

**INDIAN VALLEY ASSOCIATES**  
**MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING**  
**SEPTEMBER 12, 2015**  
**LOFTUS' BARN**  
**INDIAN VALLEY ROAD**

The meeting was called to order at 12:17. Present were Craig Knowlton, Nita Bruinsslot, Michael Goldin, Yves Lermusi, Ladd Cahoon, Jonell O'Day, Claudine le Moal, Gary Frugoli, Sherman Leland, Lynn Perry, Vicki Martinez, Monica Brett and emeritus members Carol Loftus, Bob Abeling and Rodney Bosche.

Craig introduced two guests: our County Supervisor, Judy Arnold and Deputy Fire Chief Adam Brolan.

Judy Arnold spoke about the progress with the renovation of the Novato Theatre. Plans are with the City and will be approved soon. KEA which is an arts promotional company with offices in Toronto, Liverpool and Novato, is working to introduce Novato Theatre as part of the film and music network and will help open the theater. The plan is to show family and independent films and also have live music concerts together with educational films for children. Plans are in the works to be a part of the Mill Valley Film Festival, showing the overflow films here.

Next she spoke about the success of the bike park at Stafford Lake. There are many mountain bike courses and fun for children wanting to learn how to ride bikes.

She also spoke about the SMART train. 2 trains have arrived already and the rest will come soon. Training on the trains will also begin soon as will work on the stations. 43 miles of track have been laid so far. A 20 million dollar grant is being sought for building the stations. The current plan is to have 3 stations in Novato – Firemans Fund (Atherton), Downtown Novato and Hamilton.

Deputy Fire Chief Adam Brolan was next to speak. He spoke about the length of the fire season in this drought and how dangerous the dry conditions are. One crew from Novato is working on the big fire in the Gold Country, which leaves fewer personnel here. The firefighters have offered to work more hours so that every problem within the District can still be covered.

He stressed the need to be able to create defensible space around houses and also to design escape routes and other emergency plans.

Nita asked about clearing out the fuel within the Open Space. This question was passed to Judy Arnold who spoke about the acquisition of some land in Pacheco Valle where there was controversy regarding cutting grass which was a fire hazard.

Craig asked if there were any new residents in the audience. There were 7 new households – one on Indian Valley, 2 on Wildwood, 2 on Bloom Lane, one on Old Ranch Road and one on Pillsbury. Craig welcomed them all.

Craig spoke of the Elloway property and the successful bid to keep the zoning the same as the rest of Indian Valley Road, avoiding higher density zoning.

Also the cooperation between IVA and the County upgrading the path near Old Ranch Road which will be done by the beginning of October.

Next Craig introduced Keane Simmons from LAFCO whom he had invited so that he could see the difference between the City of Novato and Indian Valley; our wish to remain separate in our planning and to be outside the SOI of Novato. We wish to retain our 1 and 2 acre minimums and general low density.

Chipper Days – Tom explained that Chipper Days is meant to be a way for IV homeowners to get rid of brush from their properties for free. There are 2 locations within the Valley to drop off. Then the brush is chipped and hauled away. This program is very popular, but since costs of chipping and hauling have increased as has the piles of brush, we may have to think about charging a fee from the people who dump, but are not dues-paying members of Indian Valley Associates. We do not have the money to have another Chipper Days this fall, but the money will be saved to have 2 weekends again in the spring.

Craig thanked Frank McGovern and Stella and Robin Cantarutti for allowing us to use their properties for the collection sites.

Election. There is one vacancy on the board. Bob nominated Kent Aue to fill it. Kent accepted and he was duly made a member of the board. Since there were no more nominations, all the members up for election were re-elected.

All board members were introduced for the benefit of the new residents.

A gift was then given to Carol and Lloyd Loftus for their generosity in letting us use their wonderful barn for our meeting.

Gary spoke about CSA20 and asked if anyone wanted to fill the vacant seat on that committee. He said that \$30,000 has been spent on trail and vegetation restoration.

End of meeting.

The raffle was held and then lunch was served.

Monica Brett  
Secretary