

**SCOV Hiking Club**  
**Board of Meeting Directors Meeting**  
**April 3, 2024**

Meeting called to order by President Jake O'Neill at 3:30 PM

**Directors Present:** President Jake O'Neill, Vice President Bernie Rosling, Treasurer Nancy McDermott, and Chief Guide Tom Meyer.

**Members Present:** Webmaster Richard Babin, Nominating Committee Chair Ken Percival, Meg Gerkin, Jane Budden, Al Schmidt, Byron Wolffing, Gayle Franklin, Claude Janus, Jim Brandl, Georgene Porter, Jim Williams, Cary Roper

1. **Approval of Minutes from the March 6 and March 23, 2024 meetings:** Minutes were approved.
2. **Treasurer's Report:** See attached report from Claude Janus, past treasurer.  
The Board discussed recommendations from the Treasurer Audit Report. Discussion ensued regarding changing the fiscal year to 9/1 - 8/31. If the change is made, the bylaws will have to be updated. Jake will make the changes and updates. The Board will vote on updates at the next meeting and The Membership will vote on updates to the bylaws at the Annual Spring Meeting. The audit also recommended that the duties of the treasurer be laid out in more detail.
3. **Chief Guide Report:** Report by Tom Meyer
  - 39 hikes in March for a total of 1972 miles. Average of 10 hikers per hike
    - 6 - B hikes
    - 11 - C hikes
    - 20 - D hikes
    - 346 hiker days
    - 5 full hikes, 4 hikes cancelled due to lack of hikers
    - 11 cancellations, 6 were cancelled due to weather
    - Wildflower hikes were extremely popular
  - Guides: There are 32 guide teams. 8 guides are currently inactive, so there is an actual guide staff of 24. 20 of the 24 guides led hikes in March. The numbers are down compared to other years. Tom will encourage guides to lead more hikes and try to recruit more guides.
  - Meg Gerkin nominated Debbie Carr-Taylor to be a guide. Debbie would like to lead more naturalist type of hikes of 5-6 miles. Tom made a motion to approve the nomination and Jake seconded it. Motion passed.
  - The scheduling procedure has transitioned successfully to the new system. A major advantage of the new procedure is the Chief Guide can view the hikes before the 15th of the month.
  - Tom will call a meeting of summer guides to discuss summer hikes and to consider doing something on the social side during the summer.

- Tom introduced the following amendment to the guidebook: The minimum number of hikers in a group is four with the following exception: Three-person hikes will be allowed at the discretion of the guide if both the hike rating is D or C and is on a paved surface (example: SCOV golf course or CDO trail). Standard orientation hikes have no minimum. Jake motioned to amend the guide's handbook per Tom's suggestion and Bernie seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**4. Membership update:**

- 341 members
  - 37 joined in the last month
  - There is room for 13 non-residents
  - 27 members have not signed the new waiver
5. **Proposed donation to Catalina State park by Jim Williams:** See attached. Jim is asking for a \$200.00 donation for a sign to commemorate the people who worked for 12 years to get Catalina State Park. The sign has been approved, and just needs to be funded. Bernie made a motion for The Hiking Club to donate \$200.00. Jake seconded the motion. Motion passed..
6. **Website Update by Richard Babin:** Website is currently functioning well. Richard asked that he be notified of outdated forms so he can remove them.
7. **Annual Meeting/Wine and Cheese party results by Jake:** Meeting and party were successful. Special thanks to Al Schmidt and Charlene Meyers for all their work.
8. **Nominating committee - Ken Percival:** Nominations for The Board were accepted at The Annual Meeting. Ken requested any suggestions for Vice President and Chief Guide for next year.

SCOV Hiking Club Board of Director's meeting was adjourned at 4:20 by President Jake O'Neill.

Minutes submitted by: Jane Budden