

## ENFIA Board Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2020

The regular meeting of the Eldorado National Forest Interpretive Association took place on Wednesday, October 21, 2020. This was a video conference meeting with President Larry Moore, Vice President Frank Tortorich, Secretary Karen Heine, Membership Chairman Bruce Odelberg, Treasurer/Retail Coordinator Keli Gwyn, and Webmaster Carl Gwyn. Also, in attendance was USFS liaison Kristi Schroeder.

1. Meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m., PST.
2. The Agenda was approved with the next Board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 18, at 10 am via Zoom.
3. The Minutes from the September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020, were approved unanimously.

### Management report:

4. Larry spoke about the EDC Western Slope Small Business Relief application which has been granted to cover the loss of revenue. The grant request was for \$22,774 for impacts felt by COVID . and this will substantially offset the \$24,200 of lost revenue (decreased merchandise sales). Kirstie Martin helped in the writing of this grant, and the board shared their appreciation for both Larry's and Kirstie's time and effort on this project. Frank asked about the "earmarking" for this money, and Larry responded that for the most part the grant came with few restrictions. The grant was funded through Eldorado County as part of the COVID money. Carl suggested that perhaps ENFIA should explore writing more grants to cover our costs in the future.
5. USFS report on the Fork Fire
  - a. Kristi gave details on the Fork fire, 85% contained, middle of fire season!
  - b. She talked about Silver Lake and Caples Lake campground construction progress. EDI expects all work will be complete for next year. There are Facebook pages for both with updates if membership would like to see the progress.
  - c. Status of Interp. Sign for Carson Pass on hold (frank inquired)
  - d. Kristi also talked about how the Forest Service is "doing business in new ways" which is a good thing. She cited the Christmas tree cutting permits which are online now.
  - e. Kristi informed us that Robin Patterson will be going to S. CA for Forest Service. She is merchandising for Forest Service.

### Retail Coordinator Report:

5. Online sales have slowed significantly, with the end of the season, as expected.
  - a. Keli has been working closely with the Forest Service staff on custom items (for Deso Wilderness and Carson Pass). We approved this at an earlier meeting, but it was delayed. The board was pleased that this project has resumed and urge Keli to go ahead with custom design materials which need to be finalized and ordered soon in order to be ready for next year's season.

- b. Keli and Carl also went up to the Silver Lake cabin and collected the merchandise left there by Dennis Price
  - c. The Desolation Wilderness hiking book status was not discussed.
6. Carson Pass Report:
- 1. Dennis Price is still on vacation, so there was no report.
  - 2. Frank, Bruce, Dennis, and Dean put the plywood on the station on Sept. 17th
  - 3. A discussion about salary and/or stipend for CP Committee Lead (name taken from 2019 Annual Report, back page) resulted in the board voting unanimously to have Keli (and Carl) contact an attorney to consult about the new regulations restricting CA businesses from offering stipends and or hiring temporary employees.
  - 4. A discussion also ensued about placing the ad for docents to get an idea of interest for the job of CP Coordinator Lead. Karen Heine volunteered to write up a rough draft of this ad that could be sent to docents.
  - 5. We also continued the discussion of how the manager's job might look which was originally proposed by Frank. The board is concerned about the amount of work that will be required, especially for the retail coordinator and the Coordinator Lead of CP to oversee a committee (perhaps of Facilities Coordinator, Staff/calendar Coordinator, Retail/money Coordinator, and possibly a PR/Communications Coordinator). This discussion was tabled until a lawyer can be consulted about salaries and interest can be determined based on an email to docents advertising the open position(s).

### **Membership Report**

7. Membership Coordinator, Bruce
- a. Reported that he was looking for someone else to take this position
  - b. Keli Gwyn (and Carl) talked about Welcome packets for new members, and asked for a letter of welcome to be written. Karen Heine volunteered to write a draft and work with Keli on this project.
  - c. Carl (who Bruce said had really been doing much of the membership work) indicated that while much of the renewal happens on Wild Apricot, members need to be nurtured and contacted by a person to grow membership.
  - d. Karen Heine volunteered to look into this by contacting Carl and perhaps taking on this role of Membership Coordinator for ENFIA
8. Website update
- a. Jason updated Software after an attack. We have a new level of security thanks to Jason. He provides service, but at a very low cost. He did this for free. The board discussed getting him a gift, not to exceed \$50 (by much) and Bruce volunteered to make a certificate.
  - b. We had 30 hits a day, mostly on the map pages.
  - c. We are working to upgrade banners
  - d. The newsletter, The Interpreter
    - i. to be published on Nov. 1
    - ii. Articles must be in by Oct. 23
  - e. Robyn would like board members to submit articles (bio's) for newsletter.
  - f. The newsletter will be published quarterly.
  - g. Mark Sandpearl is managing our Facebook page. The board thinks it looks great!

9. Treasurer's Report:

- a. Total in the general fund stands at \$26,898.78 as of Sept. 30.
- b. Money from the grant has recently been deposited increasing this total!
- c. Total for the Donation funds is \$20,439.32.

Old business

10. Diana Steele referred a lawyer George Applebaum looked over the updated Bylaws and Carl sent out an updated version with minor changes. Karen motioned that the By Laws be adopted with these minor changes in place. The vote was past (Frank had left early and so did not vote, but all other board members voted to approve.)
11. Discussion on retaining a lawyer to consult on salaries for Carson Pass Coordinator Lead and Retail Coordinator resulted in a vote for Keli to contact lawyer and get clarification on employee payments.
12. An advertisement for Carson Pass Committee Coordinator (language taken from back page of 2019 Annual Report) was planned for next meeting. Karen Heine volunteered to write it and Keli will proof read it. It will outline responsibilities and will add remuneration after Keli speaks with an attorney. This will be sent to board members and voted on at the November meeting.
13. There was some discussion on the revitalization of Highway 50 and 88 programs.
  - a. We would like to have volunteers to work at Forest Service Placerville and Desolation information stations and at the Wrights Lake kiosk.
  - b. Lester Lubetkin, Carl Gwyn, and Dee Owens have expressed interest in this project.

New Business

14. Karen Heine and Bruce Odelberg are up for re-election. Both would like to continue to serve on the board.
  - a. An announcement will be posted that any member seeking a position on the board should declare that in writing will be posted.
  - b. The election will be held at the General Meeting (to be held online on Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>, possibly, to coincide with Kristi's Interpretive training) Carl will ask Kristi.

Next Board meeting will be on November 18th, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. and will be an online meeting. Agenda and meeting information will be posted on the Board page of the website one week before the meeting. The meeting time will be posted on the calendar on the website.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Heine  
New Secretary