



Indian Valley Associates (IVA)

Annual Meeting held July, 2013

Loftus Barn, Indian Valley, Novato Ca 94947

Board Members Present: Craig Knowlton, Nita Bruinsslot, Monica Brett, Tom Tharsing, Bill Stewart, Barry Sheppard, Ron Witzel, Nancy Niche, Sherman Leiland, Lynn Perry, Skip Fenner, Jonell O'Day, Gary Frugoli

New neighbor introductions: Gary & Georgia Fyne, Yves & Claudine LaMierre + 3 kids

Meeting called to order at 12:12 pm. **General welcome** by president Craig Knowlton

In memorium (Vivian Poole) Bob Leverson, Sue Alexander, Kitty Houghton. Gary Sello includes Marie Payte.

Craig introduces **Guest Speaker Judy Arnold, Marin County Supervisor District 5**. Judy reports that the supes have balanced the budget and the County has an AAA Rating from Moody & Fitch. Marin County has a new official website www.marincounty.org. She spoke about programs including Marin Alert, Vial of Life. The equestrian/bike issue is slated to be discussed officially on July 23rd at 10 am in the supervisor's chamber. Judy reports that she has a new aid: Leslie Webber.

Craig introduces **Fire Chief Mark Heine**. Mark speaks of the enhances EMS (advanced life-support equipment carried by paramedics). CAL FIRE contracts to the local fire department. Marin has the highest survival rates of stroke and heart attack in the country! Funding for EMS and Vial of Life programs are through grants, not taxpayers. Top issues are: kitchen fires, caused by unattended cooking, #1 cause of home fires; Defensible Space, buffering your home with a ring of space between the structure and combustables; and that 'photo-electric' smoke detectors are the best. Inspections are available by request.

Mike Hecker, who introduced Indian Valley to NextDoor gets a big round of applause. He explains the general concept and lists several of the rewarding things we've discovered by using it. <https://indianvalley.nextdoor.com>

Treasurer's report: to date the register balance is \$7,370. Monica thanks Craig for stepping in as president and Carol & Lloyd Loftus for hosting the annual meeting each year, presenting each of them with tokens of our appreciation

Chipper Days: Tom Tharsing reports that though he hasn't had a response from FireSafe Marin, he believes they are supportive of the event. He announces that Nancy Niche's Gage Lane property is not going to continue hosting Chipper Days and asks for another volunteer. Frank McGovern offers his place again – 563 McClay. Tom gives Hector Chan (Mr. Arbor) a plug, saying he is very reliable and consistently gives us a good price, a professional job, etc.

Website/Newsletter: Nancy Niche is thanked for doing the newsletter and website, and for the use of her field for Chipper Days since 2008.

Elections: candidates are announced and there are some nominations from the floor, but no one made up the ballots for the meeting so another meeting will be held in September to elect the new board. A date will be chosen and a mailing will be done to the membership.

Open Time: Several issues were discussed, such as speeding motorists, membership benefits, the cost of the picnic being covered by the raffle ticket sales rather than the dues, which are \$20 per year, though everyone in the valley is automatically a member of the IVA just by living here.

Craig concludes the meeting at 1:10pm [Barry moves, Sherman seconds.]

Lunch and raffle follow.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Niche, September 9, 2013