

MINUTES OF MEETING
Wednesday, April 25, 2007

Present:

Bob Abeling, Jim Duckworth, Larry Hoytt, Gary Fregoli, Nita Bruinsslot, Rodney Bosche, Ed Grundstrom and Monica Brett.

Bob called the meeting to order at 7.45.

Treasurer's report: Julie was not able to attend but sent a report showing a balance of \$6311.18.

Bob said that in the past, 245 out of the 350 households in the Valley were dues-paying members but last year, only 141 households paid dues.

There was general discussion regarding most resident's perception of the Board. Most people regard us as an elite group of busybodies, hostile to new ideas and new people. It was suggested by Rodney and Larry that we should make ourselves more user-friendly and also make sure that everyone knows what good things we have done with the dues collected from members. People need to know that we want to take up and complete projects that will be beneficial to the Valley. Perhaps we should make it known that we want to help (not hinder) people who want to upgrade or change their houses. As long as what they want is in accordance with our Specific Plan, we want to help.

Clean up Days and Chipper Days: Ed suggested we cut back overhanging branches along the road so that the pathway can be safely used by pedestrians and equestrians. The next chipper days will be in September or October. This subject should be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Road Safety: Jim Duckworth reported that the ditch improvement at 1560 IVR was completed at a cost of \$25,000. Judy Arnold paid half, the County paid half and IVA paid \$750 out of our general fund. Judy seems good to work with but Steve Kinsey has not been forthcoming. Considering how much money is generated at tax time from the Indian Valley area, we are getting nothing in return in the shape of improvements. How do we get more?

Use Permits: Nita reported on the application for an extension for an office. The County responded with 8 requirements to be met by the applicant. With regard to the over-height fence on McClay, the County upheld our Specific Plan, specifying that the fence cannot be higher than 6 feet.

Website: Lee was not present to report on this.

CSA 20 committee: Gary said their next meeting would be on May 7th.

President's report: Bob said he would be putting out a new roster of board members.

Trails: Bob emailed Larry Dito of the City, stating that a draft of their plan should go forward without any more delay and the Trails Committee is not disbanded until the Novato City council approves the Trails Plan. Larry emailed back that he would discuss this with Pam Schnault and get back to us.

Flood Control: Bob reported receiving a postcard from the City of Novato, reminding us that we have to get flood insurance. It seems that this postcard was sent to some in the Valley in error.

Bob reported that Kitsie Ebright had thanked us for our condolence card on the death of Shrimp Ebright.

Letter from Brian Garbutt of 2008 Hatch Road. He's complaining about two blue cargo containers on the Bradley property at 2015 Hatch. There are three houses on the property, two of which have been renovated. The third house needs to be redone and the containers were put there two years ago to receive the debris from the work. They are very ugly and Mr. Garbutt wanted to know if they violated any section of our Specific Plan. Because they are portable, apparently, they are legal but it was suggested that the neighbors should talk to each other to see if they could resolve the matter without resorting to action from the County. Ed Grundstrom said he would get the parties to talk to each other.

Annual Meeting: Rodney and Monica will go to the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church to borrow the chairs. Jonelle and Monica will organize and buy the coffee, tea and cookies for the meeting. Larry, Rodney and Jim will man the dues and membership desk, together with the balloting.

Jim presented a draft ballot. Nita and Larry will call some of the people who ran last year to see if they want to run this year.

Gary made a motion to adjourn the meeting in the name of Shrimp Ebright. Seconded and the meeting was duly adjourned.

Respectfully submitted.

Monica