



# MINUTES

## Board of Directors – Quarterly Meeting

California Great Outdoors, Inc., a California Corporation

Date: Saturday, January 21, 2024

Location: Online Zoom Call

### Great Outdoors Board Members

Dennis Curran	Chair	Committee Chairs:	
Lance Whitmier	Financial Officer	John Buckley	Outings
Michael Keller	Secretary	Scott Connelly	Outdoor Experience
Michael Milan	OCLB Board Rep*	Peter Emond-Worline	Awards (Absent)
Cliff Clue	PS Board Rep*	Michael Keller	Bylaws
Len Burkhart	SD Board Rep*	John “J-Mo” Molina	Outreach and Webmaster
Thomas Larson	SBVC Board Rep*		
Steve Sisneros	LA Board Rep* (Absent)	John Buckley stand-in	

\* According to our Bylaws: 3 out of the 5 Chapter Reps must be present for a quorum.

#### **Call to Order – by Dennis Curran (Corporate Chair)**

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m. Welcome.

#### **Secretary – Michael Keller**

Roll call made. Quorum established. 5 out of 5 chapter Reps were present.

John Buckley motioned, *“To accept the Election Meeting, Outgoing Board General Business Meeting and Incoming Board General Business Meeting minutes held October 21, 2023.”* Seconded by Thomas Larson. Vote: 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

#### **Financial Officer – Lance Whitmier**

The organization has approximately \$50,000 in cash. Financials for the 2022-2023 fiscal year are being finalized. Gross receipts amounted to approximately \$111,000. An amended tax return needs to be filed by February 15, 2024. A brief discussion ensued explaining tax filing requirements are based on gross receipts and not cash held in bank accounts. Lance Whitmier motioned, *“To approve the purchase of tax filing software costing approximately \$89 to e-file the amended returns.”* Seconded by Thomas Larson. Vote: 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

Lance reported that the Corporate Board and the LA Chapter both have access to the accounts held at Bank of America. The Corporate Board has a savings account and the LA Chapter has a checking

account. John Buckley is checking into the forms required and would like to table any action until the next quarterly meeting as the LA Chapter is in transition for a new treasurer.

Lance presented an actual to-budget spending summary and pointed out that Corporate may not be able to fund as many events in the 2023-2024 fiscal year as the main income for Corporate is derived from a percentage of member dues and profits from the Annual Conference.

### **Old Business – Corporate Chair – Dennis Curran**

No old business to report.

### **New Business – Corporate Chair – Dennis Curran**

A text field option will be added for an individual's preferred choice of pronouns when they sign up. J-Mo Molina and Cliff Clue will work on this addition, as well as, new member registration streamlining to skip RV information if a member doesn't own one.

Cliff Clue mentioned the possibility of raising annual dues. There was a previous cash surplus due to Covid-19 but suggested that Chapters share in the Annual Conference. According to Lance, Corporate can manage with the current fee structure. Bylaws would need to be changed to accommodate a dues increase.

Len Burkhart brought up the current wording of the San Diego Chapter's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Statement to add "*and allies*" for all Chapters. Bylaws would have to be changed and it was suggested that Reps go back to their Chapters and discuss this wording change.

### **Awards – Peter Emond-Worline (Absent)**

#### **Bylaws – Michael Keller**

Nothing to report

#### **Outdoor Experience – Scott Connelly**

Scott reported an outstanding response to Outdoor Experience training from the Conference. Twenty-eight participants signed up for the event to be held at O'Neill Regional Park February 23-25. Event Manager training will be added in the evening.

#### **Outings – John Buckley**

New outings are planned by the LA Chapter. The San Diego Chapter was having some issues with Wild Apricot with broken links and error pages. J-Mo will work with the SD Chapter webmaster. John Buckley suggested to Chapter Reps that "save the date" notices be posted to avoid conflict with the same type of events. Noted some events are flexible and not in conflict, such as the the trip to Santa Cruz and participation in San Diego's Gay Pride.

#### **Outreach – John "J-Mo" Molina**

Nothing to report.

#### **Webmaster – John "J-Mo" Molina**

Doing market research for alternatives to Wild Apricot.

### **Chapter Reports**

The LA Chapter is going to the Vincent Price Art Museum on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and a hike is planned on March 16 in the Santa Monica Mountains. They are holding elections for its core group on January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The OCLB Chapter has a planned Campout to Yosemite National Park on May 17-20, and a Scenic Urban Walk to Signal Hill on February 4<sup>th</sup>.

The Palm Springs Chapter has Campouts planned to Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Feb.16-19, the Salton Sea Mar. 14-17, Cottonwood in Joshua Tree National Park Apr. 9-12, Hurkey Creek May 9-12, Guajome Regional Park June 16-19, and Sweetwater Regional Park July 18-22. Numerous hikes are planned weekly, as well as, game nights and pool parties throughout the year.

The SBVC Chapter has a Campout planned for Morro Bay July 18-21 and holds Pizza Socials each month, which are well attended by their members. Membership is also increasing.

The SD Chapter has a hike planned on Feb. 10, a social at Pelly's Mini Golf on Feb. 18, a Backpack trip planned for the Grand Canyon Feb. 26 – Mar. 1, and Campouts at Agua Caliente Regional Park Mar. 22-24 and Mount Laguna June 20-23.

### **Scheduled Next Board Meeting**

Saturday, April 20, 2024, 10:00 a.m. possibly as an in-person meeting hosted by the San Diego Chapter with the OCLB Chapter hosting at Lance Whitmier's home as an alternative.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.