

Explore North Coast Board Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2024

Present: Larry Buwalda, Scott Hagerty, Molly Martin, Karen Cramer, Brian Orland, Betsy Ferguson and Lena Ashley.

Absent: Jeff Pockett

The meeting was held at Karen Cramer's home and began at 6:38 pm.

Reports

1. **Approval of the August 15, 2024, Minutes:** Larry asked for the minutes to be edited and reflect correct dates, then moved to approve updated minutes. Molly seconded. All approved.

We also discussed the need to have board agendas & minutes saved on our website. Marcella was doing this as part of her monthly work and has password access to the webpage and Facebook. Larry volunteered to contact Marcella. We would like to meet and discuss whether she is interested in returning to her position as our Web & Facebook coordinator, or pass on needed information.

2. **Membership Report:** Karen reported we have 60 active members, 29 who have joined ENC only (\$15), and 31 who are members of ACA and ENC (\$55).

3. **Treasurer Report:** Jeff emailed a report prior to the meeting. It shows our September 2024 bank balance is \$8,044. Jeff also said he will be stepping down from the Board at the end of the year and is available to assist transferring duties and information to the new Treasurer.

4. **Paddle Host Report:** Brian reported the Ahjumawi campout & paddle was cancelled due to low sign-ups. We had a small crew participate in the 9/28/24, Humboldt Bay Clean-up. This year most of the trash was located under the Humboldt Bay bridges.

October 19th, we scheduled a Mad River Slough paddle, and Brian shared a goal of scheduling 3 more paddles in the next month, including a flat wat paddle to appeal to all members.

We discussed low turnout / interest in scheduled paddles and the reduced number of planned paddles this year with Michael Morris taking a break from hosting. Paddle event advertising includes Molly posting on Reddit and Brian sending emails to ENC members. Finally, Brian asked for another board member to take over as Paddle Host Coordinator next year, and Molly volunteered. Brian will remain on the Board of Directors, but with fewer responsibilities as he will be working out of the county much of next year.

5. Lecture Series Report/Next Club Meeting:

We have tentatively scheduled Wednesday November 4th for our next Club Meeting. Brian will contact Charlotte to see if we can reserve a meeting room at the Adorni Center then confirm the meeting.

Continuing Business

ACA vs Paddlesports Management Club Paddle Event Insurance

Molly prepared a table comparing key features of our current ACA insurance vs Paddlesports Management insurance. Both BASK and Western Sea Kayakers have switched their paddle event insurance to Paddlesports. We have discussed a desire to simplify paperwork required of paddle hosts, and to reduce cost if possible. Also, both other clubs no longer carry Board Directors insurance, explaining they have never had a need or issue arise to use Directors insurance.

Switching to Paddlesports management would **require every paddle participant to join ENC with insurance to attend any paddle**. Initial estimates show the annual cost would reduce to roughly \$25-to-\$30 per member. Paddlesports also offers slightly less insurance value with one million less in, General Aggregate Limit, Products/Completed Operations Aggregate Limit, and Damages to Premises Rented.

All participants pay and sign an annual insurance waive one time per year, and join ENC. No one day participation is allowed, as currently with ACA. To join Paddlesports, we as ENC would pay an annual

insurance fee to Paddlesports based on membership (estimated at \$443), then we would receive our members annual ENC and insurance payments as each member joins. One question, how will our current membership software, Join-it, change if we move to Paddlesports?

Brian motioned to change insurance from ACA to Paddlesports and only purchase the paddle event insurance. He proposed not purchasing separate Board of Directors insurance. Scott seconded. All approved.

Christmas Party

Molly has reserved the Eureka Women's Club for our Christmas Party on Saturday, December 14th, from 3pm to 9pm. Brian will send an email asking members to save the date. We discussed scheduling a party organizing committee meeting, potluck, white elephant gift exchange, gear swap, decorations and set-up, cleanup team and maybe planning musical entertainment.

After the meeting, Jeff Pockett confirmed he has purchased a certificate of liability insurance for the Christmas Party. Jeff mailed the Eureka Women's Club a copy of the insurance certificate, and retained a copy.

Update on procedure to Confirm Membership status at Paddle Events

The issue of nonmembers signing up for events as members would be resolved with the switch to Paddlesports insurance which requires every participant to be an insured ENC member. We will need to find out how we confirm with Paddlesports that memberships are renewed timely for event participation.

New Business

New Board Members for 2025

Larry explained he was stepping down from the Board as President at the end of the year. Thus, we are looking for a new President and Treasurer.

Scott suggested we reach out to other club members and ask them to join, or rejoin, the board. He said he would talk to Charlotte Cerny and ask if she might be interested in returning as Treasurer. Brian said he would ask Mia Scotney-Costle if she was interested in joining the Board.

Scott, Molly, Karen, Betsy, Brian and Lena said they were continuing as Board members.

John Day Event

Brian suggested we hold a gear swap, or paddle gear tune-up and repair event in memory of John Day's belief in embracing all new equipment. We talked about how this could be organized and suggested Spring would be a good time to plan the event.

We also discussed the concept of a gear sale, possible at Adventures Edge's parking lot. Larry can talk with AE, if we want to continue discussions and planning a gear sale.

2025 Club Event Calendar

We have tentatively selected Thursday, July 24 thru Sunday morning, July 26, 2025, for next year's Mendocino campout & paddle.

We have tentatively scheduled a Whiskeytown campout and paddle at Oak Bottom in Spring 2025.

Reminder of Past Commitment

Safety Committee Report

We discussed some concerns over the vetting process and agreed to schedule a meeting to discuss ideas over coffee. We will invite Mike Z to a future Safety Committee meeting in October.

Next Meeting: Thursday, December 5, 2024, 6:30 pm, via Zoom.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.