

MINUTES

SUN CITY ANTHEM HIKING CLUB

BOARD MEETING – February 27, 2020, 9:00 AM

Meeting Called to Order – Susan Dona called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

Members in Attendance: Susan Dona, Bill Brown, Dave Dobmeier, Bernie Wood, Jim Boardman, Bill Scott, Bruce Odegaard, Greg Waterman and Tracy Mecum.

Approved of Minutes: Susan Dona asked for approval of minutes of January 30th Board Meeting. Bruce Odegaard moved minutes be approved; Dave Dobmeier seconded. Board voted approval.

Treasure's Report

- o Jim Boardman handed out and went over the Treasurer's Report for February.
- o The Audit was completed and passed with flying colors due to the awesome efforts of our previous Treasurer, Bill Brown.
- o New Waiver – There was a fair amount of discussion on this point. Several changes were suggested for the Basic Rules of Safety and Courtesy. There was new wording suggested for item 4 and Jim suggested adding a brand, new item 5. Jim gave Susan suggested wording for item 5 so changes could be made and distributed to the Club Members. There was a lot of discussion on changing the wording on the Hike Detail pages on the website. This would require changing the information on 240 hikes. No final decision was made on the wording and discussion was tabled for later, perhaps on-line or in person. It was noted the approval of this wording will also affect the work done on website updates in this area, and we will need final wording some time before the summer so changes can be made.

Communications/Website Coordinator Meeting

- o Website Update
Bill Brown announced we have hired a professional website firm, Radiate WP (Bill contracting a professional company was approved by the Board at Jan 30 Meeting). The new firm has already made the website a secure site and navigation on the website is faster. The

new firm will charge \$110 a month for maintenance. Included in that fee is an audit of the site, where they will review the entire site. A priority list and video of suggested changes will be given to Bill. This list will help us decide which items we want to tackle first. Priority items we choose that cannot be handled by the team at Radiate WP can be contracted out.

- o Bill Brown reported that the newly updated 'Hikes and Excursions for You and Your Guests' has been uploaded to the website.

Membership Report

Bernie Wood reported that we have 261 active members as of February 27th, and 4 pending new members. She also noted that Bill Scott's presentation at the New Homeowner's Meetings has been working very well, bringing in new members year around.

Member-at-Large Report

Dave Dobmeier reported that the Member Satisfaction appears to be quite high. The members love the special hikes and the Fall and Spring Hiking Trips. The Jeep Trip this year to Martinez Mine was a special hit. They also have shown great interest in viewing wildflowers in the Spring, and the Board agreed this is something Hike Coordinators and Hike Leaders should accommodate as much as possible.

Calendar for 2020-2021 – Tracy Mecum

Tracy presented the proposed Calendar for 2020-2021 with scheduled Board Meetings, General Meetings, Potluck, Volunteer Party, etc. There were 3 dates to be scheduled for the two Hike Coordinator Meetings and the Fall Hike Leader's Meeting. Bruce has submitted his suggested dates for these meetings to Tracy and she was to schedule them following the meeting. The Final Calendar will be distributed as soon as these dates are approved by the Union Center. It was agreed that Hike Leaders would be included in next year's Volunteer Party, and that we would continue to have an End of Year Party for final hike scheduling and general acknowledgment of the Hike Leaders, who are all an essential part of our team.

Outreach Program

Greg Waterman announced the following outreach efforts:

1. 27 young people showed up at Picketpost and walked the loop hike. They then did trail work. The Ranger's showed up and talked to all the kids. It was a great day.

2. The Boy Scouts trail-work day was rained out and has been rescheduled for March 27th.
3. We are still doing trail work at Arnett Creek every Friday.
4. Jeep Hike next season will be to Wood Canyon. Greg is working with Trevor to get details for the trip. It will probably be either the first or 3rd week in December.
5. Oracle State Park picnic area has been reserved for the cookout for the day before Thanksgiving this year.
6. There is a Hiking Club at Parkside and we have reached out to them. We will probably be working with them to help them set up and may be more involved with them in the future.
7. Greg is looking into a Sunday night hike and cookout. This has been very successful with other hiking clubs.
8. Have put together an Emergency Training Class for hike leaders working in conjunction with Fire Station #2. It will be held this Friday, Feb 28, and 13 hike leaders will be attending. With the volunteers helping as monitors and victims, there will be 24 people there from the Club. Pizza will be served.
9. There was a meeting of those hikers interested in doing the AZ Trail. It was well-attended with good questions.

Potential Speakers

- o Susan announced that the date of March 16th will work well for Mr. Victor Bubelwa Izoba to present information on hiking Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania. We plan to set up a banner on the website announcing the presentation and have the hike leaders make an announcement before the Wednesday hikes.
- o Suggestions for future speakers from those at the meeting were The Cowboy and the docent, Shelly, who led Susan and her friends on a tour of Casa Grande Ruins.

Hiking Report – Bill Scott/Bruce Odegaard

- o Spring Hike to Sedona
Bill and Bruce said there is the potential of a private, scheduled tour of Montezuma's Well with a short hike. They are still looking into it and will provide details and time at a later date. If we can't do the tour, we will meet at Montezuma's Castle at 2 PM.
- o Bill said that the special hikes for next year have pretty much been scheduled but that he's always looking for more options to explore. In addition to the hikes we have done in the past, there's a possibility

of a night-time hike with Wild Bill at Boyce-Thompson Arboretum, maybe a cookout with the Cowboy (or a cowboy) and a horseback ride with a cookout.

Lifestyle & Home Resources Report – Susan Dona

Four new hikers signed up during the event, and all of our materials were distributed to others. Bill Scott, who was at the event for the 2nd half said he and his partner, Mary Skinner, talked to everyone. Mary went out of her way to talk about the benefits of the club.

Report on Area Hiking Club Gathering (Feb 10) – Bill Scott

Bill reported that 7 clubs attended with a total of 10 people. It was a great group and we received a lot of information about how the different groups were organized. This has been a good way to make contacts and friends with area clubs, learn more about what hikes are available that we don't already have in our database, and discover new ways to organize our club. We will be sending out a copy of the Medical Tag we attach to our backpacks. None of the other clubs has anything like that and they were very interested. We also learned we are the only club that schedules hikes on our website. Bill said he would be sending out a list of potential new hikes that need to be explored and set up.

InReach Units – Bill Brown

Bill Brown showed us the new InReach Units that would allow satellite connection for our hikes if someone is injured or if hikers are lost during a hike. These units will probably be most used by the Advanced or Upper Intermediate hikers. The Board agreed that training will need to be set up so that hike leaders for those groups know how to use the devices. Bruce Odegaard also reported that our new walkie-talkie-type receivers are very good and the reception was crystal-clear even in the canyons on the recent Gordon Hirabayashi key exchange. Need to set up who the contacts for these new InReach devices should be in a separate meeting.

Agenda for March 2 General Meeting

The Board set up an Agenda for the March 2 General Meeting.

Adjourn

Susan asked if we were ready to adjourn. Bill Brown moved we adjourn; Tracy Mecum seconded the motion, and the Board members voted approval. The Meeting Adjourned at 11:15 AM.