Minutes of the San Diego Council of Divers Board
May 29th, 2014

President Volker Hoehne called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m.
In attendance were:

Volker Hoehne, President
Marc Henning, Vice President
John Leek, Secretary
Justin Schlaefli
Joel Tracey
Anna Baker
David Pierce, Director
Scott Anderson, Emeritus President

President Hoehne restated the new direction of the Council to operate in team functions, with a team leader to carry out needed functions drawing on other members as needed as well as available resources outside the Council Board. Each will function autonomously without interference from other Board Members.
Lead for 3Rs is carried by vice-president Henning with help from Scott Anderson and Joel Tracey.
Lead for Children's Pool and the Coastal Commission is non-member Justin Schaefli
Lead for dual Council/Club joint meetings is Volker
Lead for MPA Collaborative is Volker

New members were introduced, Joel Tracey and Anna Baker. Joel is to be on the 3Rs team and was nominated and ratified to be treasurer. Ana Baker is lead for a team to update the Council by-laws with Joel and Marc.
Justin Schlaefli was designated webmaster.

1. The 3Rs function is proceeding well with a team of safety swimmers to have a practice session 5/31 at Shell Beach and finding more volunteers during the season.
   The MPA collaborative was explained as an ongoing interactive gathering with other user groups to inform the public as to uses, duties and responsibilities for persons entering a Marine Protected Area. The public needs information about new signs, boundaries, and possibly pamphlets to be given out to user groups.
   Divers must expect understand the limitations of public behavior in an MPA and avoid inappropriate actions that could allow DFG to approve curtailing access there too. Very few people realize an MPA is a no-touch reserve.
2. Schaelfi noted his effort to preserve access at the Children's Pool could fail, and with that beach gone, eco-activists will be looking at La Jolla Cove. The Council still advocates shared use, but needs to show it is a reasonable entity and ready to seek compromises.

3. Volker will check with dive clubs in the coming months for scheduling shared meetings. He will also be investigating further involvement with divers using t-shirts, a new logo, logo items, but likely delegate rather than get caught up in minutia.

The President is aware the secretary has the lists of members past and present and of hundreds of active divers he has sent information to in the past. He directed the secretary is not to communicate with divers except as directed by other board members and not to communicate or reveal any Council policies. As Justin has assumed lead on Children's Pool, John Leek will drop his traditional role as CP beach access proponent.

Some discussion of a need to get input on what divers really want. Most dive clubs are shrinking, and the Council has a traditional imperative to foster new and existing dive clubs.

3Rs - The first session with just Safety Swimmers will happen 5/31 at Shell Beach to take advantage of the reliable rip current there. Then the first open session will be 6/14 at Boomer Beach. The 3 waiver forms will be cleaned up, reduced to 2 pages and put on the website for available download. The 3Rs needs to pull in enough donations to pay a good portion of the insurance costs back to the San Diego Dive Club.
It was suggested dive clubs be requested to suggest new 3Rs sites for next year. The goal of having safety swimmers pre-assigned from hosting clubs and being briefed in advance proves to be harder than it sounds. They will be especially needed for Goldfish Point, July 12, where there can be 4 different groups.

Beach Cleanup: Beach cleanups have been done in the past by the Council of Divers, especially South Casa, Shell and Children's Pool. Park and Rec supported it. David Pierce will not be available this year to do it. No other lead person has come forward.

When the Council shared an information table at the Children's Pool profits and donations supported us. No membership drive has been done in 2 years, though membership fees are now our only source of revenue.

From the January meeting:
The 2014 Action Plan involves the following, with the leads given complete responsibility for their events without Board involvement. The expectation is that the leads will work with other organizations and solicit the support of volunteers, including those within SDCOD, to make their events a success.

Submitted June 15th 2014 by Secretary, John Leek.

John Leek