



MBCA BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018 / 5:00 – 7:00 PM
Approved January 10, 2019

Regular Meeting Call to Order at 5:10pm

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Bardwell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ruth Rieman
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Fick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claudia Sall
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pat Flanagan (via phone)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seth Shteir
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meg Foley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laraine Turk
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sarah Kennington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marina West
<input type="checkbox"/> Mike Lipsitz (@6pm)	

Introduction of Guests and Board Directors

No guests in attendance.

Minutes from Nov. 8, 2018 BOD meeting

Motion by LT/CS to accept minutes approved with minor revisions by SB.

Treasurer's Report

SB gave the Treasurer's Report noting bank balance of \$32,669.99 and CD balance of \$22,034.48 for a total of \$54,715.26. Checking account is now reconciled to date. SB further reported that YV meeting room rental for 2018 has finally been invoiced/paid and he has paid for the Annual Meeting room rental as well as various Chamber memberships. SB is still working to get the Amazon Smile program activated for MBCA. He has determined what the issue is and now needs to contact Amazon to correct.

Treasurer's report accepted as presented.

Capacity Building & Organizational Issues

1) Finance Committee report

SB and MW presented the 2019 Draft Budget noting that \$8,000 has been inserted for the 50th Publication and other related items.

MSC: RR/MF to approve the 2019 Budget knowing that there may be minor revisions once a hard quote is received from Ms. Sabol who is developing our annual meeting program, 50th Anniversary publication and other 50th needs.

2) Grant status: DWL- Edison & AWAC

No new information reported.

3) Green Info webhosting – SB

MSC: SB/SS to continue GreenInfo webhosting for the Conservation Priorities mapping tool.

4) Purple Air monitors: AQMD possible funder; # to request; where to locate – PF + Finance Committee

SK noted the MDLT may have funds to purchase units. PF reported that she has spoken to Mojave AQMD suggesting units need to be installed at several locations around the MB: Copper Mtn. College, Wonder Valley Community Center, etc. MW offered Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency as a possible public location as the MAQMD would like to avoid installations on private property.

PF will email MW the form to fill out on behalf of BDVWA.

5) Events Committee reports:

- MBCA's 50th Anniversary Committee
 - a. kick-off program w/Annual Mtg. / Jan. 26, 2019: publicity, room reservation, etc.
 - b. commemorative book: logo & sponsor logos; etc.
- DWL Committee - Landscape Tour / April 27 & 28, 2019
- 2019 Event Participation

RR updated the BOD on the planning for the Annual Meeting. RR introduced the "sticker" developed by Ms. Sabol. Several members made general comments regarding the draft "sticker" or 50th Logo. Discussion continued to the Annual Meeting program edits needed asap. RR desires to film the annual meeting. MF agreed to contact Bob Stephenson to (hopefully) book him for the event.

RR further reported regarding accommodations for David Freeman traveling from the east coast. It was decided that a reservation for Friday, Saturday and Sunday night at The Campbell House would be the best option. RR is in contact with David regarding the specifics of his schedule.

SK reviewed the list of scheduled panelist for the afternoon portion of the annual meeting. SK suggested that funds for mileage for some speakers might be

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reasonable. SB suggested the funds reserved for the Ecology Class could be re-directed to this effort since the class has not been scheduled for 2019.

LT updated the BOD on the draft 50th Anniversary Book citing the “centerpiece” essay by Julia Sizek relating to the formation of the Association.

SB suggested sending out mailed invitations to our membership to invite them to the Annual Meeting. SB will work on a list of invitees and the service “e-vite” might be the best option. SB brought up the issue of catering for the Annual Event but no final decision was made.

MW gave an update on the site list for the 2019 Tour.

5) Susan Luckie Reilly: MBCA-related files / Julia Sizek’s report - MF, DF, LT

No new information to report.

6) mbconservation.org / E-blasts – SK & LT

LT reported that the Annual Meeting announcement has been posted.

7) Denison Scholarship – LT, MF

LT reported that she has received the information from the High School outlining the 2019 Scholarship schedule.

8) 2019 Board officers – SK

*SK reported the officers for 2019 are:
Sarah Kennington - President Emeritus
Steve Bardwell - President
David Fick - Vice President
Laraine Turk - Secretary
Marina West - Treasurer*

*MSC: RR/CS to approve the 2019 Officers. Unanimously approved.
Board to authorize U.S. Bank to add Marina West as a signatory to the checking and Certificate of Deposit accounts with all rights to administer such accounts on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Morongo Basin Conservation Association. Furthermore, the Board is authorizing two directors, M. West, Treasurer, and S. Bardwell, President, to obtain a bank Visa Debit Card for authorized transactions.*

The Board further recognized Claudia Sall for her years of service to the MBCA Board of Directors. CS noted she will remain a part of the Desert Wise Living Series Committee.

Conservation Issues

1) Paradise Valley EIR status update / Dec. 5th Planning meeting in Palm Desert – PF, SS

>Opposition letters to: Riverside Co. Planner Russell Brady & Riv. Co. Board of Sups, 4080 Lemon Street, Riverside, CA

PF reported that she attended the meeting and made comments with respect to the projects failure to address the concerns of the CA Fish and Wildlife Service and the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan. SS noted that Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) and Sierra Club intend to file suit against this project. PF noted that the “footprint” of this project will encroach upon the wilderness portions for the Joshua Tree National Park. PF believes the BOD should prepare a map which shows this encroachment. She will contact Brian Hammer (Victor Valley Community College) to determine what he might charge to produce such a map. The next hearing is scheduled for January 30, 2019. SS noted that this project is located within a designated conservation area. PF noted her concern is the size of the project; thousands of homes and condos.

2) Solar projects: Palen; Daggett; JT Airport – updates

- Daggett EIR mid-December / PF presentation to Newberry Springs econ. dev. org.
- Ord Solar & Energy Project DEIR / MBCA comments submitted Nov. 16 - PF
- Crescent Peak Wind Project / Eolus Wind application denied by BLM Nov. 30, 2018 / 32,351 acres So. Nevada wildlands – not in compliance with Las Vegas Resource Plan + numerous govt. & cons. groups id’d impacts.

The Daggett EIR has not yet been released. CS notes that Renewable Energy Conservation Element and Community Plans will probably not be agendized until the vacant 3rd District Supervisor is appointed.

3) Eagle Crest: follow-up on contact with Congressman Ruiz - DF

DF gave a brief update noting that the Desert Protection Society has filed a lawsuit appealing the BLM’s lack of response to their official request for a “stay” against Eagle Crest project.

4) Letter & Comments Committee report:

- Land & Water Fund Conservation: letter to Congressman Cook endorsing funding

The final letter has been uploaded to the MBCA website.

5) State Mining and Reclamation Act: SB to give TWS comment letter signed by MBCA to LT for website

PF will reach out to Larry Silver to obtain a copy of the final letter. LT will post the letter to the website.

6) Scenic Highway 247 report – SK

SK gave the report noting she recently met with CoSB representatives. The Committee has been working on “drive-by descriptions” of the highway to submit to CalTrans. CalTrans has agreed to review the Committee’s work once complete.

7) Countywide Plan & Community Action Plans

- RECE 4.10: BOS action
- Draft EIR release in December?

SS reported that he has been working on comments to some sections of the draft Countywide Plan in anticipation of the formal review period. He will involve the “Letter Committee” for approval of a “sign-on” letter.

8) Cadiz Update

SB updated the BOD that the CA Fish and Wildlife stated the EIR for Cadiz was inadequate for them to conduct their review. Furthermore, there is a recent report regarding the hydrologic connection between the Bonanza Springs and the aquifer that Cadiz intends to pump water from.

9) CoSB Night Sky Ordinance

SS gave the update after meeting with 3rd District representatives. They have decided to use the “Tucson Model” as the framework for the new CoSB Ordinance.

Outreach & Communications

1) Split Rock Landscape / Health Care District: MBCA participation – LT & ML

No additional information to report.

2) Chambers of Commerce memberships: review of past year involvement, looking to 2019 – SB

SB brought up the possibility of attending events around the basin such as the Orchid Festival, Mesa Fest, Pioneer Days, etc. LT reminded the BOD she believes that we need a “display” to take on the road.

Meeting adjourned at 7:07pm.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors to Morongo Basin Conservation Association this 13th day of December, 2018.

MORONGO BASIN CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

By: _____
Sarah Kennington, Board President

ATTEST:

By: _____
Marina West, Board Secretary

<p>Next Regular Meeting: Thursday, Jan. 10, 2018 5:00 – 7:00 PM YV Community Center / Mesquite Room YV Community Center / Mesquite Room</p>
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