



SGPF Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 18, 2024
Empire Mine Docent Room

Board Members Present: Jesse, William, Syd, Robert, Hank, Steve, Rhea (via zoom), Alex (via zoom)

Board Members Absent:

Others: Rob Griffith, Steve Ruble

Jesse called the meeting to order at 10:04am

- 1) **Review agenda**—additions: Rhea: Q re Riparian Studios contract and County grant to be on agenda: **Yes:** Already on the agenda.
- 2) **Review and approval of minutes:** Moved by Robert, seconded by Rhea to approve minutes. Passed unanimously.
- 3) **CAL Report**--Alex: Thank you from staff for the approval of Parks' funding requests. Mary Moyer will be leaving sector for NorComm the end of Feb. Dan Lubin has been promoted to permanent fulltime (with funding from cannabis accounts). Alex has asked Jeremy Lin to attend our February board meeting in person. With regard to Riparian video proposal, drone footage will require Superintendent approval. Robert Coats asked Alex about the process for expenditure approvals and the SGPF form. He proposed to modify the form to delete Paige's name and email and to refer to the position, rather than name. The form will require approval of the designated CAL (cooperative association liaison).
Rob Griffith: Provided additional input about district superintendent approval process for drone use. (Who will operate, purpose of use, details of operation and notification with local airport.) He suggests that the board develop plans or put forward ideas of how we would like to liquidate (spend) the funds to accomplish our shared desires.

4) Committee Reports

- a) **Finance:** Robert submitted complete financial reports. Robert moved to extend the \$50K CD from February 2024 to February 2025. Seconded by Hank. (A discussion about the Sonoma State contract ensued in response to William's question about the Sonoma State expenditures.) Rob complimented the board, and Robert in particular, for professional and transparent reporting with regard to finances. Motion to extend the \$50K CD to February 2025 passed unanimously.
- b) **Governance: Election of Directors**
The following motion was made by Robert and seconded by Syd: "*Resolved, that each of Syd Brown, Robert Coats, Steve Sanchez is nominated to stand for election as a Director for a term ending January 31, 2025 and that each of Jesse Locks, William Silva, Hank Weston and Rhea Williamson is nominated to stand for election as a Director for a term ending January 31, 2026.*" During the course of discussion, no additional nominations were offered. **The election of the Directors was approved unanimously.**

Sierra Gold Parks Foundation Mission:

Sierra Gold Parks Foundation is dedicated to the sustainable stewardship of Empire Mine State Historic Park, Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park, and South Yuba River State Park now and for future generations. Working in collaboration with California State Parks, we support educational programs and projects that enrich the visitors' experiences and protect our parks.



Steve Ruble expressed an interest in joining the board. He will submit his application and we will consider his nomination at the next board meeting in February.

c) **Sales Center:** Syd had a meeting with the sales center volunteers, and gathered input on what went well and how to improve the processes going forward. Inventory continues to be updated.

d) **Events:**

SYRCL WSFF EnviroFair–Feb 17 & 18, 10am-4pm: State Parks and SGPF will have a table on York Street. Jesse has given Sam a lot of tabling materials. Board members may participate/help staff the table. Interested members should talk with Sam about this, to schedule.

Springfest at Bridgeport—tentatively set for April 6. Jean and Wyatt are leading the planning for this inaugural event at Bridgeport.

Humbug Day—TBD (Likely to be the second Saturday in June, per tradition.)

Miner’s Picnic at Empire—August 31

Holidays in the Park—December 7

Hank inquired about another Bridge Harvest event. Jesse suggested we table the decision about a fundraising event to a time when Steve and the rest of the events committee can meet and discuss.

e) **Communications:** Jesse circulated the statement of work for Riparian Studios’ Contract to create a video series project for all three parks. The products will be adaptable to be used in the local chambers of commerce, visitor centers, online, etc. Robert moved and Syd seconded to approve a contract for \$10,000 with Riparian Studios to create the video project “Legacy of the Land”.

5) **Old Business: Update on Outdoor Visitor Safety Grant:** We received our first draw of \$53K from the total \$71K in December. The money will be used for water fountains/water bottle filling stations, garbage cans, electronic signs, and updated trail signs/kiosks.

6) **New Business:** Will: Expressed concern about the windows in the blacksmith shop. They are in unacceptable condition, and a hazard. Alex requested the request be sent to her directly. Rob: He took a tour with George Sanford and Steve Ruble. They discussed the use and placement of mannequins that are in the adit. Parks probably will not be using them (the mannequins) in the future, so perhaps the foundation would be open to donating to another non-profit organization (North Star Mining Museum?). Robert pointed out that this is a Parks issue. Robert moved to adjourn, seconded by Will, and meeting was adjourned at 11:44am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Syd Brown

Board Secretary

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2024 Board Meeting Schedule—Third Thursday of the Month at 10AM

January 18
February 15
March 21
April 18
May 16
June 20
July 18
August 15
September 19
October 17
November 21
December 19

Committees

Sales Center (Robert, Syd, Rhea and Jesse) Meeting day and time to be set by committee

Governance and Finance (Robert and Jesse) Second Tuesday of every month at 3pm

Events (Steve, William, Jesse) First Friday at 1pm

Communications (Syd and Jesse) First Wednesday at 10am

Fundraising (Jesse, Rhea, Hank, and Robert) First Monday at 2pm

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