

Council Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2016



**Meeting held at Giovanni's Italian Restaurant
Called to order at 7:00 pm by Joel Tracey**

Board Members Present:

President: Joel Tracey
Vice President: vacant
Treasurer/Secretary: Liz Tuttle
Directors: Marc Henning, 3Rs
Craig McDowell, Webmaster
David Pierce, At Large
Delegates: John Leek, San Diego Sea Dogs
Randy Thomas, San Diego Dive Club
Terry Thomas, San Diego Dive Club –Alternate
Members: Ken & Marie Hunrichs
Guest: Robert Melendez

Minutes of the April 13, 2016 meeting, previously distributed through the email list, were approved by voice vote with no objections. The minutes will be posted to the Council website.

1) Officer's Reports

a. President's Report

- i. Nothing to report at this time that isn't addressed later on in the agenda.

b. Treasurer's Report

i. Current account balances:

Checking \$2,666.34

Savings \$ 500.72

ii. Income:

1. 3Rs donations \$103.00
2. Membership dues \$30.00

iii. Expenses:

1. 3Rs equipment & supplies purchases \$80.52
2. 3Rs safety swimmer training refreshments \$113.43
3. Records storage monthly rent \$29.00

2) Committee's Reports

a. Webmaster (Craig McDowell)

- i. Some minor changes have been made to the 3Rs page, but Craig and Marc H. still need to get the correct waiver/registration form attached.
- ii. If you think a change needs to be made to the website, send an email to the officers or bring your suggestion to the meetings. Craig will only make

changes to the site when suggestions are approved. It is not his job to design the website. He is here to make approved changes as directed.

- iii. If anyone experiences problems with site functionality, please forward this information on to Craig at webmaster@sdivers.com.

b. Community Outreach (Joel Tracey)

- i. Mike Russell, Marc Henning & Joel Tracey have discussed having an outreach/educational program for inner-city children who have no experience with the beach; something similar to the 3Rs.
- ii. Joel has setup a meeting with Seaworld's Community Relations Dept. to discuss the possibility of making this program a joint venture. Seaworld's resources are greater than the Council's. They know how to reach the public better. With Seaworld, we can make this an eco-educational/environmental awareness program as well as a water safety program.

c. Rocks, Rips & Reefs (Marc Henning)

- i. 3Rs at La Jolla Cover/Boomer Beach seemed to have went well; 31 participants and 8 instructors & safety divers.
- ii. Things to improve upon:
 - a) We need to get a headcount of all people who show for these events, including even those who don't get in the water.
 - b) We need to track demographics of attendance (ie, male/female; -20yrs/+20yrs, etc.).
- iii. Equipment request list:
 - a) We need to have a basic first aid kit for minor injuries so that we don't deplete the supplies in the trauma kit unnecessarily.
 - b) Marc would like to purchase 5 new safety buoys and 2 replacement straps at the cost of \$319 plus shipping and handling. Joel will first approach the SD Lifeguard Service to see if they have any they would wish to donate.
 - c) Marc would also like to purchase a pop-up canopy for Council events (including the 3Rs) so that members no longer loan out their personal canopies for these events. Canopy must be a 10x10 to meet park regulations.
 - d) A motion was made and seconded to approve these purchases. The motion passed unanimously.

d. Historical Committee (John Leek)

- i. John is still in the organization process and has enlisted the help of fellow Sea Dogs club member Robert Melendez to accumulate old photos and newsletters.
- ii. The Council has a lot of records in storage that may be of use. If John accesses the storage facility and removes any items for scanning or duplication, he needs to inform Liz of anything he has checked out.

3) Unfinished Business

- a. Insurance.** As of this meeting date, the Council is still without insurance for the 3Rs.
- b. Corporate Sponsorship Drive.** Joel would like to have a strong push for corporate sponsorship of the Council. He has created a sponsorship letter which Liz passed out to those in attendance at the meeting to assist in obtaining sponsorships. These could be in the form of money, goods, and/or services.

- i. Marc H. is in communication with La Jolla Swim & Sport who contacted the Council as a small business interested in helping to sponsor the 3Rs program.
 - ii. As a Council, we need to decide upon a standard system for different levels of corporate sponsorship. For example, for x \$\$'s a business could have their logo with a link to their website on our site. For xx \$\$'s, they could have a logo link as well as a table at one or more of the 3Rs events, etc.
 - iii. Marc H. would like to make the Council website a resource for divers around San Diego, as well as those divers coming to visit and dive San Diego. Options as to what information and links should be provided was debated. Discussion of this topic was tabled for a future date when there is more time available to discuss it and a draft of standards for sponsored v. info only could be presented.
- c. Casa Reef Project Update.** This project is still in the planning stages. Joel is currently working with a science advisor to design the project objectives and develop a satisfactory grid/transect system to collect the desired information.
- i. Reef Check's system is being used as a model for the study guidelines.
 - ii. Divers who want to participate in this project as citizen scientists would need to be volunteers certified by an organization such as Reef Check.
- d. Project Heartbeat.** This event is on hold at this time and may be revisited in October/November, or work to seriously promote next spring.
- e. Diver Safety Event.** It was determined that there is indeed interest in hosting another Diver Safety Event by the Council again.
- i. We will need members to volunteer to organize this event and contact the organizations that participated previously (ie, Lifeguards, Coast Guard, Divers Alert Network, Dept of Fish & Game, and the Hyperbaric Chamber (Jay Dushnic)
- f. Children's Pool Access Update.** (Ken Hunrichs) The lawsuit to return beach access to the Children's Pool as it was intended was successful, however the City of San Diego Town Council has voted to move forward with another appeal. The rope continues to remain in place at this time, pending a ruling of the appeal.
- i. Joel appeared on behalf of the Council and their member clubs at the recent San Diego Town Council meeting where it was voted to appeal the ruling.
 - ii. He restricted his comments to those reflected when the results of the recent survey he conducted were summarized: Members are opposed to the appeal; waste of public funds; ill-conceived public policy; no scientific need; negative affect to public.
 - iii. Support for the appeal and continuation of the rope is extremely organized and intense. ***If you feel that continued access to the beach & ocean via Children's Pool should be allowed, then you need to be visible and vocal in your support of the Friends' of Children's Pool and their efforts to maintain access.***

4) New Business

- a. **La Jolla Town Council Meeting.** attended on behalf of the Council of Divers and stated 3 main points:

- i. The Council of Divers, reflecting the opinions of its member clubs, opposes any government action which seeks to limit or restrict public access to public beaches for any reason;
 - ii. Similar to the pinnipeds at the Children's Pool, *Zalophus californianus* is not threatened, endangered or a species of concern anywhere along its range and current NOAA language and written recommendations should be complied with by the City of San Diego;
 - iii. Parties interested in maintaining public access need to coordinate their efforts to pressure their elected officials/hold them accountable.
- b. Shirts for Council and Safety Staff at 3Rs and other events.** Marc would like to propose the purchase of red polo shirts for Council staff and red rash guards for safety staff as a means of easy-identification purposes during various Council and 3Rs events.
 - i. A proposed logo has been designed similar to the one on the jackets presented to the 3Rs safety staff last year.
 - ii. A motion was made and seconded to approve the purchase of shirts and rashguards pending the acquisition of 3 bids (minimum). The motion passed unanimously.
- c. 3Rs Participant T-Shirts.** Marc would like to propose the purchase of t-shirts for sale to participants of the 3Rs events.
 - i. A proposed logo has been designed.
 - ii. The matter was tabled at this time for further research on whether the Council wants to sell the shirts at the events and/or as an online campaign. Marc and Craig are working on this together.
- d. Meet-up Group for SDCoD.** Marc would like to propose the Council begin an online “meet-up” group to draw in more members. Several prominent dive clubs in San Diego have meet-up groups that appear to have significant participation.
 - i. Cost would be \$14.99/month or approximately \$180/year.
 - ii. A quorum was no longer present at this time of the meeting. The discussion was tabled for a future date.

The next General Meeting open to all members and the public is scheduled for Thursday, August 18, 6:30pm at Giovanni's.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary Liz Tuttle