



## **Board Meeting Minutes of the Indian Valley Associates (IVA)**

For meeting held on February 8, 2011

Home of Rodney Bosche, Indian Valley, Novato CA 94947

### **Board Members:**

*Present:* Rodney Bosche, Nita Bruinslot, Jonell O'Day, Kitty Houghton, Bob Abeling, Monica Brett, Mike Murphy, Barry Sheppard, Ed Grundstrom, Tom Tharsing, John Isaacs, Bill Stewart, and Emeritus Board Member Ron Witzel.

*Absent:* Sherman Leland, Vivian Poole, Gary Frugoli.

***Meeting called to order*** at 7:30 pm by President Rodney Bosche.

The regular agenda items were moved to the end of the meeting so that guest presenters could speak first and lead discussion.

Guest presentation by Marin County public safety representatives: Three members of the Marin County Major Crime Task Force, which works with the Novato Police, the Marin County Sheriff's Dept., and the Canine Unit at the Sheriff's Dept., discussed the work of their agency in monitoring, investigating, and reporting to the County Board of Supervisors on crime. The public telephone number at the Marin County Sheriff's Office, (415) 479-2311, is the number of the Dispatcher and the number to call to report suspicious activity.

Guest presentation by Marin County parks and open space representative: Linda Dahl, Marin Parks and Open Space, discussed a Condition Assessment now being conducted by a consultant to determine patterns of use of the roads, trails, and public land areas in the County, and to make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. All user groups are encouraged to participate in the process. A draft plan is due in September 2012.

### Regular agenda items:

***Minutes:*** Minutes of the November 9 meeting had been approved by the President with changes, but the final copy had not been sent to Board members in advance of the meeting. Hard copies were not available for distribution at the meeting. Therefore the minutes were e-mailed to Board members after the meeting for review, and for approval at the next Board meeting in April.

***Treasurer's Report:*** Jonell distributed the report dated February 8, 2011. The balance in the General Fund as of that date was \$4,827.80. The sum of \$102 has been collected in donations to cover the nativity scene PG&E bill. The Treasurer's report was approved.

***Road Safety:*** Barry said there is speeding on Indian Valley Road in the early morning. Rodney

said it is hard to get enforcement at that time of day. Bob reported that the Dept. of Public Works has scheduled two roads for minor patching of pavement and straightening: Indian Valley Road between Arthur Street and Hill Road, and Hill Road from Indian Valley Road to Diablo Ave. A second phase of construction will affect Indian Valley Road from Arthur Street west to Indian Valley. All of the work is within the Novato City limits, but it could affect IVA residents.

**Use Permits/Variances:** There was renewed discussion of the excessive transport of truckloads of dirt from the hillside bunker property above Bill Stewart's house. Bill said that the owner was moving more dirt than had been authorized, and that the authorities were watching the situation more closely now and had tagged the property to stop work until the owner submits plans that include drainage. Bill said that two neighbors are also concerned.

It was reported that Barbara Lane had given a large piece of property with an arena, some 16,000 sq. ft., for animal care. The property was believed to have been intended for use by the Marin Humane Society as an emergency hold for livestock during a natural disaster. But Bob said the Humane Society was no longer looking at the property for that purpose. Another property, the Elway property, was raised in this context, but someone said it would have to be rezoned for such use. Nita said that septic requirements would prevent it from being over-developed.

**Website:** Nancy Niche is working on the IVA website. Rodney will follow up with her.

**Chipper Days:** Tom will schedule the Chipper Days for the spring. He proposed the weekends of May 14-15 and May 21-22. Proposed locations for IVA residents to deposit brush for chipping are once again Nancy Niche's and Stella Cantarutti's properties. Rodney will call Tom to suggest that he send out the same postcard as last time to notify residents of Chipper Days, just changing the season and dates, and enlarging the font identifying this as an IVA project. Tom will approach the Novato Fire Protection District about donating \$1,000, Fire Safe Marin about donating \$500, and Gary Frugoli of the CSE-20 Commission about a donation of \$500. IVA is reportedly Fire Safe Marin's biggest customer. It is seen as better organized, with more brush production, than other neighborhoods. Hector will once again do the chipping for \$1500.

**President's Report:** (1) Rodney and his wife Robin conducted a simple survey this winter about people's views of mountain bikes on trails. Rodney also talked to Ron Miska, Assistant Director of Parks and Open Space, about the issue. (2) The next IVA Board meeting will be Tue. April 12, 2011 at Monica Brett's house, as the Bosches will be out of town.

**Open time:** Jonell has updated the IVA members list. There are three new residents in the Valley. The date of the Annual IVA Meeting and barbeque is June 11, 2011 at 1 pm. Once again the Loftuses will host it in their barn at 1848 Indian Valley Road. Ron Witzel thanked Rodney and Robin on behalf of the Board for their hosting of the Annual Board Dinner in January. Bob announced that the trial date for the recent dog-mauling incident was February 15. He also asked that the agenda for Board meetings be sent out ahead of time. Jonell will handle this.

**Meeting adjourned** by Rodney at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kitty Houghton, IVA Secretary, March/April, 2011