

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF  
INDIAN VALLEY ASSOCIATES  
July 12, 2014  
Loftus' Barn, Indian Valley Road**

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Craig called the meeting to order at 12.15. Present were Supervisor Judy Arnold, Leslie Webber her assistant, and Tom Lei from the County Planning Department. Also present was Nizza Sequeira from Vector Control. Board members present were Craig Knowlton, Nita Bruinsslot, Jonell O'Day, Barry Sheppard, Gary Frugoli, Tom Tharsing, Sherman Leland, Claudine Le Moal, Skip Fenner, Lynn Perry and Monica Brett. Absent were Vicki Martinez, Lisa Hecker and Bill Stewart. Bob Abeling, Ron Witzel and Ed Grundstrom (Emeritus members) also attended.

Supervisor Judy Arnold took the floor and laid out her priorities for her new term.

1. Novato Theatre restoration project. Through a partnership of the City of Novato, volunteers and business, the project is expected to begin construction in November. It will be a 2 million dollar project and will have 2 movie screens and will host music concerts and other art events.
2. Marin County has retained a good financial rating so the budget will be for a 2-year period instead of just one.
3. SMART trains. From Santa Rosa Airport to San Rafael, 43 miles of track is being worked on now with hopes of an extension to the Ferry Terminal at Larkspur Landing. One of the ultra modern cars has arrived from Sumitomo in Japan and is being tested now.
4. Housing elements. 2014 – 2023. In Novato, it's planned to build 61 market rate houses, 37 moderate rate houses and 87 low income houses for a total of 173 houses. Originally, 778 houses were mandated but ABAG reduced the number to 173. The Elloway property is approved for 5 market rate homes. Judy asked Mark Levine to get zoning changes from 30 units/acre to 20 units/acre. The bill didn't pass but Marin is a pilot county if AB1537 passes in Sacramento. Nita asked Tom Lei if there were affordable 2<sup>nd</sup> units proposed on the Elloway property along with the 5 market value homes and he responded "no". The permits on this property have expired but have been extended over time so the plans may still be viable.

Apparently more affordable homes are proposed in Central and Southern Marin and there are no plans to upzone here in Novato.

Gary asked what was planned for the large lot on McClay and Novato Boulevard. Judy didn't know and suggested contacting Novato planning since the property is within the City limits.

Ron asked about future development without having a secure and plentiful water source. He felt we should tell ABAG that we can't support more housing.

Apparently it is felt that there is enough water for existing plans but there are workshops planned on this subject.

Pete Haas asked where we can find info on future development planned by the County. Judy suggested going to the County website where all the planning of

projects are posted online. He also asked about the likelihood of the sewer coming to Indian Valley. Judy's responded that there were no plans. Someone in the audience asked about the cost of County employees receiving pensions that are too expensive. He suggested that they should go to a 401K system which is used in the private sector. Still good for the employee but cheaper for the employer. Judy responded that this is a good idea but legislation is needed to effect the change. During the recession, 30% of County workers were laid off and new rehires have a different pension plan.

Nizza Sequeira from the Sonoma and Marin Vector Control was introduced. Nizza explained the service from its inception in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century to the present day. She passed round samples of the various mosquitoes found in this area and their breeding grounds. She explained the tracking devices and control used in different circumstances. There have been several mosquitoes carrying West Nile Virus found in Novato within the last month. She asked us all to be very careful about any standing water, even tiny amounts, in order to minimize breeding grounds. The services are all free. Free guppy fish are also available for ponds. They eat the mosquito larvae.

Craig asked to have the minutes from the May and June meetings to be approved. Barry made a motion and Monica seconded.

Craig then thanked Carol and Lloyd Loftus for letting our association use their wonderful barn again for our meeting and barbecue. He also thanked Ron and Joanna Witzel for their hospitality in making their home available for our meetings. Thanks were also given to Sherman for doing the barbecuing.

Craig then requested that Rodney Bosche and Ed Grundstrom should both be made emeritus members.

Ken Harth was thanked for all his hard work on the trails in our Open Space. The board will write a letter of thanks to him.

Craig welcomed 2 new Indian Valley Road residents.

### Chipper Days

Tom reported that the spring Chipper Days were a great success. The cost of getting the brush chipped and cleared is covered by grants from the Novato Fire District and FireSafe Marin. For the matching funding, we need to show "in kind labor" by homeowners who cut and clear brush. There were monitors at both sites. Our labor hours exceeded the requirement by a good margin. Next fall, Tom thought we would ask some High School students to fill the monitoring positions as part of their community service requirement for school.

Tom also reported that a grant of \$500 is available to individuals clearing brush from their property. The FireSafe Marin website is very user friendly and explains the requirements for applying as well as tips for fire prevention.

Treasurer's report

Jonell reported that the Association has \$8,385 in the account. This money is needed to pay for some upgrades of ditches or paths on the road and other projects which are expensive.

Proceeds from the raffle cover the cost of the barbecue, so no dues money is used for that.

Election of board members

Ballots were passed out and Craig asked for nominations from the floor. None being put forward, the four incumbents were reelected for a 2-year term. Those board members are Sherman Leland, Tom Tharsing, Skip Fenner and Gary Frugoli.

Craig asked for a motion to adjourn. Skip made the motion and Monica seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Monica Brett