



Board Meeting Minutes of the Indian Valley Associates (IVA)

For meeting held on September 13, 2011

Home of Vivian Poole, Indian Valley, Novato CA 94947

Board Members:

Present: Nita Bruinsslot, Jonell O'Day, Kitty Houghton, Bob Abeling, Monica Brett, Gary Frugoli, Larry Hoytt, John Isaacs, Craig Knowlton, Sherman Leland, Vicki Martinez, Lynn Perry, Vivian Poole, Barry Sheppard, Bill Stewart, and Tom Tharsing.

Absent: Rodney Bosche, Ed Grundstrom.

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by Vice President Nita Bruinsslot.

Minutes: Minutes of the May 10 and July 12 Board meetings were approved. This was the second approval of the May minutes. Minutes of the June annual meeting of IVA will be voted on at the next Board meeting in November.

Treasurer's Report: Jonell distributed the report dated September 13, 2011, noting that it shows the highest level of dues collected in awhile. Income of \$410 earned from the June raffle will be added. The Treasurer's report was accepted.

Road Safety: Vivian reported that a new resident of Indian Valley had commented to her recently on speeding cars on Indian Valley Road. The resident, mindful of neighborhood safety, had conveyed her concerns to the City of Novato and was given signs to post on private property along the roadside which read: "Children Crossing. Please Slow Down." The signs, which are now visible at several locations along the road, are sponsored by StreetSmartsMarin.org under the Transportation Authority of Marin.

Use Permits/Variances: Nita had no applications to report.

Website: Board members were asked to visit the new IVA website at www.indianvalleyhome.org, review it, and forward all suggested edits or changes to Rodney Bosche in the next two weeks, i.e. by Tuesday Sept. 27. Rodney will then forward them to Nancy Niche, webmaster, for her action. The old site, www.ivahome.org, will be shut down in the near future.

Chipper Days: Tom reported that Autumn Chipper Days are on track for Oct. 8-9 and Oct. 14-15, 2011. He distributed postcard notices for Board members to hand out or mail to Indian Valley residents. Jonell and Tom will mail out most of the cards to the IVA membership. Hector Chan of the firm Mr. Arbor will once again have the chipping contract. As in the past, the Novato Fire Department and FireSAFE Marin will provide major funding for the effort, supplementing IVA funds.

Feathered Nest business on Indian Valley Road: There was extensive discussion of the barn sales that are held several Saturdays a year at a private residence on Indian Valley Road. The question was raised whether these events fall within the zoning for Indian Valley (garage sales are permitted up to six times a year) or whether a non-agricultural retail business held at a single family residence that includes sales by other vendors, collects sales tax, and is an extension of an online business falls outside the zoning parameters of the Indian Valley Specific Plan. Some Board members remarked on the number of cars that park along the road, slowing traffic flow. Others said that the activity is popular with neighbors, and the hosting family is well-liked. Bob Abeling followed up after the meeting with the County's Code Enforcement office and reported back to the Board that the County was not inclined to do anything about these barn sales. Another such event was held on Sat. Sept. 17, and Board members were encouraged to monitor the activity for parking and noise.

Supervisor Redistricting: Craig reported that after redistricting, Supervisor Judy Arnold is now responsible for all of Indian Valley, and Supervisor Steve Kinsey no longer represents the western end of Indian Valley.

President's Report: Vice President Nita Bruinsslot had nothing to report.

Open time:

Minutes -- Officers confirmed that the February and April minutes for 2011 had in fact been approved in their latest revised versions and could now be posted on the website. Minutes for the last five Board meetings have now been approved as revised and will be posted on the website.

CSA-20 – Gary reported that the CSA-20 Commission plans to go ahead with a project to restore vegetation along the creek on Indian Valley Fire Road and to build a split rail fence to keep dirt bicyclists from further eroding the creekside area. The project will also include improvements and fencing around the Ron Witzel Bridge to keep small children and animals from slipping down the banks into the creek. Gary confirmed that current funds of \$76,342, with \$11,000 in contingency monies, will easily cover the projected budget of \$60,000 for the work. That budget may be much less if volunteers do the work, as is planned. There is a vacancy on the CSA-20 Commission, and Craig expressed an interest in applying for it.

Next meeting reminder: The next Board meeting will be Tue. November 8, 2011 at 7:30 pm at Rodney's home. The Annual Board Dinner will be Sat. January 24, 2012 eve. at Rodney's home.

Meeting adjourned by Nita at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kitty Houghton, IVA Secretary, September 2011