



Board Meeting Minutes of the Indian Valley Associates (IVA)

For meeting held on September 14, 2010

Home of Rodney Bosche, Indian Valley, Novato CA 94947

Board Members:

Present: Rodney Bosche, Nita Bruinsslot, Jonell O'Day, Kitty Houghton, Bob Abeling, Monica Brett, Gary Frugoli, Ed Grundstrom, John Isaacs, Sherman Leland, Barry Sheppard, Bill Stewart, Tom Tharsing, and Emeritus Board Member Ron Witzel.

Absent: Mike Murphy, Vivian Poole.

Meeting called to order at 7:34 pm by President Rodney Bosche.

Minutes: Meeting minutes of the July meeting are being drafted by Vivian and will be reviewed at the November meeting. Rodney proposed that the Secretary send draft minutes out to Board members (once the President has seen them) in advance of the next Board meeting, and that any changes be made ahead of time so that at the next Board meeting they can be approved without delay. All agreed.

Treasurer's Report: Jonell distributed the report dated 9/14/2010. The balance in the General Fund is \$5,233.13. The Flower Fund balance is \$99.59. Dues collected from IVA members total \$1,952 for 2010, ca. \$400 below last year's level. It was decided to send out a stamped self-addressed envelope with the newsletter next year in the hope that this may generate more dues.

Road Safety: Rodney remarked that the owners of the property at the curve on Indian Valley Road had been red tagged for installation of wooden posts where they had earlier installed brick pillars too close to the centerline of the road. Monica noted once again that Gage Lane had a lot of overhanging branches (whose removal must be done by residents since it is a private road).

Use Permits/Variances: Nita reported that the Design Review Committee had not reviewed plans submitted by the new owner of the former Schwindt property (address: 1758 Indian Valley Road) and that the review period had now been exceeded. The plans call for construction of a new house on the foundation that has stood on the property since previous owner Todd Thomas was forced to abandon a much more ambitious plan. The house does not violate standards set in the Indian Valley Specific Plan. However IVA Board member Bill Stewart, whose property lies below the property in question, voiced concerns over run-off, inadequate drainage, and potential erosion. He will draft a letter to the Committee, and Rodney will send it on to Nita for the Committee, asking them to address these concerns. In other discussion, it was noted that two properties that had been part of the Barbara Lane Estate earlier in the year are now in pre-foreclosure.

Website: Nancy Niche is working on the IVA website. A question was raised about the newsletter. Nancy has been asked and has agreed to continue to produce it.

Chipper Days – Tom reported on his discussions to nail down locations for depositing collected brush for chipping this fall. Chipper Days are the last two weekends of October. The locations will be Stella Cantarutti’s property at 1575 Indian Valley Road and Nancy Niche’s property at Indian Valley Road and Gage Lane. Tom presented a one-page contract to be executed between IVA and Hector Chan of Mr. Arbor for the chipping work, to cost \$1500. Funds have been committed by the Novato Fire Protection District (\$500) and by the Fire Safe Marin Board (\$500). The \$500 balance will come from the IVA treasury. Nancy Niche designed a notice that will be printed as a postcard in the next two weeks and mailed out to IVA members in early October.

President’s Report: Topics raised by the group, in lieu of a report from Rodney, included (1) the matter of bicycles on trails (referred to the ad hoc committee on the subject), (2) widespread concern in the community about a proposed affordable housing complex that may be constructed in the area now occupied by “The Square” at the corner of Wilson Ave. and Novato Blvd., and (3) IVA’s traditional assistance to the CHP 1199 Fund -- a motion was adopted to donate \$100 to the fund.

Open time: Ron Witzel volunteered to fill the position on the CSA-20 Board being vacated by Nita. He joins fellow IVA Board members Gary Frugoli, Larry Hoytt, Jonelle O’Day, and Vivian Poole.

The topic of bicycles on Indian Valley Road was raised by Sherman, who voiced safety concerns in the wake of an accident between a bike and a car near his home, and in consideration of the risky stretch between Pacheco Rd. and the Indian Valley Fire Road.

There was discussion in support of and against PG&E’s impending installation of Smart Meters in the area.

Rodney will send out a list of proposed dates for Board meetings in the coming year. The next Board meeting is November 9. The annual dinner will be January 25.

Jonelle will type up a new roster of IVA Board members.

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kitty Houghton, IVA Secretary, September 14, 2010