

San Juan Outdoor Club  
Meeting Minutes  
St. Patrick's Episcopal Church  
March 4th 2026

**Present:** Joe Tedder, Amber Gill, Ray Gill, Chris Plemons, Lisa Raymond, Sally Richmond, Doug Coombs

**Absent:** Adi Greer

The meeting was called to order at 16:00 with a quorum present.  
Minutes taken by Sally Richmond.

**Revision to the Agenda:**

No Revisions.

**Approval of the minutes:**

Amber moved to approve the minutes, Doug seconded the motion.

**Board Reports:**

**Vice President Report:**

The speaker for March is Nicole Pitcher, president of the LPEA board.  
The safety presentation could be repeated for the April meeting.

**Treasurer Report:**

The current balance is \$10,429.09 with no exceptions. The balance is up due to the auction and donations. There have been 19 deposits since Feb 4th and 12 withdrawals. A breakdown of the holiday party will be produced for next month.

**Secretary Report:**

The secretary asked if remote attendance at board meetings could be considered for members who are unavoidably out of town. Joe agreed that if apologies are given when he sends out the agenda, he would set up googlemeet. Attendance in person at the meeting is still the preference.

**Membership Report:**

Two thirds of the membership have paid their dues. The newsletter will remind members that the deadline for payment is May 1st.

### **Activities Report:**

There were 7 activities in February plus a bowling trip.

The fill rate was 64.5%.

Only 50% of emails are being opened.

Chris is away next week, hike leaders will need to get their information in by Friday.

Doug asked if Chris would need help organising activities over the summer months.

Chris read the bylaws of the club, they state that the board should consist of just 8 people. Lisa stated that Kurt has now resigned from the board, therefore the board does now consist of 8 people. The discussion highlighted that the bylaws may be outdated.

**Action: - All board members to read the bylaws.**

### **Newsletter:**

The newsletter will remind members that they need to pay their membership renewal by May 1st, with a cut-off for payment of May 31st.

**Action: Amber to send Chris a list of unpaid members that can be removed from the newsletter circulation at that time.**

### **Media:**

Doug has been able to remove ex board members from the paypal account and so a new account is not needed.

Joe has been given the administration rights on blue host.

Access to the google drive has been removed for individuals no longer board members.

There was discussion about what items should be available in the google drive. This should include meeting minutes, treasurer reports and membership reports.

### **Refreshments:**

Lisa is in possession of all the refreshment paraphernalia.

### **Old Business:**

2026 SJOC Budget Review and Approval

This will be moved to next month

### PARC update

The proposed projects have been settled upon.

The funding is a large sum of money (greater than \$250,000) and there has been discussion about how a volunteer organisation manages this amount of money. The Parks & Recreation department of Pagosa Springs will take over this fiscal responsibility and have permission from the county commissioners. This is a model that is being used throughout the state.

Joe is a PATC board member and their treasurer.

### Consideration of continued maintenance and availability of AEDs for all hikes

The hike leader poll has been completed. There was a good response rate with lots of comments and lots of good comments. It highlighted two issues that need to be considered separately.

1. Should AED's be carried on hikes.
2. What is the approach the club should take for individuals who do not wish to be resuscitated.

The survey revealed a significant degree of resistance to carrying AED's. Chris has been working hard to study the relevant regulations and consider the complexities of DNR orders. He proposed two motions to the board members.

Motion 1:

The Board of Directors position on the carrying and use of Automated External Defibrillators owned by the organization shall be the following:

- Activity Leaders are encouraged but not required, obligated or expected to carry an AED on club activities
- Activity Participants are responsible for their own health and knowing their abilities and thus should not have an expectation that an AED will be available for use during a club activity
- The club will maintain AED's in operating order for any member to carry on a club outing. Ideally AED's should be brought to each activity meet up so it is available to be carried on the outing should someone desire to carry it.

Motion 2:

Hike leaders are not trained medical personnel nor knowledgeable on what constitutes an official CPR Directive. CPR directives can apply to many different sets of circumstances. They may or may not apply to backcountry incidents and may include medical circumstances beyond a lay person's comprehension or knowledge for its application. As such resuscitation should be attempted in accordance with Colorado

Revised Statute 15-18.6-104(3). By signing up for an activity, the participant is agreeing to be resuscitated in the event of an emergency.

Joe moved for motion 1, seconded by Lisa, board members agreed 7:1

Amber moved for motion 2, seconded by Doug , all board members were in agreement.

1. AED's will be maintained by the club and taken to hike trailheads. It will be optional for hike leaders to carry them on the hikes. Other hikers on the hike will be welcome to carry the AED's if they wish to do so.
2. In the event of an emergency, hikers on club hikes will be resuscitated.

The decisions surrounding these two motions will be explained in the newsletter to inform all club members and documented into the yearly waiver agreements that club members sign.

These motions are still under discussion and could be further refined at the next meeting.

#### Update on plan for improved communication with new members and visitors

There are 4-5 volunteers happy to be involved in welcoming new members and visitors. Doug will go early Thursday and coordinate with Amber and Ray.

Doug will email for volunteers for the next meeting and as more seasonal members of the club return to Pagosa Springs over the summer.

#### Update on hike leader training programme/ "Wilderness trekking school" course

Joe has drafted a course outline and found AI programmes helpful in building 'a school'

This will be offered to hike leaders and then to club members too, over a period of time. It will include some study sessions and some outdoor activities.

There will be a separate meeting for hike leaders outlining what they need to do in preparation for and during hikes and indicating that they should have the skills that would be taught at Wilderness trekking school.

There was discussion on who would teach the course. There are lots of specialists for particular chapters within our community that we could reach out to. As an example, Joe & Bill have an interest in navigation. It was discussed that this should include GPS training as many possess the technology but do not necessarily know wholly how to use it.

#### Update on First Aid course scheduling for Hike Leaders and Cross-cut Sawyers

Chris will organise this scheduling. Only 5 hike leaders are current and all the cross-cut sawyers need it, therefore the budget for training needs to be increased. Chris will send out a link for individuals to complete the online aspect of training and then a date will be set for the hands-on training. If individuals can't make the date, there will be the option for them to organize it at their convenience.

## **New Business:**

### Consideration of the formation of a sub-committee to create a trail maintenance plan to instruct USFS maintenance plans

Last year the club found themselves hampered from assisting with trail maintenance as often the fire service had already cleared trails that are familiar to the club. This committee would list the trails that the club would like to maintain and forward to USFS.

**Action: Joe to pull together this sub-committee**

### Consideration of proposal for SJOC to maintain bulletin board information at select trailheads

PATC would like to insert information into the bulletin boards at trailheads. Currently many trailhead bulletin boards are devoid of information. There are approximately four lots of information to put up. Hike leaders could put this information up when they hike a trail or individuals that have particular trailheads they visit regularly and would be happy to insert the information can do so.

We need a volunteer to interface with fire services and Chris. to get this information in place.

### Consideration of fund raising effort for several trail maintenance efforts:

- i. cross-cut saw sharpening
- ii. trail and trailhead sign replacement
- iii. trail crew salary support

Signs are in bad condition. There is a company that produces plastic signs in the correct colours but they require a minimum spend of \$15,000. We will ask club members if they would like to contribute towards these costs.

**Action: Doug will put it on the webpage and Chris will put it out in the newsletter - Joe to send both an appropriate paragraph to publish.**

### Consideration of organizer/leader for SJOC trail maintenance

Joe has volunteered to do this

### Consideration of organizer/leader for SJOC Trail Ambassador program

4 trailheads are targeted. Usually this starts in June and runs to August/September. Ambassadors pass out forest service information and record information individuals that are hiking wish to share. SJMA will also be involved. Sue & Steve have previously been involved in this program.

**Action: Joe to ask Sue if she wishes to do this again in the first instance.**

## **Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 17:31

Next meeting will be Wednesday April 1st at 16:00.