

FBM Minutes 8/5/2016

Board Meeting 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Community Room, Madelyn Helling Library

Present: Chuck Staetz (President), Chip Wilder (Treasurer), Andrew Wilkinson (Vice President), Jeff Peach Vice President - Communications, Sarah Rohde (Secretary) , Susan Luhman & Ed Sylvester (Historic Canals)

Topics –FBM/SOHC, Cascade Canal, Bark Beetle meeting

Call to Order 6:07 – Chuck

Preliminary Comments (Chuck).

- Call from Sabrina Nicholson, (Executive Assistant, Nevada County Resources District): had received a report last week from (?) which stated that a financial analysis of the proposed biomass plant showed that the proposed biomass plant in Placer County is not financially feasible. Sabrina also said there were numerous complaints about the smoke that would be generated by the biomass plant.
- Nate Beason reported that the state has purchased 10 high temperature incinerators to help eliminate the wood from bark beetle infested trees. Unfortunately, the incinerators will be utilized in the central and southern portions of the state (for the time being) because the bark beetle problem is more severe there.

Minutes (Sarah): The minutes of the previous meeting (annual membership meeting) were provided to those attending the meeting. The minutes were approved with a minimum of additions and corrections as noted..

Financial status (Chip):

- As of 8/4/16 the total assets of FBM were \$41,560.31. (FBM Checking account - \$2,592.93, Money Market (funds from SOHC) - \$11,116.54, NID Pipeline account - \$5229.53 and FBM CD - \$22,621.31).
- Chuck presented an invoice for FBM's NFPA membership dues (\$175). Payment of the dues was approved unanimously.
- Sarah asked for clarification on how SOHC made decisions re donations for groups requesting financial assistance, specifically Bear Yuba Watershed Defense Fund along the Newtown Canal. Formerly SOHC was willing to consider funding for negotiations and processes that moved projects along but did not provide funds to groups for litigations. The reasons for SOHC's position were that lawsuits take too much funding and generally do not have "winners" in the end. The Board voted unanimously that FBM will maintain this position.

Membership and Communications Update (Jeff): see documentation provided.

- Paid households 235
- Members 418
- Guests ~198*
- Member emails 294
- Guest emails ~212*
- Total emails ~516*

- FB up to 197, animal sightings are as popular as ever, Banner Mountain fire tower video was popular.

*Approximate number of email addresses.

SOHC Dissolution (Chuck):

- Chuck contacted the California Secretary of State to confirm the dissolution date of SOHC. The Secretary of State Office confirmed 2/19/16 as the official dissolution date of SOHC.

Integration of FBM/SOHC (Chuck):

- It was agreed to postpone further discussion until Susan Sanders and Willy Kollmeyer from SOHC can be present. The meeting will be in the September/October timeframe. A potential date to be selected the latter part of August.

Cascade Canal

- Shaun Clarke (BYLT) sent a letter to Chuck (FBM) regarding issues one of the property owners is having with dog, trash and trespassing on his property. The Gracie Trail being trashy and has no access across his private property. Discussion involved BYLT encouraging use of the lower parking lot to reduce use of the upper lot which would in turn reduce the trash, noise, and dog mess. FBM/former SOHC members agreed the current upper trail will never be unused as it is so popular and has _____ rights now. The property owner needs to put up a fence to keep dogs and people off his private property.

Historic Canals - Cascade Canal Signs All

- Everyone thoroughly agrees upon the need for proper signage. Making the trails look like a state park would give the trails an official "look" which would be respected by trail users.

Content for "Newsletters" placed in letter boxes

- Proper trail behavior, canal history, pick up after your dog, trail is a privilege not a right, acknowledge Ray Bryars, BYLT FBM/SOHC NID etc. PR articles.

Ray Bryars suggested trail improvements. The subject to be discussed in detail at a later date

Joe Abrell suggested installing a gate to discourage ATV and horse useage. Subject to be discussed in detail at a later date.

Bark Beetle meeting end of September, Chuck/Jeff

- Tie in politicians
- Tie in insurance policies being cancelled in the county
- Calfire and other fire people
- Loggers
- Resources available
- Start on your property, let's get Banner Mountain fire cleared
- Everyone contribute three ideas for speakers via email by Friday 8/12

Interactive webcam for the fire tower, Chip

- Tahoe area installed webcamera for \$15,000.00 to an existing tower with power already in place. Still trying to get the costs involved for Banner Mountain.

Next Meeting _____ and Adjourn 7:30