

ENFIA Board Meeting Minutes

March 23, 2022

Version 1 (unedited)

In Attendance:

Board: Larry Moore, Karen Heine, Lisa Irving-Peterson, Phil Hartvig, Bruce Odelberg

Others: Chris Sailor & Kristi Schroeder (USFS), Keli Gwyn, Carl Gwyn, Stan Trevena

1. *Larry* opened meeting at 10:02
2. *Karen and Lisa* approved Agenda for March 23, 2022 meeting (postponed from 3/16/22)
3. *Karen and Bruce* approved Minutes from Feb. 16, 2022 meeting

4. **Manager/President Report:** (Larry Moore)

A. Regular report

1. Vandalism at CP station (reported by Bruce O.)

Discussion of methods to repair, Karen and Lisa agreed to go up to complete repair.

2. Trail counter for CPMA (via email Dan (Chip) Morrill and Kristi S.)

Discussion of data collection at various sites, trail to Winnemucca, Woods Lake, and other sites. Chris Sailor informed us that Mr. Morrill was an expert on Trail counters. Forest Service was writing grant (or ENFIA via Larry or Stan? - Larry will forward link from wilderness alliance about grant to Stan) to purchase trail counters and that they would be mobile and moved from site to site. Current trail counter technology in use with USFS is outdated.

3. Eskaton Village Presentation (Placerville)

Discussion about how presentations could be useful for information about El Dorado Forest as well as serving as a recruitment tool for docents interested in joining ENFIA. Format/software was discussed. Larry, Stan, Karen, and Carl are all interested in developing a presentation. Karen will start using google slides format (powerpoint and keynote was also discussed) and then others would be able to edit it and add photos/content. There was discussion about putting a final "canned" version of the presentation onto a You Tube video. Larry and others agreed to give a presentation at Eskaton.

4. REI presentation (Sacramento and Folsom) - via Carl Email

Carl was interested in giving a presentation at REI in Sacramento or Folsom.

B. Other items (as needed)

The grant written by Larry for money to support Covid impacted organizations is still awaiting approval. Update in April.

5. **USFS:** (Kristi Schroeder and Chris Sailor)

A. Fire restoration progress

No updates from Chris

B. New news

Tells Peak signage was displayed by Carl. ENFIA will be credited Stan discussed with Chris Sailor about writing a grant for "Pack it Radio" (FEMA connected system to expand network into mountain regions). Stan will write a proposal which Chris will forward to Land Manager. Possibly install a repeater in CP station loft, a box between laptop and radio. (Stan)

Stan also gave a summary report on his research on the existing batteries at CP station and the need to replace them. Batteries are 7 years old and could fail in the near future. Controller is rusted. Discussed solar panels as being small and outdated. Stan discussed replacement of lead acid batteries, lithium batteries as an upgrade, and installing new solar panels. Discussion about full new system (\$15K) or parts that are build together (\$10K). Discussed supply chain and vendor challenges. Bruce added commentary about current system being oversized. Bruce suggested that

we might not need to replace the entire current system. Larry suggested that Stan and Bruce (both with tech background and skills) should meet and research the needs of the CP station and propose a budget or write a grant. Karen proposed giving Stan and Bruce a budget of \$3,000 to build in capacity to allow for growth in the CP station electrical demands for the future. Chris Sailor asked for a cost estimate so he could forward paperwork to his facilities coordinator.

Kristi joined zoom meeting and added some additional information at this point. She discussed having a “soft” opening of certain locations in the ENF. Retail opening would not be immediate after offices and stations open-likely to have a 30 day notice. Staff hiring is underway and USFS is short staffed at present. Caldor fire closures will be lifted ASAP in many locations. Need more inspections to ensure safety to public.

C. COVID protocols

NO updates yet, unchanged but will be less strict and allow indoor sales in near future. Opening of stations and offices in late April?

D. Trail counter and Eskaton Village Presentation (see presidents report #2 and #3 above)

Trail counter via grant with www.wildernessalliance.org/wsp funding info

Eskaton presentation via Jill Morgan (email from her)

See presidents report above, Larry is forwarding grant info to Stan.

E. Update on CP station vandalism (requested help/permission) via emails from Bruce & Larry
See presidents report above. Karen and Lisa to repair damage and place an opening date poster on CP station.

F. Update on SL Cabin repair/supplies and contact with FS volunteers

Chris reported that he has spoken with Tom Lewis (FS volunteer carpenter) and he has agreed to help with cabin repairs. Phil has not reached out to Tom yet but will in the coming month. Bruce has communicated with Chris via email about repairs.

6. ENFIA’s Treasurer’s Report (Lisa Irving-Peterson)

A. Checking account balance: **\$29,648**

B. Donation account balance: **\$21,969**

Larry discussed service issues with accountants, hopes for more information in April.

7. ENFIA Retail Coordinator Report (Keli Gwyn)

A. Custom merchandise report

Discussion of 2 new designs based on landscape photos of roundup from Larry. Keli requested approval to move ahead with ordering designs and merchandise. Karen moved to approve budget of \$3-5K, Lisa seconded and board voted approval.

B. Sales and operations

Sales are slow in off season

C. Technology needs to run Square (See detailed email “Wifi service for retail” from Carl)

Discussion by Carl of need for Wi-Fi systems to run square for retail sales. (refer to email from 3/18/22) Carl compared cost of current system and new technology upgrades. Discussion of “Jet Packs” and iPads. Kristi stated that the new technology would be more reliable and that FS was looking forward to using it. Phil moved to approve Carl to move forward with purchase and implementation of new technology. Larry seconded and board voted to approve

8. ENFIA Retail Team Lead Report (Lisa Irving-Peterson)

Discussion covered earlier in Retail Coordinator Report (see #7 above)

9. Carson Pass Coordinator Report (Karen Heine)

A. New docents, still looking - update from last month

Discussion of new docent meeting/training dates and sites. East side meeting will be at a Fire Station or at Karen's House, details to follow. Meeting will be on May 14. No west side location for meeting/training yet, but date is May 7th. Keli will check with Cold Spring Church. Keli requested \$100 fee for the meeting location. Phil moved to approve, Karen seconded. Board voted to approve. Dates for the two meetings/training may be flip-flopped. Karen and Keli will communicate and Karen will put out newsletter/email to new docents with dates and locations.

B. Looking for scheduler - update from last month, Phil H is going to assist in April

Discussion by Karen, coordination with Phil to occur in April. "Sign-up" software platform has been updated and scheduling for docents at CP station and Silver Lake Cabin should begin shortly after the new docent meeting/training sessions in May. Karen is still looking for a permanent scheduling person to take over these duties. Sign ups may be available sooner,

C. Other items

Karen discussed logistics of opening CP station. May 21st will have 10 docents to open up station and cabin (as needed) May 24-27 merchandise moved in. May 28th station open to public. Lands End store is set to take orders for new ENFIA merchandise after May 7th. Karen will email updated contact list to Carl/Stan for wild apricot software platform for membership.

Old business...

C. Solar panels and Lithium battery at station, interest in exploring a grant (report from Stan) (update from Bruce and Chris giving progress of locating funding and ordering new batteries)

See discussion earlier in president's report.

10. CPIS Maintenance Team Lead (Phil Hartvig)

A. CP station & SL cabin: - update

See discussion earlier about CP station in president's report. Phil will contact Larry or Keli to purchase new stove (which is stored at Edwards AI appliance in Placerville) with new ENFIA credit card. Delivery date is dependent on snow/road conditions. Since Chris has contacted Tom Lewis, Phil will work to arrange a date for both of them to meet. (Bruce and others will be invited to this meeting when a date is set) At that time discussion of exterior door installation and design/installation of some new screens and exterior painting/repair needs will be determined. More information next month.

11. Hwy 50 development report (Carl Gwyn)

A. Next year's plans - updates?

B. USFS needs

No updates this month.

12. Website Update: (Carl Gwyn)

A. New developments

Lisa provided a photo which Carl is working to incorporate into a new banner on website.

13. Membership update: (Stan Trevena/Karen Heine)

A. Coordinator status report: *125 active members, 38 non-renewals (need to remind them)*

B. New members (see notes for May)

14. Facebook Update: (Mark Sandperl)
No update this month-Mark was absent

15. Old Business:

A. Purchase/Order batteries and new solar panels? (Bruce Odelberg and Chris Sailor)

B. Purchase/Order door, lock set & paint for cabin - (waiting for assistance from USFS)

See discussion earlier in report on these items-progress is being made

16. New Business:

Next regular meeting: was going to be April 20th at 10 am on Zoom but moved to April 27th due to requests from Larry and Lisa. Board approved moving the date.

Meeting ended by Larry at 12:01

See you on April 27th at 10 am