the Webmaster position (Carl?)*

It was moved, seconded, discussed and passed 3/0, to reestablish the position of webmaster, with an annual stipend of \$400. The position will be filled after, a job description and contract can be drawn up.

Management Report

11. *Larry to update.*

No new surprises from our credit card company.

Two manual credit card machine are to be purchased. One for Placerville and one for Crystal Basin. Kathie will facilitate the purchase of them.

Finance/Treasurer's Report

12. ***\$38,798* in the checking account and \$13,065* in the donation account. *rounded to nearest dollar (this is an increase of approximately \$4400 over last year)***

Membership

13. *Bruce to update*

There are 44 individual memberships, 29 family memberships and 1 lifetime membership.

There are 5 Carson Pass docents that are not payed up members. This issue will be addressed by the Carson Pass Manger and the Membership Chairman. It is a Forest Service requirement that CP docents MUST be members of ENFIA. Members must pay an annual membership fee.

New business for our next meeting will be to update what qualifies a member to become a lifetime member.

Old Business

14.

New Business

15. *Teacher Education Grants for the following year(s) (Carl suggest \$600 for one grant)*

We did not vote on this item but there was consensus that it was a good idea but would hold off on this item until the full board could discuss it. (placed on August agenda)

Next meeting Time and Place unknown, everybody will be notified when the time/place is nailed down.
Adjournment

Website Report.

1. Jason has the transfer of everything from the old website to the new website (documentation, permissions, etc.) almost complete.
2. We have received membership and orders through the site with no complications. I have things set up now so that Kathie receives the store notification for sales. When we sell an item, the customer is automatically sent an invoice and a receipt. When the order is fulfilled, we go to the store and check that it has been fulfilled and the customer automatically receives an email that it is on its way.
3. Since the old website is currently dismantled, we can no longer access it for grabbing pictures and descriptions of articles for the store. That is not a problem. I can easily take pictures of the article and load them into the store. The one thing I would suggest, if this is not too much work for Kathie, is that we use the tracking of the number of items we have of our products in stock. This would allow customers to see if the item is out of stock and wait until it is in stock to order it. We would also always know our inventory.
4. Bruce now receives the membership notifications for when people join, change levels, etc. People who join or renew are automatically sent invoices and receipts for their membership. We did have one member change levels and ended up paying the family membership as well as their earlier singular membership. Bruce (after I give him some training) or I can handle such changes without the member incurring the additional charge. For this particular case, especially because of the service rendered by the two individuals, we can give them a discount on their membership to the tune of \$25 on next years renewal if we would like.
5. I have learned quite a bit more about Wild Apricot and Wordpress. Always more to learn. However, I can now add pages and easily change content on any of the current pages. I have been updating the Carson Pass page with trail information and new pictures as I receive them. I have set up both the Carson Pass page and the Highway 50 page with current information being displayed as the first thing visitors see. The only difficulty is getting that information. Now I have to look around and gather it by calling the station, or from Facebook or the USFS posts. If there were a more direct route (ie, if it were emailed to me) it would cut down on my work. Right now Highway 50 is rather stagnant because I have seen no further updates.
6. Members have been able to log in, set passwords, and update personal information with no troubles. The only difficulty I see is with those of us who have some sort of administrative passwords. The difficulties come from the more involved display you get when you log in. No worries. If you have any troubles, just let me know.
7. Jason is currently setting things up so I can access the email that goes to webmaster@enfia.org.
8. I would appreciate it if the board would discuss what would be desired in the way of the gallery photos, informational blog on activities or trails, or any other things we would like to see added or corrected now that things are set up and running.