

Date May 27, 2020

Present: Larry Buwalda, Scott Haggerty, Kathleen Kinkela-Love, Marcella Ogata-Day, Celine Pele, Steve Smith, Jennifer Tavares

Absent: John Schmidt

Invited Guest: Mike Zeppegno

President Scott Haggerty called the video conference to order at 7:00 P.M.

The purpose of this special meeting (via video conference) was to discuss the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and how ENC should respond to the Federal, State, and County plans to gradually “reopen” businesses at this point in time during the pandemic. In this context, each board member and invited guest, Mike Zeppegno, discussed their concerns and thoughts about whether ENC should begin to offer hosted paddles, now that the State and County have begun to phase in reopening non-essential businesses. Among the concerns were:

- Concerns over the recent spike in COVID-19 cases in Humboldt County over the last three weeks.
- Concerns about age demographics of the ENC membership.
- Concerns about not encouraging non-Humboldt County residents to travel to our area to attend ENC events during the pandemic.
- A recommendation that whatever decision ENC Board makes, we should proceed slowly and carefully.
- Under what conditions should we consider offering hosted paddles?
- What is the safest maximum group size for paddling events?
 - Will we need to establish an RSVP protocol for paddle hosts in order to manage group size?
- Should we develop a protocol for paddles during the pandemic?
 - Will paddle hosts be willing to assume the potential additional duties and risks associated with this?
 - Should we provide training to paddle hosts on COVID-19 safety practices?
- Concerns about weekends, when most hosted paddles occur, which tend to be more crowded with people than weekdays at our typical venues such as Trinidad, Big Lagoon and Stone Lagoon.

After considerable discussion the ENC Board agreed to the following action items:

- There will be no hosted paddles through June, at least.
- Cancel the Mendocino camping trip scheduled for July.
- Develop a COVID-19 protocol for paddle hosts to follow once ENC begins to host paddle events
 - Kathleen, Larry, Scott, Marcella, and Steve have agreed to draft the protocol.
 - Consult with paddle hosts about their willingness to follow the protocol, once it has been developed.

- Inform the membership via the newsletter, the steps that the Board is taking during the pandemic.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be July 1, 2020.

Minutes taken and submitted by Steven A. Smith

Minutes Adopted: _____ Date: _____

Board Officer

DATE