

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

Saturday, June 20, 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

Vice President Ann Meneguzzi – Present

Treasurer Jeff Grimshaw – Present

Registrar Mark Sapiro – Present

Secretary Patricia Ernsberger – Present

Past President Jim Nixon – Present

Director Nancy Emerson - Present

Director Brooke Wagner - Present

Director Dan Larsen - Absent

Director Tim Warden - Present

Director Anne Kirwan - Present

Director Rani Devadasan - Present

### **Members Present**

Nancy Carlisle, Ernie Castiaux, Mark Cooper, Steve Curry, Carroll Pearson, Amy Pertschuck, and Cindy Toran.

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

The President ascertained that a quorum was present.

### **Additional Agenda Items**

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

### **Approval of Minutes of the May 16, 2020 Meeting**

Nancy Emerson had a minor modification to the May 16 Minutes, related to the Saturday Sorties: Ernie noted that he hopes to start the Saturday Sorties in July, pending Board approval. He is scouting hikes in both Sonoma and Northern Marin to avoid the crowds in Southern Marin. The May Minutes were then unanimously approved as modified.

### **Current Business**

#### **Lodge Opening Protocols**

**Both Lodges:** Under discussion is 1) updating the waiver form; 2) the screening form; and 3) limiting the number of participants. The waiver form necessary so that CAC is not held liable. The screening form will be short, with straight forward questions; its format hasn't been determined but will be soon. Still under discussion is the number of participants; the decision on how to proceed will be made soon, and will be reconsidered in August or September.

**Echo Lodge:** Cindy Toran said their reopening proposal proposes 24 hours between each event at Echo, with a limit of one person per bedroom; there will be an exception for those in the same family. Echo has nine rooms and two dorms, which need to be configured to keep a 6 foot distance between those staying there. Everyone needs to bring their own sheets, as well as one to cover the bedspread. In addition to maintaining the 6' distance and wearing a mask, there will be single use of the bathroom and shower rooms.

They also propose to have only one person at a time on the stairs. At the end of June a cleaning service arranged by Mary Larkin-Berlinski will be at Echo to do a very deep cleaning before the season starts. Meals will also require the 6' distancing, and the outside picnic tables will be used. The kitchen and the game room will have their windows open to circulate the air, to limit the spread of the virus.

It is recommended that members will only go to South Lake Tahoe if it is essential. The Echo protocol has been sent to the US Forest Service for their approval. It is expected that it will be approved by them, and we should be able to open up Echo by July 1, as a USFS permittee.

Tim Warden asked whether the Echo Trustees had been in touch with other summer permittee organizations like Fallen Leaf, and whether Mary was bringing up supplies for the cleaning company. The reply was that how we and other organizations operate will be up to the USFS; and that we would have instant read thermometers, rubber gloves and disinfectant for the cleaners use. The Echo plan was put to a vote; it was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

**Alpine Lodge:** Amy Pertschuck reported that Alpine generally would use the same protocols as Echo, differing in that they would have staggered meal times, require each person to prepare their own meals, and would limit trips around town. As to groups reserving the lodge, they will limit access to groups invited by a trained host. Wearing a mask also will be a requirement. There will be signs in the bathrooms, the kitchen and on the front door re the rules relating to cleaning, and the instructions in general.

With regard to day use at Alpine, there will be some traffic control, as well as how the day users and the overnight guests will share the lodge, including limiting the mixing of the two groups. Hikers will have their temperature taken by the hike leader, and hiker access to the lodge will be through the south door through the hallway, with access to the bathroom and through the door to the porch – a balancing act.

There will be open parking for up to 10 member cars in July. Those who are parking will get a code to the new lock system; the system will allow tracking to see who comes in/goes out. Post hike, hikers can go into outdoor areas e.g. the deck, but not inside the lodge. A small refrigerator in the hall will allow hikers to leave drinks in there for post-hike refreshment.

The restricted access to the lodge depends on the track of the virus, something we aren't sure of at this time. This Phase II will be in place until we can determine how the virus is/isn't progressing. Ann Meneguzzi noted it is an airborne virus, and asked if masks would be required. Amy replied they would be; this requirement is in the Protocols. We are also thinking about having a supply of masks on hand, to give out to anyone who comes without one.

As to hike size, Amy thinks they should be limited to 10 or 12 hikers as Anne Kirwan suggested, rather than 20 hikers. Rani agreed and feels that guidelines are needed for the hike leaders. Jay noted that with hike limits on the trails we may end up with two hikes rather than one, and get up to 20 hikers in the aggregate. He also asked if there had been any consideration given to the number of people allowed on the deck. Brooke said she prefers smaller hike groups and suggested that we give consideration to having South Bay/Peninsula hikes. Ernie noted that the Saturday Sorties never leave from the lodge and always are away from Mt. Tamalpais, offering new areas and doing multiple hikes from different

places.

Ann Meneguzzi asked if there would be any Saturday Innkeepers in July. Amy replied that there would not, that would be part of Phase 4. Steve Curry asked about parking for Club members; Amy replied that there were the Club parking passes, and Jay said he thought it would self-moderate.

The Alpine plan was approved as modified, and there being no objections it was approved unanimously.

### **Hiking Program**

**Outings Program/Saturday Sorties:** Ernie Castiaux said he expects to start in July, limiting the number of people, and requiring signing a liability form and wearing a mask. He noted that they are still working on the Sunday Sorties, but would like Board approval for the Saturday Sorties. They will not be going to Mt. Tamalais; instead they are planning the Sorties for Mt. Burdell, West Sonoma and the Montara area. At this point, because of the heat there, they are not planning to hike in the East Bay until the fall when cooler weather would be expected. The Board approved the Saturday Sorties as presented.

**Sunday Hiking Program from Alpine Lodge and Saturday Hiking Plan:** First, it was noted that Jennie Bruyn, who has been running the Alpine Sunday hiking program for 4-5 years, had resigned from the position effective July 15. A new coordinator will need to be approved. Tim is planning to start the Sunday hikes in mid July; he'll lead the first one, down through Muir Woods and back. He noted that the protocols have been set out re Alpine Lodge. Mark said he will lead the July 19 hike; he is working on the protocols. They are working with Ernie to set the hikes up through Meetup and will let the members know.

Nancy Carlisle asked if she could include them in Trails, noting that her due date in July 24. The leaders agreed they can meet her deadline, and that they would get the information to Jim earlier so he can do an eblast. Nancy Emerson noted they could accommodate different people at different speeds, as long as they have leaders. Anne Kirwan suggested they use the same protocol as they are using for the Saturday Sorties. It was agreed that the Sunday hikes file the same paper work and routines, following the Alpine Lodge protocol. The motion to approve was made by Mark, seconded by Jeff, and unanimously passed.

**CAC Event Hosting:** Tim Warden will be the Reporting Coordinator for this Event.

**Resolution 13 -The Reserve Fund Expenditures on Lodge Cap/Operating Expenses:** Carroll outlined the draft criteria and process by which the lodges can request funds from the CAC reserves. There were no questions on the draft, which will be placed into the permanent record in our bylaws. It was moved by Anne Kirwan, seconded by Mark and approved unanimously.

### **New Business**

**Dues Waiver:** A question was raised re a dues waiver for members during 2020-2021, since members generally have lost the use of the lodges during the pandemic. Carroll said the Finance Committee could look at it and get back to the board; Jeff said that while they could look at the finances there was

more to it than that. Ann Meneguzzi said that she does not favor a blanket rebate; Mark agreed with her as did Jeff and Tim. Amy said that individuals could always request a waiver for hardship. The board considered the proposal but felt that it was not warranted at this time.

**Club Zoom Account:** Jay suggested that the Club get a Zoom account for all CAC Officers and Trustees to use, with one member appointed to be the Club's Zoomer. Mark moved that we get a Zoom account, seconded by Jim, and the proposal was approved unanimously.

**New Members and Reinstatements for Board Approval**

Bev Leve reported that Greg Reza from Novato is a new member, sponsored by Tom Coleman and Jay Gustafson. The new member was unanimously approved by the Board.

**Officer and Director Reports**

**Treasurer's Report:** Jeff said that there was an unrestricted equity of \$108,000 which could be given to the lodges. It was agreed that this could be done at the next Board meeting.

**Other Reports:** There were no other Officer and Director Reports at this time.

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

**Committee Reports:** No reports at this time.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and passed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:25 PM.