



# **Idyllwild Cycling**

## **Meeting Minutes – 1/30/16**

### **Call to Order**

A meeting of Idyllwild Cycling's board was called to order at Doug Kelbert's house on January 30, 2016 at 3:18 PM

### **Attendees**

Attendees included were Katie, Doug, Alan, Wayne, Michelle and Marlin

### **Members not in Attendance**

Members not in attendance were Matt, Don and Jason

### **Agenda Items**

- Treasurer's report and Idyllwild Cycling company/tax status - Alan
- Update on any new news from Forest Service concerning May Valley- Katie
- New IMBA regions – Katie
- Idyllwild Cycling Board Positions
- Idyllwild Spring Challenge status – Katie

### **Reports**

Alan updated members on tax status for the club. When Idyllwild Cycling joined IMBA as a chapter, it was with the understanding that by doing so, the club would become a non-profit subordinate under IMBA. There was no indication from IMBA that any additional work needed to be done beyond the routine paperwork filled out to become a chapter. A little over a year after Idyllwild Cycling's chapter formation, the club started receiving confusing letters from the IRS that it had lost its non-profit status and IMBA started to withhold membership funds from Idyllwild Cycling. Alan has spent a good year sorting out the problem, initially, with not much help from IMBA, in trying to understand what happened. It was eventually made clear that Idyllwild Cycling needed to form its own non-profit status and after months of going back and forth, Alan was finally connected to Kevin, an IMBA employee, who helped guide Alan through the necessary steps. Alan went through the long arduous process and Idyllwild Cycling is now officially a non-profit organization. The club can now receive donations that will be tax deductible for the doner.

Katie commented on how the Forest Service has been informed of Idyllwild Cycling's non-profit status and they are pleased with this.

Alan says there are about 30 paying members of Idyllwild Cycling.

Katie gave updates on her last meeting with the Forest Service that took place on Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup>. John Ladley and Andy Smith were present.

- The May Valley studies are almost finished and it is hopeful we will see the finished Environmental Assessment (EA) this year.
- The forest closure in the May Valley are has been lessened. Snakeskin, Cahuilla Cutoff and the Subway Trail (by the helipad off of Lower Southridge) are no longer in the closure area. This does not mean, though, that these trails are officially designated.
- Lower Southridge is also opened. This trail is designated.
- Coyote Run is partially open from the bottom to allow access for users from Hurkey Creek Park (the County Park is funding most of the may Valley project with over \$100,000 in funds).
- Bointa Vista, Mirkwood, all three Brothers, Coffee Pot, the Spine, Exfoliator, Grindstone, the Meadow Trail, the Secret Trail, Missing Link, Rage Thru the Sage, Hurkey Creek Climb, The Tunnel of Love and Grindstone are all still within the closure.
- One of the reasons the EA is taking so long is because most of the Forest Service's resources have been directed towards the Pacific Crest Trail.

It was questioned whether Shaman's Trail was still within closure.

Katie informed that IMBA has reorganized its regions. The entire state of California is now paired with Hawaii and no longer a part of Arizona and New Mexico. Patrick Kell is also no longer our Regional Director. Laurel Harkness is the new California/Hawaii Regional Director.

Katie announced that she feels it would be better for Idyllwild Cycling if she stepped down from the position of President because of her busy schedule and being out of state so much. It was discussed who would be the best person that could give the time to devote to the club. It was unanimously decided, with those present, that Alan would be the best candidate due to his longevity in the club (since its inception) and his passion for cycling in Idyllwild.

The following changes to the officers were discussed:

- President: Alan Vester
- Vice President: Matt Brudin (remains the same)
- Treasurer: Michelle Vester
- Secretary: Katie Hedrich

Positions to Remain:

- Members at Large: Wayne, Doug, Don and Jason
- Ride Committee: Doug and Scott

It was agreed that a vote by email would be taken to involve all board members in this decision. It was also decided that Katie should remain the Forest Service Liaison since she has built a trusting relationship with the Forest Service over the past 11 years and understands the process of incorporating a designated trail systems for recreational use. She will also remain the Director of the Idyllwild Spring Challenge, if and when it is brought back.

Katie feels somewhat confident that 2017 may be the year the Idyllwild spring Challenge returns.

### **Other Notes**

Alan mentioned an article by Bike Magazine called Sucker Punched. The article talks of the history of mountain bike usage in Wilderness areas. Originally, mountain bikes were included in the Wilderness Act of 1964 (even though mountain biking did not exist at that time as we know it today, it was allowed because it was non-motorized) but through the pressure of organizations such as the Sierra Club, mountain bikes are now banned. Science does not support the ban and new groups, besides IMBA, are starting to fight this.

### **Action Items**

- Katie to initiate email vote for new Officer positions to Board Members
- Katie to email club after vote about Officer positions
- Katie to ask Forest Service if Shaman's Trail is in closure

### **Motion to Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn was made by Alan at 5:09 PM and seconded by Wayne

Michelle Vester (transcribed by Katie Hedrich)

Secretary

2/21/16

Date of approval