

INDIAN VALLEY ASSOCIATES
MINUTES OF MEETING
MARCH 20, 2014

The meeting at the Witzel house was called to order at 7:35 pm. Present were Craig Knowlton, Skip Fenner, Tom Tharsing, Gary Frugoli, Sherman Leland, Claudine LeMoal, Bob Abeling, Barry Sheppard, Nita Bruinsslot and Ron Witzel.

Craig asked for any amendments to be made to the minutes of the last meeting. There were none so Skip moved to approve them and Gary seconded the motion. Minutes for January meeting were approved unanimously.

President's report. Craig talked about the former Levorsen property. Some neighbors had complained about the noise and nuisance from this property. Craig found that the present occupants have tenants and they are will be leaving by June. The owners are in the midst of obtaining permits to rebuild the house and repair the septic system.

Claudine asked if there were any restrictions on the hours that leaf blowers may be used. Apparently the limit is 11 pm.

Craig has been cleaning off graffiti from signs and fences along the road. He's been using "This Stuff Works". Apparently it does.

Craig attended the Road and Trail workshop last Saturday put on by the Open Space District. Hikers, cyclists, dog walkers and equestrians were all represented. There are many changes in the plan so it will take even longer to implement planned changes in the Open Space. The County is supporting us as much as possible without really upsetting the cyclists. Also, Ken Harth who has been working on the trails in the Open Space, wrote a report on March 7th showing all his maintenance work on the trails. He's doing a very good job in restoration and maintenance. He reported several incidents with cyclists but the County says that it cannot control "outlaw bikers". Craig is working with Ken tomorrow on the Waterfall Trail.

Treasurer's Report. Because of family illness, Jonell was unable to attend the meeting but reported that the report she gave last meeting was the same except for 2 checks for \$40 which were still outstanding.

Chipper Days. Tom is looking for another site for dumping brush because Frank McGovern is unwilling to let us use his property again. He had an agreement with Hector Chan that no chips would be left behind after Chipper Days. But Hector seems to have spread out all the chips on the site, so Frank is not happy. It's creating problems and his neighbors are complaining too.

Added to the problem of finding another dump site, Tom reported that the Novato Fire District changed its way of paying for chipping. In the past NFD paid the chipping vendor directly, now they will pay IVA and we will pay the vendor. To get

the money from NFD IVA must fill out an IRS W-9 form providing a Social Security number or Tax I.D. number, then NFD will give IVA a IRS 1099. All this means IVA will have to file a tax return of some kind with the IRS. So, we would have to be a legal entity and this of course would mean costs and increased paperwork. Barry talked about "non profit status" but others said that it was too expensive and would take too long. Then followed a discussion about whether we should cancel Chipper Days until we can sort these problems out. Bob said that Judy Arnold has \$50,000 in discretionary funds. We have received some help from her in the past (for path maintenance) and he wondered if he should call and ask her for help again. It was put to a vote whether we should hold Chipper Days as planned, or whether we should cancel. 6 agreed to cancel and 2 opposed, 1 abstention. Motion to cancel carried. Consensus was that we need to investigate and discuss at a later date. Tom made a motion that postcards should be sent out telling the members of the cancellation. Skip seconded.

Nita said that she knew of a very small homeowners association which has applied to the Fire Department for funds but it seems they have a Tax ID.

Bob spoke about Hank Barner of the Black Point Improvement Club. He said he would contact him to discuss what they were doing about this problem.

Road maintenance. Sherman wanted to know who was responsible for cleaning out the ditch next to his property and adjacent to the road entering the Open Space. Craig said he would call Public Works to see if they would come out and clean it up.

Claudine is interested in a community garage sale. Craig suggested that she post something on NextDoor.com to see if there's interest in the Valley.

Gary made a motion to adjourn and Tom seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8.45.

Respectfully submitted,
Monica Brett, Secretary