

ENFIA Board Meeting Minutes

Nov 17, 2022 9:00 AM (PST)

(New time as per USFS request)

Board members present: Larry Moore, Karen Heine, Lisa Irving-Peterson, Bruce Odelberg
Others Present: Kristi Schroeder (USFS), Keli Gwyn, Carl Gwyn, Stan Trevena, Ken Nieland
Absent: Philip Hartvig, Chip Morrill

1. Larry opened meeting at 9:00
2. Karen moved to approve Agenda for Nov 17, 2022 meeting
3. Lisa moved to approve Minutes: from Oct 19, 2022 meeting
4. **Manager/President Report:** (Larry Moore)
 - A. Regular report -
 - B. Other items -

A. *Campfire programs by docents at USFS campgrounds & ranger stations in 2023*

Larry led discussion about interacting with the public that was already in the forest by starting up interpretive campground programs in addition to the walks that are conducted at Carson Pass. Two ENFIA members expressed interest in reserving campgrounds at various FS campgrounds which would be filled by docents who had agreed to conduct campfire talks. Sites could be selected in advance, docent would stay at campground sites the day before or day of talk. In addition to campfire talks, Carl discussed how Forest Service in Crystal Basin is requesting docents to help out at their information stations and possibly could be housed in a trailer or barracks on site. Outreach to Royal Elk company (Running Woods Lake and many other campgrounds) has not resulted in call backs. Larry and Karen expressed interest in continuing with current programs (walks at Carson Pass) and working on more Jr. Ranger programs and interpretive talks at CP station and its parking lot.

B. *Discussion of docent appreciation luncheon and planning for future meetings*

Larry led discussion and thanked Keli and Carl for a great event, good program and food. Lisa asked about attendance and Keli reported that 35 members and guests attended. Keli suggested that event might occur one week earlier next year so as not to conflict with Nevada Days. Carl and Karen suggested moving location to a more central location such as Kirkwood or South Lake Tahoe next year. Idea was for CP station to close the first week in Oct and have the docent appreciation gathering the 2nd week in Oct. This led to discussions about having CP station open in Sept mid week (Bruce), concerns about getting teachers to staff station in Sept due to returning to work (Karen) and maybe having station open Mon. and/or Thurs. & Fri. in Sept (Stan)

C. *Discussion of new board positions for 2023 season. (Stan/Ken)*

Larry led discussion of how new board members (Stan/Ken) and returning board members (Lisa/Phil/Bruce) should decide if they want to stay in current positions or shift around to new positions and responsibilities. Decision should be finalized at next board meeting in Dec. Larry explained that the roles of president as working with the forest service, business manager, retail manager, bank and accounting firm, and signing documents and tax forms. Vice President is back up to President. Secretary writes up agenda and minutes. Treasurer oversees finances. Member at large helps out with various other duties.

D. *Other items*

Larry discussed meeting with US Bank to transfer names on accounts to Stan/other board members. Other items to sort out were credit card account, insurance agent contact, CPA firm contact, signatures needed for state and tax forms, and extra post office keys if needed to collect mail at Placerville Post Office. Virtual post office (Stan) and google workspace to store ENFIA documents/records in a central and accessible location. (Stan). Using google workspace would help to maintain

ENFIA information from one board membership to the next group. Google workspace is free to non-profits. It is a email type account but can also be used to store financials and other billing documents. Ken discussed sharing president's duties with vice president to make that position more meaningful. Larry discussed switching banking location for ENFIA if needed and his willingness to help with transition of duties to new board members next year.

5. USFS: (Kristi Schroeder and Don "Chip" Morrill)

A. Updates from prior months - Kristi has a new position as Assistant Forest Recreation Officer. She will continue to work as our ENFIA contact person with Forest Service and attend board meetings in the coming year. Forest Service opened up prescribed burning on forest service lands. Will continue until too wet and then start up again in spring. Forest Service has new interim forest supervisor for 4 months. Christmas tree cutting permits opened up last Thurs. (Nov 10th?) - 5000 permits were sold in 45 min!! This is a record, word has gotten out. Over 300,000 acres were removed from harvesting areas due to fires over the last few years. Current permit system is only 5-6 years old.

B. Other items/developments - *New meeting time of 9:00 am for ENFIA meetings* - this new time works for Kristi and her new position. Forest service 20% discount on purchases of ENFIA merchandise was not approved due to \$25 limit on receiving gifts in FS regulations but idea of giving "gift" memberships to FS staff was discussed to allow them to get discounts. Current system of getting membership by making a certain minimum purchase (didn't mention amount-ask Keli) has been used by some FS employees. That system will remain in place. Kristi also discussed hiring staff in FS for the coming year. There is currently a 50% vacancy rate in new job opening.

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

A. Checking account balance: \$40,689 -down \$4700 from last month due to purchasing orders

B. Donation account balance: \$23,365 -down \$2600 due to transfers to checking account.

C. Other items/developments

7. ENFIA Retail Coordinator Report (Keli Gwyn)

A. Regular report - Physical inventory completed at all sites. 45 page report with over 12,000 items. Value of merchandise (cost-wholesale) is \$56,000

B. Other items/developments - Keli has a new part time job which is swing shift and will not interfere with ENFIA duties if she continues with this job into next ENFIA season.

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

A. Carson Pass Station update - no report given

B. Other items/developments - Keli shared that we can not purchase or sell fuel canisters at CP station to backpackers due to a large minimum order needed and hazardous products rules.

9. Carson Pass Coordinator Report (Karen Heine)

A. Carson Pass Station Operations - no report given except that station is closed. Karen had to leave meeting earlier, prior to treasurers report, but she made this statement.

B. Other items/developments -none reported

10. CPIS Maintenance Team Lead (Phil Hartvig) Phil absent for meeting- no report given

A. Carson Pass Station projects (Repairs/future needs) - *Outside "Painting", Roof Repairs* - moved to next season.

B. Silver Lake Cabin projects (Repairs/future needs) - *Painting-Garage/Shutters/interior* - moved to next season.

C. Other - *More permanent repair for water supply to SL Cabin - SL host campsite issues (Karen can discuss these topics in Phil's absence)*

- no report given by Karen-moved to next season

11. Highway 50 corridor development report (Carl Gwyn)

A. USFS needs - updates - ***B17 crash site signage event***

Event was well attended and signs were put into the ground at three locations. Carl thanked participants and led discussion with Bruce about adding ENFIA logos and contact information to signs in the future and adding stickers to existing signs to spread information about ENFIA and encourage membership and donations. Ken suggested adding QR codes but Stan cautioned that some scammers use “fake” QR codes and links to scam people of donations. An Eagle Scout candidate is working on an information sign to place at crash site but that is between Jason at Forest Service and the Eagle Scout.

B. Other developments - ***Discussion of future outings/activities***

New signage for Swain Henry toll road, Slippery Ford, and Twin Bridges sites discussed. Hikes to these locations were discussed. New signage at Pyramid Creek damaged by fire was discussed. Larry noted that \$900 from special donation account was available for signage at Pyramid Creek.

12. Website Update: (Carl Gwyn)

A. Needs & other developments

Carl reported that Stan has shown interest and is learning the website and membership software. Issues with Mac users on membership site and how to solve log in problems is now posted.

13. Membership update: (Stan Trevena)

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

Stan reported 168 active members. Bruce commented this is a new record! Stan has ideas about encouraging new membership that he will discuss at new months meeting.

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

Carl discussed a new member (Ally) from Sacramento History Museum. She is spreading the word about ENFIA to that community. Keli mentioned that FS staff at Desolation and Georgetown have been promoting ENFIA and helping to sign up new members.

14. Facebook/Newsletter Update: (Mark/Robyn Sandperl) absent- No report given

A. Update/Needs-new developments -Larry reported on the great quality of the the most recent newsletter and thanked Robyn for all her fine work putting it together. Secretary note: I also would like to thank Robyn for the last newsletter-I read it and it was amazing! Thanks to all who contributed content.

15. Old Business: (As per board’s request - items to be carried over from previous meetings)

(No items added by president/board members from last meeting- can be added via email to me)

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

A. *New board positions - delegation of duties & responsibilities*

B. *Next meeting date and time*

Wed Dec 14 at 9 am (on zoom)