

Minutes of Oct 13th, 2009 General Meeting

Meeting held at La Jolla Brew House – called to order at 7:00 pm by Scott Anderson, president.



1. Guest Speaker

With 1 week before the end of all public input to the MMPA South California plan, we were able to have Joe Exline back, who is a member of the FIN group and has been to every MLPA meeting. He had the final maps under consideration for submission to the Blue Ribbon Task Force which will assess them for recommendation to DFG. We will soon know what the MPA's will look like for our area.

In spite of his own preferences, Joe gave us a presentation designed to inform on all aspects of the plans for all divers there to make their own decisions, should they be thinking of giving input to the RSG in Long Beach or just curious as to the MPA's being considered. He was able to answer questions of every sort.

The issue has gained more importance in the last few days, as the State Attorney General has stated definitely that where the State decides shore activities such as swimming, diving, surfing, etc, are inimical to the goal of an MPA, then those activities can be curtailed as surely as fishing. This is not the plan at this time, currently all MPA will allow swimming, diving, surfing etc.

2. Children's Pool

The City has requested a permit for a rope across beach at CP again this year, but this permit to also be for every winter forever. The same extended period adding a month on each side of the official pupping season remains. The advocates of preservation of the seal display at CP are adamant that a new law to become effective in January will allow creation of a "seal sanctuary" there even though the term is not found in that law. The law allows a "marine mammal park" which the City has not defined.

The Council of Divers had a proposal delivered to every City Council member suggesting the beach be divided to allow divers access in a corridor on the east end of the beach where seals seldom go. No replies weeks afterward. Everything is on hold until January, but you can be sure said new law will be challenged in court right out of the chute, so give it another year of uncertainty.

3. Next General Meeting scheduled 11/10/09 at the La Jolla Brew House

The Council is accepting nominations for 2010. So anyone unhappy with our efforts to preserve shore lobstering in La Jolla, provide balanced information on MLPA, promote every kind of diving, keeping Children's Pool open for divers or keep the Rock Reef & Rips (3rs) program going should be there to nominate themselves. If you have suggestions for a guest speaker, please email us at: info@sddivers.com

5. Open offices in the Council

We have openings for several offices and will accept nominations at the next meeting. Elections should be scheduled thereafter. We have more projects than organizers or spare directors.

6. Membership Cards

Membership cards in the Council have been made, and members in good standing are able to pick theirs up at any meeting. If you don't know if you are a current Council member, inquire at JLeek001@san.rr.com.

Submitted 10/14/09

John Leek, Secretary