

CONTRA COSTA HILLS CLUB
VIRTUAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
June 12, 2026

The June board meeting was held virtually through Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by President Stew.

Board Members Present: Stew Perlman, Jim Baranowski, Mike Branning, Connie Gee, Roland Hebert, Helen Johe, Rosemary Johnson, Suzy Mark, Cameron Mitchell, and Lucy Perdichizzi

Absent: —

Members at Large Present: Yvonne Moss, Noël Siver

Minutes Approved: Minutes of board meeting on May 8 – M/S/C (moved by Cameron Mitchell; seconded by Connie Gee and Jim Baranowski)

President's Report: As always, thank you for your valuable support. I want to thank Jim who took on the responsibility while I was on a trip to Finland and Norway to ask the Club for their concerns and issues. A reminder that the Fremont Picnic is on June 25 at Quarry Lakes Regional Park. Meet at the Union City BART Station at 10:00 a.m. for a one-mile walk to the picnic site, and please remember to let Jerry Ford know what your choice is for lunch. See Hike Schedule for details. Sue Lai will have the Club's mailbox key for July and August. We need a member to join the Website Committee.

Vice President's Report: Jim suggested that instead of cancelling hikes due to heat, it would be a good idea to change the itinerary to a cooler location as was done recently.

Membership: Connie Gee reported that a couple of people recently renewed their memberships. We currently have 164 members. When Irene Dunn renewed her membership, she donated ... to the Conservation Committee. Stew will write and thank her.

Conservation Committee Requests: Two requests from the Conservation Committee to make donations: \$100 to San Bruno Mountain Watch; \$300 to Earth Justice.

Bills: From California Secretary of State (biyearly form) \$5.00.

Cameron Mitchell - postage for Knapsack mailing, June & July \$ 43.80

Yvonne Moss - lunch at Archives work party on May 6 - \$ 27.59

Motion made by Mike Branning that the Conservation Committee requests and the bills be paid; seconded by Lucy Perdichizzi and Rosemary Johnson.

Treasurer's Report:

The yearly audit was carried out during the past month and it went very well. One member of the Audit Committee suggested that members who donate to the club should not have the right to designate where their money goes. Cameron Mitchell moved that, on the contrary, members' wishes should be respected. All members of the board approved of her opinion.

Corresponding Secretary: Helen Johe sent one card.

Old Business:

Yvonne Moss updated the board on the progress of transferring CCHC's archives into archival quality Manila folders and document boxes. She reported that work on the archives

is currently at a standstill due to lack of supplies. They have been ordered through the Contra Costa County Historical Society who passes their discount on to CCHC.

Roland Hebert was praised for his work on scanning an early CCHC photo album and an early CCHC scrapbook.

New Business:

Noël Siver has volunteered to become the Recording Secretary effective immediately. A motion to appoint Noël as Recording Secretary was made by Jim Baranowski. It was seconded by Connie Gee.

There was some exchange of information regarding Sylvia Kwan and the accident she had on a recent OAT trip in Italy. If Sylvia is not available, Lucy is willing to be a co-sponsor of the annual picnic on June 25.

It was suggested to Corresponding Secretary Helen Johe that she send a get well card to Sylvia Kwan and follow up on her recovery status. It was suggested that she also send a card to Wanda Fong who has been having back trouble.

The hike scheduled for Thursday, June 11 was cancelled at short notice due to heat. Jim Baranowski suggested that if the need arises to cancel a hike, hike leaders should try to do so 48 hours in advance so that a notification can be posted on groups.io and the club's website can be updated. He will include a reminder in the next issue of the *Knapsack*. Noël suggested to Connie Gee, one of the leaders of the June 11 hike, that she and Lily Ho reschedule the hike for Thursday, June 18 when there is an empty slot in the schedule and the weather is predicted to be cooler.

On June 11 Mike Branning emailed members of the board: "I have a question about the time between posting something to groups.io and it appearing in member's inboxes and to the website. Example: for today's hike cancellation, Connie posted the notice of cancellation to groups.io at 8:24pm on Wednesday evening. I checked my email and club website at 10:30pm and saw no cancellation. The notice from groups.io arrived in my inbox at 6:13am this morning almost 10 hours after she posted it. The CCHC website still does not show the cancellation as of this writing 10:34am. I know of at least one hiker who was on BART on the way to the hike when we texted them the hike was cancelled. Is there anything we can do to speed up the time between posting to groups.io and the notices it sends out? I understand the delay posting to the CCHC website, but that's what we're telling hikers to do. Doesn't seem to be working."

Other members of the board reported receiving the email on the same night that it was sent. Rosemary suggested that the delay in the email arriving in Mike's inbox could have something to do with settings on Mike's computer.

Jim Baranowski asked if the June version of the *Knapsack* had small print and very wide margins. The reply was yes, it did. He will discuss the issue with Fred Mock who prints the *Knapsack*.

There was discussion regarding a five-page CCHC protocols document entitled *Guidelines* that was adopted by the CCHC board of directors on April 13, 2018. This document appears to have gone missing from the CCHC website. Jim will contact website committee member Fred Mock about this. Stew offered to send interested members of the board any guidelines documents that he has. Rosemary will also look into this matter. Helen will check with Lynne Vogensen of the Overnight Outings Committee about a rules of behavior document.

Before the end of the board meeting, Rosemary sent the April 13, 2018 version of the document to board members. *Guidelines* headings include:

- 1) General
- 2) Hiker Guidelines
- 3) Hike Leader Guidelines
- 4) Overnight Outings
- 5) Transportation

Announcements: Reminder that the CCHC annual picnic will be held on Thursday, June 25, at Quarry Lakes in Fremont.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn M/S/C (motion made by Jim Baranowski and Helen Johe; seconded by Roland Hebert). The meeting was adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

Next Virtual Meeting: July 10, 2026

Respectfully submitted:

Noël Siver, Recording Secretary