

Contra Costa Hills Club
Virtual Board Meeting
January 9, 2026

The January board meeting was held virtually through Zoom. Vice-President Jim Baranowski called the meeting to order at 10:09am.

Board Members present: Mike Branning, Mindy Svorny-Moore, Suzy Mark, Lucy Perdichizzi, Jim Baranowski, Rosemary Johnson, Connie Gee, Helen Wong Johe, Roland Hebert, Cameron Mitchell

Members at large present: Noël Siver, Yvonne Moss (historian)

Absent: Stew Perlman

Minutes Approved: December 12, 2025 minutes: Moved, seconded. Motion carried.

President's Report: As we say goodbye to 2025, let's welcome 2026 with a hopeful spirit and optimism that the next 12 months will be kinder and perhaps more peaceful.

The Club recently saw a heartwarming gathering of nearly 75 people to share in what had become an annual hike around

Lafayette Reservoir led by Patricia Derickson. Most of us hiked to the tree that had been chosen in the past, where we hung our birdseed bells and facsimiles. Once we completed the hike, we indulged in an incredible display of food: mostly cakes, pies, cookies, candy, sandwiches - all fat-free, of course. Some of us shared kind words about Patricia whom we all adored and miss. For those of you who were not there, Patricia generously donated a check to the Club, which was given to me by the Derickson family.

As a reminder, Jerry, Frank, and I hope to see you on New Year's Day at Coyote Hills for our annual gathering to welcome the

New Year. You are encouraged to bring a treat to share as we toast the New Year. There are many excellent hikes to partake

this Winter Quarter. I am grateful to those of you who lead hikes, serve on the Board, on a committee, or in another capacity.

Lastly, I hope you had a Happy Holiday. Stay well and take care.

Respectfully submitted, Stew Perlman

Vice-President's Report: Great response to request for hikes, winter almost full.

Membership: We have 1 new member this month, so our total is 195 paid plus 7 honorary for 202.

Bills:

Connie Gee – Dec monthly mailing \$ 27.30

Conservation Requests:

Tamalpais Conservation Club \$ 50.

El Cerrito Trail Trekkers \$ 100.

Citizens for Eastshore Parks \$ 100.

Motion to pay bills, seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Total Funds as of December 31, 2025 \$ 44,711.26

Nominating Committee Report:

Here is the current slate:

President: Stew Perlman

Vice President: Jim Baranowski

Corresponding Secretary: Helen Wong Johe

Recording Secretary: OPEN, to begin 4/2026

Membership Secretary: Connie Gee

Treasurer: Cameron Mitchell

Directors: Mike Branning, Roland Hebert, Rosemary Johnson, Suzy Mark, Lucy Perdichizzi

When the information is published, Nominating Committee should make request for volunteer for Recording Secretary.

Mindy is stepping down as recording secretary, and as board member, effective the end of March. We will miss her. No volunteers from the meeting. The slate will be published in the next Knapsack, as well as a call for a new recording secretary.

Corresponding Secretary: 4 cards sent by Suzy Mark.

Old Business:

Guidelines for hike leaders discussed at length. Sign-ups will not be required except in the case of carpool pickups, museum or luncheon reservations, or similar events where a headcount is necessary. Otherwise, no advance sign up is needed, as it is the hiker's responsibility to contact the Leaders (phone numbers provided for that purpose).

Moved, seconded. Motion carried.

What should we keep? Binders, hike schedules (ideas for future hikes), photos (albums), Knapsacks. Stew, Noel, Suzy, Jo Anne, Jim, Roland (has 6 scanners) and Rosemary to look through material and decide what to keep.

Noël emailed the Contra Costa County Historical Society, 12/1/25 (coco.history.org) to see if they will take them. A volunteer, Lisa, replied saying the director was away.

Yvonne visited the CCC Historical Society personally. Their space is very tight. She didn't even know if they will allow us to put everything there, but it is going to have to be put into different type of boxes that we need to buy online (\$20.00 or less). They are archive boxes. Plus, we will have to take things out of the binders and put them into folders that would go in the archive boxes. They cannot take the binders as they are. The Board has to make decisions about how much we want to spend to do this. Then Lisa Gorrell, our contact person, has to meet with the Director, Leanne, and run all of this by her first.

Lisa said we would have to take everything out and put them into those folders that you see there (photo). I have samples of the folders, but we would really need to go through every single binder and pull out only what we think is the most important to put in the archives. Yvonne had no idea what we will do with the binders after that. We are not getting rid of the binders really just archiving parts of their contents. This will be a big job. So unless you want to take the binders to a storage locker and put them in boxes, she doesn't know what other options we have.

Yvonne will let the board know when she hears back from the director or from Lisa (after Lisa talks to the director).

Noël said we need to determine if they will take the records first.

Noël and Yvonne will go see the space, before March 5th.

Jim asked if we should continue to progress on this path? Yes. Yvonne and Noël to get more information.

Possible dates for luncheon April 15, 29, May 6th.

Need speaker for March 12th general meeting. Lucy proposes Carl Nolte from SF Chronicle, Yvonne suggests a ranger from the EB Regional Parks. Move to have both Lucy and Yvonne pursue their leads, with Carl Nolte primary and East Pay Parks the alternate, in case Mr. Nolte is unavailable. Discussion of remuneration for speaker. In the past, an honorarium of \$100-\$150 was offered. Move to continue that practice. Motion Carried.

Announcements:

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 11:40am. Moved, seconded. Carried unanimously.

Next Virtual Meeting: February 13, 2025 at 10:00am.

Respectfully submitted,

Mindy Svorny-Moore, Recording Secretary