**San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative (SGMCC)**

**Meeting Record**

Thursday, January 24th, 2019, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Altadena Community Center: 730 E Altadena Drive, Altadena, CA 91001

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# Action Items

1. **Jack Sahl** will draft an excel file for everyone to put their lists of **priority** programs and projects, with a column for latitude/longitude as a method of sharing
2. **Sarah** will develop a template with name, mission/vision, project list around ANF, and funding for review by the Steering Committee
3. **The Steering Committee** will review the SGMCC Purpose and Goals document and revise in accordance with this discussion (see attachment).
4. **NFF** will work with Steering Committee to identify next steps to create a business plan.
5. **Sarah** will contact Michelle about status of a one-page document describing a change in focus for the Monument Plan ad hoc committee, and circulate to the Monument Plan ad hoc committee members.
6. **Liz, Lee, Margaret** and other committee members will review the revised purpose statement document for the Monument Plan ad hoc committee and bring forward to the next SGMCC meeting for consideration
7. **Belinda** will send Sarah a summary document describing Bill 3704 to distribute to the SGMCC.

# SGMCC “Business Plan”

* Sarah recapped the previous meeting with incoming Forest Supervisor Jerry Perez in which he and others in the Forest Service asked for a prioritization of projects that the SGMCC and the Angeles National Forest (ANF) can work on together that is realistic, measurable, and actionable in the coming year.
* Several members of the Steering Committee shared their perspectives on the value of developing a business plan that outlines priority, collective actions the SGMCC plans to complete in 2019.
* The group had a discussion of the purposes of the business plan:
	+ Leverage funds and resources
	+ Would help the ad hoc committees focus their energies
	+ Time frame of business plan? One year?
	+ Cannot do everything at once so need to pick some items to concentrate on – stage near term and longer term goals
	+ Help implement the forest mgmt. plan
	+ Demonstrate the need – public safety, capacity
	+ A tool to integrate and optimize outcomes
	+ Consider most strategic approach to raising/holding funds for SGMCC priorities
	+ Broad goals: cultural and natural resource protection and visitor services
	+ Clearly communicate to the Forest Service and other partners about SGMCC actions/priorities
	+ Spell out clearly: who we are, what we want to do, and how do we want to get there
	+ If SGMCC program and project priorities are clear, then members can help represent those priorities in other groups and potentially identify resources

ACTIONS:

* Develop a baseline of understanding of SGMCC members by collecting information about the many contributions of different organizations in the SGMCC to benefit the San Gabriel Mtns. National Monument and ANF
* Schedule sharing at next meeting (lightning reports) and also in writing
* **Jack Sahl** will draft an excel file for everyone to put their lists of **priority** programs and projects, with a column for latitude/longitude as a method of sharing
* **Sarah** will develop a template with name, mission/vision, project list around ANF, and funding for review by the Steering Committee
* **The Steering Committee** will review the SGMCC Purpose and Goals document and revise in accordance with this discussion (see attachment).
* On March agenda, SGMCC will review revised Purpose and Goals document and recommit to it.
* **NFF** will work with Steering Committee to identify next steps to create a business plan.
* Possible Action: Conduct a member assessment to answer: Have individual member organizations been supported by the SGMCC process, and have members achieved what they hoped through participation in the SGMCC (interests, capacities)
* Discussion about the SGMCC Purpose and Goals
	+ There is no mention of SGMCC implementing projects/programs in the Purpose and Goals. Do we want to add something about SGMCC implementing projects/programs? Is this part of our mission?
	+ Is the SGMCC focused on supporting individual organizational projects, or identifying new collaborative projects that SGMCC members work on collectively?
	+ Want to help each other (write letters of support, work together, etc.), reduce duplication, share information, identify opportunities for combined effort.
	+ In March 2015 when the SGMCC developed its purpose statement, all efforts were focused on the plan revision. Now the SGMCC is at a point where the plan is (almost) in place and it’s time to focus more on prioritizing actions to implement the plan and leverage resources.

# Monument Plan Ad Hoc Committee – Next Iteration?

* The group briefly discussed potential new ad hoc committee goals including:
	+ Interface between Forest Service and the Collaborative on project plans where the value can help represent a broader public perspective;
	+ Track implementation of the Monument Plan
	+ Engage with the ANF in the next Forest Plan update.
* Monument Plan Ad Hoc Committee members will discuss whether and how they want to continue/role.

ACTIONS:

* **Sarah** will contact Michelle about status of a one-page document describing a change in focus for the Monument Plan ad hoc committee, and circulate to the Monument Plan ad hoc committee members.
* **Liz, Lee, Margaret** and other committee members will review the revised purpose statement document for the Monument Plan ad hoc committee and bring forward to the next SGMCC meeting for consideration

# Public Comment

No public comment

# Update on Bill 3704: San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protection Act

* Belinda Faustinos (Nature for All) provided an update on legislation to modify the boundaries of the Monument and establish a National Recreation Area (NRA) to the south of the monument. Congresswoman Judy Chu has introduced two bills (one for the NRA and one with Wild and Scenic River designation and Monument expansion) and Senator Kamala Harris includes the same actions but in one bill.
* The Chu bills will likely have hearings in the House of Representatives.
* All of the bills provide for local land use control – the federal government cannot override local laws/ordinances. Water supply and water rights are protected.
* The NRA would be managed by the National Park Service. The Park Service will work only with partner entities who want to work with them.
* Suggestion to engage people with concerns about NRAs early. While there was extensive public dialogue in 2014 when the Chu bills were first introduced, more are planned now that Senator Harris introduced the companion bill.
* If the bills are passed, a new Monument Plan amendment will be triggered.

Action:

* **Belinda** will send Sarah a summary document describing Bill 3704 to distribute to the SGMCC.

# Announcements

* Jack Stahl, Friends of the Angeles – asks for support of a public safety and water protection project with the California Conservation Corps to gather trash on the forest (they have a 4 person crew and a large truck). Need is to 1) have people/groups monitor various trailheads (adopt a trailhead) and alert FOA where pick up of large or hazardous items is needed; 2) support the project. He will send more information out and appreciates feedback/input. Also working with waste mgmt. companies to get reduced or waived fees for deposit of garbage.
	+ FOR EXAMPLE Nature for All is partnering with Friends of the Angeles on the east side of the forest (Eaton Canyon, East Fork of San Gabriel River)
* Rivers and Mountains Conservancy will have a call for project through Prop 68 (enhancement of open space and open space protection and access; emphasizes serving severely disadvantaged communities) in March. Guidelines will be posted very soon. Call for projects will likely last 2-3 months. Feel free to contact Joseph Gonzales for more information.
* Gary Stickel – update on Big Rock – a large boulder (23 feet long) up the San Gabriel River Canyon above Azusa. May have served a function to reenact the Kizh creation story. The living ancestors of the Kizh are believed to be the pine trees in the mountains. Big Rock has pictographs on it; earliest published rock art site in CA. Big Rock has a flower-shaped hole in it. Thought is that a shaft would be inserted in the hole on solstices. Harvard Peabody Museum is cooperating and has an artifact that may be tied to Big Rock. Gary is finishing up a technical article and will share the draft with the SGMCC. The site has suffered degradation. Great potential for restoration and education. National and international interest in Big Rock. Need funding for the restoration work.
* REI, partly through the efforts of the SGMCC, has supported National Public Lands Day and National Trails Day events on the forest.

Steering Committee Items

* Membership Updates:
	+ The Steering Committee is working to get representation from City of Santa Clarita
	+ Justin Bubenik will change from an alternate to a member, now representing SW Council of Fly Fishers International

# Participants

Gary Boyer, Glendora

Tim Brick, Arroyo Seco Foundation

Justin Bubenik, Pasadenia Casting Club

Kelly Carle, Equestrian

Margaret Clark, Rivers and Mountains Conservancy

Belinda Faustinos, Nature for All

Jean Flores, REI

Kelly Gardner, San Gabriel Valley Water Association

Joseph Gonzales, Rivers and Mountains Conservancy

Cliff Hamlow, San Gabriel Valley Legislative Coalition of Chambers

Joseph Lyons, At Large

Steve Messer, Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association (CORBA)

Bill Reeves, Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps (FRVC)

Liz Reilly, San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

Jack Sahl, Friends of the Angeles National Forest

Nick Salgado, CalFire

Judy Shay, Palmdale Water District

W. Lee Smith, California Rifle and Pistol Association

Gary Stickel, Khzh Indian Nation

Michelle Tarian, Watershed Conservation Authority

Sarah Di Vittorio, National Forest Foundation

Karen DiBari, National Forest Foundation

Action Items from Previous Meeting (November 29, 2018)

1. **Sarah Di Vittorio** will schedule standing calls between each ad hoc committee and its Forest Service liaison (pending below).
2. **Matthew Bokach** will follow up with Sarah to confirm Forest Service liaisons for each ad hoc committee.
3. **Sarah Di Vittorio** will follow up with Fabian Garcia about George Fera present to our group about the high speed rail project, current status, and route through the Angeles National Forest.
4. **Matthew Bokach** will reach out to Michelle Nuttall (following confirmation that he is the appropriate liaison from the Forest Service to the plan committee) to start thinking about how the SGMCC can best contribute to implementation of the Monument Plan.
5. **IN PROGRESS – The Steering Committee** will write a letter in support of a Hollywood Star for Smokey Bear. [Note: Sarah requested information from Philip regarding the nomination.]