

Sierra Club, Rocky Mountain Chapter
Quarterly Executive Committee Meeting
Saturday, January 10, 2009
Boulder Outlook Hotel
800 28th Street, Boulder, Colorado

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. The meeting was called to order with a quorum present at 9:00 a.m. with Rich Levy, Co-Chair, presiding. Introductions and announcements were made.

Groups represented:

Blue River Group (Rick Warren)
Enos Mills (JoLynn Jarboe)
Indian Peaks (Bill Roettker)
Mount Evans (Betsy Kelson)
Pikes Peak (Kirby Hughes)
Poudre Canyon (Alan Apt)
Roaring Fork (Mark Stevens)
Sangre de Cristo (Jenny Kedward, until acceptance as an at-large member)
South Platte (Mike Mueller)
Trappers Lake (Rich Levy)

Not represented:

Rachel Carson
Uncompahgre
Weminuche

At-Large Members present:

Rebecca Dickson
Becky English
Jenny Kedward (after acceptance as an at-large member)
Gary Lindstrom
Myrna Poticha
Steve Welter (after acceptance as an at-large member)

At-Large Members absent:

Maggie Pedersen

Others present:

Peggy Malchow Sass
Robyn Fugett, Chapter Director
Jonah Fruchter, Southwest Office, for Sessions III and IV
Mark Easter, PCG, for Session I
Angela Medbury, EMG, for Sessions II and III
Todd Sanford, IPG, for Sessions I and II
Mark Collier, Treasurer, for Session IV

2. The October 2008 minutes were approved as corrected to note that JoLynn Jarboe was present as delegate for Enos Mills Group.

3. Rich reported on the following online Ex Comm votes:

- Oppose (labor) amendments 47, 49, and 54: passed by two-thirds majority

- Oppose Amendment 52: passed by two-thirds majority
- Endorsement of Pete Lee in SD 12: passed by two-thirds majority

4. It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the agenda with the following modifications: (1) the Ex Comm’s appointment to fill the open at-large seat will precede the election of officers, and (2) Session V, Executive Session for personnel matters, will be deleted.

SESSION I – RMC ELECTIONS

5. Elections and Appointments

Election Committee Report and Seating of New At-Large Members

The Chapter Election Committee’s report was given by committee chair JoLynn Jarboe. 396 ballots total were received, of which five were invalid. Candidates for the three At-Large seats on the Chapter Ex Comm received votes as follows:

Becky English 299
 Rebecca Dickson 274
 Jenny Kedward 208

Dave Gardner 197
 Bill Myers 187
 Randy Will 78

It was moved, seconded, and passed to accept the Election Committee’s report and to seat the three people elected as At-Large Ex Comm members: Becky English, Rebecca Dickson, and Jenny Kedward.

Appointment to Fill Open At-Large Seat

Because Jason Wells has resigned as an At-Large member, the Ex Comm must appoint someone to fill the open seat for the remainder of Jason’s term. It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Ex Comm appoint Steve Welter to this seat.

Election of Officers

Jenny Kedward was nominated to be Chapter Chair. Upon a motion by Myrna Poticha, Jenny was elected Chair by acclamation.

Steve Welter was nominated to be Vice Chair and was elected.

Peggy Malchow Sass was nominated to be Secretary and was elected.

Mark Collier was nominated to remain as Treasurer and was elected.

The delegate to the Council of Club Leaders is required to be an at-large member of the Ex Comm. Maggie Pedersen was nominated and was elected as delegate. Myrna Poticha was nominated and elected as alternate delegate.

Approval of Political Committee

Becky Dickson, chair of the 2008 Political Committee, presented the committee members recruited to serve for 2009. It was moved, seconded and passed that the following Political Committee be approved for 2009:

Peggy Malchow Sass, chair
 Rebecca Dickson

Susan Kimbler
Gary Lindstrom
Myrna Poticha
Larry Skiffington
Will Walters
Dave Bryan, Alternate
David Mastronarde, Political Treasurer

Jenny Kedward as Chapter Chair will serve Ex Officio on the Political Committee.

Approval of Legislative Committee

Three Ex Comm members were recruited to be on the Legislative Committee, and the Chapter Director serves on the committee Ex Officio. Additional members were sought for the committee. Becky Dickson and Becky English volunteered. It was moved, seconded, and passed that the following Legislative Committee be approved for 2009:

Gary Lindstrom, chair
Kirk Cunningham
Becky Dickson
Becky English
Myrna Poticha

Ex Officio: Robyn Fugett and Jenny Kedward

Approval of Administrative Committee

Under the bylaws, the Administrative Committee is to consist of the Chair, the Vice Chair, the Conservation Chair, and two other Ex Comm members. It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the following Administrative Committee:

Jenny Kedward, Chapter Chair
Steve Welter, Chapter Vice Chair
Kirk Cunningham, Conservation Chair
Mike Mueller, Ex Comm member
Myrna Poticha, Ex Comm member

Approval of Personnel Committee

National personnel management guidelines state that the Personnel Committee functions best when kept to five or fewer members. It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the following Personnel Committee:

Jenny Kedward, Chapter Chair
Steve Welter, Chapter Vice Chair
Maggie Pedersen, Personnel Supervisor
Mike Mueller, Ex Comm member
Myrna Poticha, Ex Comm member

Mike Mueller raised the issue of the need for an attorney to advise the Ex Comm on multiple legal issues. Ex Comm members were asked to send recommendations for attorneys who might serve in this way to Steve Welter.

Thanks were extended to Rich Levy and Maggie Pedersen for their work as Co-Chairs over the past two years, and Rich passed the gavel to Jenny Kedward, who presided after this point.

SESSION II – ORGANIZATIONAL

6. Chapter Office Report – Robyn Fugett

In addition to Roger Wendell, who has agreed to become Chapter webmaster, we also have a new co-webmaster, Mike Stroh (stroh78@yahoo.com), whose computer science class at Montbello High School is revamping our website. Suggestions on website format should be directed to Mike; suggestions on website substance should be directed to Robyn.

Teri has researched ways to reduce costs of the Chapter newsletter. She has received several bids for less than we now spend, and the savings are reflected in the 2009 budget. She is also working on increasing advertising income. The printing of four issues of the *Peak & Prairie* costs about \$22,000 annually. Robyn invited discussion about reducing to three the number of P&P issues printed and mailed each year. A straw poll was taken, with the majority in favor of a temporary reduction to three issues for 2009.

Since Robyn is not entirely ready to take on all lobbying responsibilities for the Chapter in her first year, she recommends that we engage Chuck Malick to train her and assist with lobbying, for which his fee would be \$5,500 (or roughly the cost of printing and mailing one *Peak & Prairie*).

Robyn has given a high priority to fundraising for the Chapter. Reminders have been sent regarding the March Appeal, and groups will get their checks after late checks stop coming in. The High Touch Appeal, which began in late November, has generated \$5,400 so far, and checks will continue to come in during early 2009.

Robyn also has given priority group development and to the recruitment of volunteers. She is encouraging all current volunteers to follow the motto “Train your replacement.”

7. Leadership Training – Robyn Fugett and Peggy Malchow Sass

Ex Comm member responsibilities were covered, along with the role of the Ex Comm as a policy-making and direction-setting board. Peggy discussed interaction between volunteers and staff, highlighting the Chapter Staff’s role in serving the entire Chapter rather than any one volunteer, and the need to be respectful of the staff’s time and priorities.

SESSION III – CONSERVATION MATTERS

8. Conservation Reports – Kirk Cunningham

9. OHV report – Rosalind McClellan

Ros provided maps showing incursions of off-road vehicles onto hiking trails on public lands. She requested help in protecting hiking trails.

10. White River National Forest Travel Plan – Kirby Hughes

11. Valmont/Cherokee power plant retirement campaigns – Becky English

Becky discussed two aging and obsolete power plants operated by Xcel, with the suggestion that Xcel itself might want to close the plants and would welcome public opinion to that effect. It was moved, seconded, and passed that we urge Xcel to close the Valmont and Cherokee power plants.

12. Southwest Regional Office report – Jonah Fruchter

SESSION IV- FINANCIAL MATTERS

13. Treasurer's / Financial Report – Mark Collier

Mark discussed important points in the 2009 Chapter budget. It was moved, seconded, and passed to adopt the budget presented with the modification that \$5,000 for lobbying is inserted under lobbying, and \$500 is inserted under training, for Chuck Malick's work with and for Robyn, and the Peak & Prairie budget item is adjusted to reflect one less issue to be printed and mailed in 2009.

SESSION V – GROUP, SECTION, AND CCL REPORTS

14. CCL – No report was given as Dave Gardner was not present.

15. Group reports. Groups giving brief reports were SPG, BRG, IPG, SdCG, PCG, MEG, RFG, TLG. (See Group Reports)

FINAL BUSINESS

17. Chair's Business

The April meeting will be held in Fort Collins with Poudre Canyon Group hosting. The July meeting will be held in Steamboat, and it was moved, seconded, and passed to make the July meeting a 2-day meeting with training on Sunday followed by a hike.

18. Final Announcements

Schedule of host groups for 2009 Ex Comm meetings:

April 2009: PCG

July 2009: TLG

October 2009: MEG

It was moved, seconded, and passed to adjourn the meeting.