

## **California Alpine Club Board Meeting Minutes (Virtual Meeting)**

**Saturday, May 16, 2020 – 12:00 Noon**

### **Agenda:**

**Call to Order:** President Jay Gustafson called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM

### **Board Members**

President Jay Gustafson – Present	Director Nancy Emerson – Present
Vice President Anne Meneguzzi – Present	Director Amy Pertschuk – Present
Treasurer Jeff Grimshaw – Present	Director Dan Larsen – Absent
Registrar Mark Sapiro – Present	Director Tim Warden – Present
Secretary Patricia Ernsberger – Present	Director Anne Kirwan – Present
Past President Jim Nixon – Absent	Director Rani Devadasan – Present

### **Members Present**

Carroll Pearson, Nancy Carlisle, Brooke Wagner, Ernie Castiaux, Jon Betthauser,  
Cindy Toran, Bev Leve

### **Call to Establish a Quorum**

The President ascertained by visual count that a quorum was present.

### **Additional Agenda Items**

The President asked if there were any additional items. There being none, the agenda was accepted as presented.

### **Approval of Minutes from the April 25, 2020 Meeting**

The Minutes were unanimously approved.

### **New Members and Reinstatements for Board Approval**

Bev Leve stated that there were no new members or reinstatements needing approval.

### **Officer and Director Reports**

Registrar – Mark Sapiro; Treasurer – Jeff Grimshaw; Director – Tim Warden; Director – Anne Kirwan; Director – Rani Devadasan; Secretary – Patricia Ernsberger; Director – Nancy Emerson.

**Registrar's Report:** Mark said many but not all renewals are in. He noted that there was one unusual item to report on. He had been contacted by the attorney for the estate of Elsa C. Weisenberg, the wife of the late member Max Weisenberg, regarding her bequest of \$5000 to the club, and has acknowledged receipt to the attorney. He has a copy of the trust document, and has two questions: what should the club use the bequest for, and who do we thank for it?

Anne Meneguzzi suggested we use the money for a conservation type activity. Anne Kirwan

suggested we contact the attorney and ask the names of the next of kin so we can send our thanks. She offered to contact the family if Mark can get their names from the attorney.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jeff said financially we are stable. He doesn't have last year's FY statement yet but will have it soon. The \$5000 bequest has been deposited so we have more cash on hand than we normally do. With unrestricted funds we have more or less a balance of \$8000.

**Director Tim Warden's Report:** Tim stated that he had no report at this time.

**Director Anne Kirwan's Report:** Anne stated that she had mailed checks in repayment to all who had paid for the canceled St. Pat's Day Party.

**Director Rani Devadasan's Report:** Rani said she is working on the bylaws, but has nothing to report at this time.

**Secretary Pat Ernsberger's Report:** Nothing to report at this time.

**Director Nancy Emerson's Report:** Nancy raised the issue of a member's son who wants to park in the Club's parking lot while he goes hiking. Amy Pertschuk said she thought just parking to go to the club would be acceptable, but not parking to hike; we should tape it closed. Jon said the south lot could be open, the one on Panoramic closed to parking, maybe using orange cones. Mark noted that with the County revising SIP as of Monday many will be able to park. The exceptions are Muir Woods, Point Reyes and some others. Jon recommended that the club purchase large delineators to make parking safer at Alpine; orange cones really don't do it. Amy said the Board should decide.

**Lodge and Foundation Reports**

**Echo Lodge:** Cindy Toran provided the Board with a report on Echo Lode prior to the meeting, noting that work was proceeding to upgrade the bathrooms/showers on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Completion is expected by June 15; expected cost is \$18,000. Other painting/floor replacement projects have been pushed out to 2021 and 2023. The spring work party was canceled; host training has been postponed to August. CalTrans has postponed the Hwy 50 closure until after Labor Day. Cindy also reported that no one is paying any attention to the El Dorado County rules; the area is rural so there has been little impact so far.

Cindy noted that the USFS Permit expires 12/31/2021. She reported that she is working with USFS on the required Operating Plan which now must include a Covid-19 plan. Jay Gustafson asked Pat Ernsberger to work with him to send a letter re the USFS permit, to review the whole process and get permit approved.

**Alpine Lodge:** Amy Pertschuk's May 2020 report on Alpine Lodge was sent to the Board prior to the meeting. The lodge remains closed and the trustees have turned off the gas for stoves and fireplaces, as well as reduced heating, turned off the lights and checked all doors, windows, sinks and showers. The report also notes that the Tam Building septic system needs servicing.

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The water in the Tam Building will be shut down until after the septic system is serviced. Trustees will continue to monitor the facilities while closed.

Amy noted that they will be dealing with the state and county ordinances when the lodge reopens, monitoring the coming/going in and out; installing some smart new locks and re-keying others. They also will have new key codes for those who have access, after they go through host training.

Jon said there will be a 10 to 4 number code, operated from a Smart Phone or a computer, with the ability to lock and unlock all doors remotely. Both basements will get the old 10 number code. Doors will be repaired and locks installed, with all doors getting a new number. There are 14 outside doors with locks. Batteries on the current door locks have been replaced so they now are operating.

Amy also reported that they have talked to a cleaning service in Stinson Beach to do a thorough cleaning of the lodge, and noting where they need touchless dispensers for hand sanitizer. They hope to get this going soon as it will take several weeks to get it all done.

Tim asked whether the drinking water was on a separate system. Jon replied that he thinks the same line comes from the street, but he isn't sure. He noted that the sprinkler system is not in the Tam Building. Nancy Carlisle asked if she should put an article about all this in Trails, and Amy agreed she should.

**CAC Foundation Report:** No report at this time.

### **Committee Reports**

**Finance Committee:** Carroll reported that there are sufficient CAC

reserve funds to support requests from the Lodges. Several committee members were interested in allowing the lodges to request replacement funds due to loss of income due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and the committee members generally were supportive of using the reserves for this purpose. It was noted that some funds could be used to take advantage of the downtime at the lodges to get some of the necessary major projects done, replacing the lodges lost revenue.

It was noted that many years ago we had Life Memberships, at a time when we were getting 12% interest on our funds. Interest now is 1/2%. It was agreed that the committee needs to look further at this.

The Finance Subcommittee has a draft petition from the Lodges re how the Lodges can request CACF reserve funds. Called Resolution #13, it now needs to go to the Board. As soon as it is final the Committee will send it to the Secretary to forward to Board members for their review.

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**Outings Committee:** Anne Kirwan forwarded the draft Outings (and Sorties) Guide to the Board on May 15, noting that both Ernie and Renee had worked on it. Ernie stated that the Guide basically pertains to those events held off the mountain. It is a good template for new leaders and we need to assess any risks that are involved. We also need to address how to handle finances, and how to audit them. Ernie asked Members to send any comments and suggestions to him. Carroll commented that she thought the three drafters had done a great job. Due to time considerations today, the Guide will be discussed more fully at a later

*Board meeting.*

*Other Committee Reports:* There were no other committee reports.

### *Current Business*

*New Board Member:* There was a motion to appoint Brooke Wagner, who had been nominated by Jim Nixon, to the Board pro tem. The motion was seconded by Mark Sapiro. Brooke was asked for her biography and she stated that she was an Evolutionary Biologist, had 8 year old twins, and with her husband Casper was an avid outdoor adventurer. There being no further discussion, Brooke was unanimously elected to the Board.

*Lodge Reopening Protocol:* Amy reported that she had mapped out the activities and the phases we are going through, to determine what is right for the club at this time. Jon noted that Alpine Lodge in particular needs a gardening group ASAP, particularly to remove the many weeds, and Jay said we need to get an Eblast out to members asking for volunteers. Amy and Nancy E. have been working on the protocol re Covid-19 regulations; Nancy E. has drafted this section and sent it to Amy.

Anne K. said that Ernie has been scoping out the hiking issues, e.g. what is required such as masks, and suggested that he be involved in this. Nancy E. suggested we should communicate more with the members – using Trails, our website and an Eblast as well. Jay noted that we should have a better understanding of the concept of phasing by the June Board meeting.

Cindy talked about overall guidance, noting that Alpine and Echo lodges

differ. Marin County is stricter than El Dorado County (already in Stage 3), so there will be different phases for the lodges. We need to make certain that we communicate the different procedures to both lodges. Cindy's focus is on more training for the lodge hosts, not just the members in general.

Nancy E. noted that the Board is looking at its responsibilities including assuring some level of safety at both lodges, prior to giving overall approval. She, Cindy and Ernie are looking at this and will have something in more depth ready for the next Board meeting. The protocol then will have to be adapted for use by each lodge separately.

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There was some discussion re the Covid-19 Plan; Cindy said she doesn't want Echo Lodge to close for the summer, but is concerned with everyone's safety. One idea has been to open it for private events only. She will draft something based on the Covid-19 Plan and provide it to the Board.

Jon brought up the need to prepare for reopening the lodges, and in particular noted that we will need the following at the lodges: a check-in station with sanitizer; require a mask for entry; have new hand washing procedures that are both easy and secure; and assure that everyone knows the rules. We should be able to get these procedures in place by July.

A motion to keep the lodges closed through June was made by Mark,



seconded by Jeff, with the issue to be reconsidered at the June Board meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. Cindy, Nancy E and Ernie will work on this for the June meeting. Nancy C. asked if she should include this in the June issue of Trails, and Jay replied that she should.

As a side note, Ernie noted that there would be no Saturday Sorties until August. He will work on some possible Sonoma routes for July.

The balance of the Current Business items were postponed until a later Board meeting.

### **New Business**

The items listed on the agenda under Current Business were postponed until a later Board meeting.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and passed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM.