

ENFIA Board Meeting Minutes

July 20, 2022
10:00AM (PST)

In Attendance:

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

Absent: Philip Hartvig

Others: Kristi Schroeder, Carl and Keli Gwyn, Stan Trevena, Frank Tortorich, Mike Barrow

Absent: Don "Chip" Morrill, Mark Sandperl (Chris Sailor USFS has been reassigned for now)

1. Larry opened meeting
2. Larry moved to approve Agenda for July 20, 2022 meeting -passed
3. Larry moved to approve Minutes: from June 16, 2022 meeting (postponed from June 15) - passed
4. **Manager/President Report:** (Larry Moore)

A. Regular report

Larry discussed how at last month's meeting we ran out of time to discuss and vote on the solar/battery system and that in the we would work on keeping discussion more focused on agenda and shorter so that all interested parties could participate in actionable items. Karen suggested limiting reports to 10-15 min. Larry wanted to stick to agenda order and asked if all present could stay on the entire meeting.

Larry discussed his involvement in meeting with the Forest Service and a group of foreign recreation managers who were visiting the area. They toured areas in the Highway 50 corridor (Pyramid creek). Larry noted that ENFIA tax forms were submitted and that previous credit card accounts were closed. Requests for checks for retail manager working with CPA and obtaining reports from CPA were discussed.

B. Donations/Grants

The grant from the California Alpine Club (CAC) was received and they agreed to our purchase and installation of the back-up battery and solar panels for Carson Pass operations. The CAC requested a photo of the completed project.

C. Larry moved discussion to the Battery/Solar system and turned the meeting over to Stan Trevena. Stan reported that a list of materials was submitted. He reported that mounting panels on roof was still being figured out. Process would require two people. Panels may be obtained via the solar installers he is working with to get estimates. Installer would choose mounting brackets and cabling. Discussion was made regarding leaving panels on roof permanently but removing the the battery system over the winter months for safety. Location of battery in loft was discussed as was process to get it up there using an existing hoist. Carl discussed how phones and internet are shut down during off season to save money when services are not being used. Bruce asked about radios and weather station and need for training on radios. Kristi said that Chip Morrill would need to be asked about radios. Forest Service will be responsible for repairing/replacing current gel battery bank system which is well beyond its life span and maintaining their radios and weather station. Larry moved to vote on purchasing a "stand alone" system to run the retail operations and the lights. Karen moved to use the CAC grant money (\$2200) and additional funds from ENFIA accounts for additional materials and installation costs. First motion was made by Karen to use grant money to purchase battery components. Lisa seconded motion and vote to pass was 4 to 0 to approve. (Phil who was absent had also expressed his support priorate meeting). Second motion was made by Karen to pursue hiring a solar contractor to install panels, rails, and cabling from roof to connect with storage battery "Bluetti" system. Lisa seconded. Larry expressed approval of using ENFIA donation funds for these projects. Stan agreed to purchase equipment and pursue estimates on installation. Stan would purchase using his own credit card and get reimbursed by check ASAP. Third motion from Karen approved to allow Stan to move forward on purchasing equipment. All Motions were voted on and passed without dissent.

Since Stan had to leave the meeting early, he reported out on his membership report. 115 active members, new members have had packets mailed out (with help from Keli who gathered materials)

5. USFS: (Kristi Schroeder and Chip Morrill -Chris Sailor is reassigned for at least 4 months)

- A. Updates from prior months (Kristi's new job as recreation officer is for 4 months)
- B. New items/developments (Don "Chip" Morill taking over Chris Sailor's duties)
- C. Trails/campgrounds/Fire rehab/ and any other concerns

Fire restrictions have been put into effect. Caldor Fire rehab work is continuing. Lots of hazard trees have been removed. Most campgrounds are now open. This includes Silver Lake and Kirkwood. Lots of staff opening have been posted and hiring continues to fill gaps in positions. Discussions about "Loud explosions" heard near Carson Pass. No direct knowledge - maybe Cal Trans work? Katen asked about restroom cleaning and cash removal from "Iron Rangers". Kristi did not know, that was Chip's department. No parking passes accepted at Woods Lake day use area. Carl discussed signage that is needed on Highway 50 to help people locate the Placerville / Desolation ranger stations. Kristi suggested contacting Forest Service Engineer. She will forward contact information to Carl. Karen requested getting 20% staff discount reinstated for USFS. Kristi would forward contact info for supervisor in charge of this policy.

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

- A. Checking account balance: \$36,529
- B. Donation account balance: \$24,480

Lisa discussed at length items from the CPA report including various donation accounts broken down by category. General, Amphitheater, Carson Pass, CAC. Lisa also discussed sales reports showing Carson Pass with about 64% of total sales. Other locations and on-line sales make up the other 36%

- C. Other items/developments -

Allison Avery- tracking hiking mileage of docents now- Ginger has done it for years but is stepping down due not severe illness. Allison discussed using a google form to allow docents to submit miles on-line in addition to continuing to use notebook form at station. Karen suggested emailing list of docents to Allison so that she could introduce herself and the the new system. Hiking miles are eligible if docents is wearing vest/shirt/hat and/or interacting as a representative of ENFIA while interacting with the public on the trails. Bruce and others suggested that hiking areas should include ALL of the El Dorado National Forest areas, not just the Carson Pass area.

Lisa did not not comment on her leadership in running CP Station during Karen's absence this past month but Karen thanked her during her report. Lisa has worked a lot of days at station and covered scheduling duties as well.

7. ENFIA Retail Coordinator Report (Keli Gwyn)

- A. Updates on prior reports (ordering, delivery of merchandise, sales)

Keli reported that sales have reached \$30,000 this season. Crystal had a \$500 sales day. Desolation also has had large sales days. Lisa discussed policy on public NOT trying on clothes. Keli and Karen thought that we should not have a policy that can not be enforced and we should discourage public (dirty PCT hikers?) from trying on clothes but not restrict it.

- B. Other items -Status of edit on Carson Pass hiking book (from Bruce/Lisa/ENFIA membership)

Keli reported that we have 60 books in stock and that there was an active hiker/docent who may be submitting edits to current edition. Larry thanked Keli and Carl for all their efforts and time that they put in month after month to keep things moving for ENFIA. Time commitment is great.

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

- A. Carson Pass Station update - no additional information given
- B. Other items/developments -no additional information given

9. Carson Pass Coordinator Report (Karen Heine)

A. Carson Pass Station Operations (status/needs/requests)

Karen thanked Lisa and Phil for help while she was in Ireland. Karen did take some interesting calls from the station while overseas. Reported that all new docents have been trained and some have signed up for up to 15 days at the station this season. Two new docents recently joined. Leaders of interpretive hikes who have completed 4 walks will be given gratitude “free” memberships next year. Lots of interest in our walks. David Woodruff has done a great job advertising walks. Some walks went slightly over the 12 person limit. Some walks such as Devil’s ladder and other History walks/ talks lead by Carl and Frank DO not have limits since they occur outside of the wilderness.

10. CPIS Maintenance Team Lead (Phil Hartvig)

A. Carson Pass Station projects (Repairs/future needs)

B. Silver Lake Cabin projects (Repairs/painting - work dates to be discussed)

Phil was absent so no report was made this month.

11. Highway 50 corridor development report (Carl Gwyn)

A. USFS needs - updates

B. Other developments

Volunteers needed at Placerville station. Signage for locating station will be pursued. B-17 signage still waiting for Forest Service staff to join in on a date to install them. Georgetown station has a mushroom expert who is interested in organizing a ENFIA membership hike next spring.

12. Website Update: (Carl Gwyn)

A. Needs & other developments

50-100 hits per day. Lots of phone calls. Carl is requesting an additional “hot spot” being purchased to use at the Depot to assist Keli in her retail operations. Cost is \$120-130 plus \$20/mo. Larry approved this purchase. Carl wants to mentor someone in running the website to take it over in the future. Technical support and training will be provided. Carl also requested help with square software and hardware systems. Carl reported that his number of tech support calls for square is way down this year, most likely due to increased training and mentoring from ENFIA staff. He thanked Karen and Keli for their support in this effort.

13. Membership update: (Stan Trevena)

A. Coordinator status report (Current membership and renewal status)

B. Other projects - (New docents since last month)

Stan reported out on these items during this solar/battery presentation earlier in the meeting today. (see President’s report section)

14. Facebook Update: (Mark Sandperl)

A. Update/Needs-new development (do we want newsletter/website/Facebook more integrated?)

Mark was absent so no report made.

15. Old Business: (Moved some actionable items up in meeting in order to vote)

A. Research/Order batteries and new solar panels (See discussion earlier in President’s report)

B. Purchase door, obtain lock set from USFS for cabin - (Phil H) -no new information

C. Other - radio tech/trail counters (next year), presentations & outreach (Stan/Karen/Board)

no news on radio tech, some discussion on trail counter being installed on trail already near Carson Pass station. No news on Presentations/outreach

D. Updating Carson Pass Hiking book (Bruce) -see discussion during Keli’s report

E. Amphitheater/Trail to Woods Lake (Bruce) - no news other than funds are available (Lisa’s report)

16. New Business: (Things to plan/work on for next meeting)

A. New roof for CP station (Mike Barrow - new docent taking lead on this)

Discussion by Mike on status of roof and need for repair. Mike will pursue getting a contractor to estimate cost of replacing front roof. Discussion of who is responsible for repair (ENFIA or Forest Service). Discussion by Frank of how original roof was installed by ENFIA volunteers many years ago. Current volunteers are reluctant to climb on roof and do repairs themselves. Mike will explore options and get back to board with his research finding at later meetings. We will pursue cost sharing with Forest Service. Carl suggested Forest Service obtain materials an ENFIA hire contractor for installation. Station was build in 1989? (Frank's comment)

B. Water line repair, painting of SL Cabin (Phil) -no news reported on this.

Next regular meeting: August 18th at 3 pm on Zoom

Original date (Aug 17 at 10:00) changed due to conflicts with several participants (Karen, Bruce, Frank)

Meeting ended at 1:32

(Minutes prepared by Phil Hartvig from recorded board meeting)