

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
July 28, 2005

1.,2. Present were: Paul Schulman, Paul Reiber, David Alden, Mary Flannery Kraut, Ray Duff and Dalen Anderson. A quorum was declared.

3. Correspondence:

- a. A request has been received that the Gorse Monster participate in the bridge opening ceremony in Ft. Bragg on Aug. 12, 2005. Approved and assigned to Judy Tarbell for implementation.
- b. Old Mill Farm has asked for a representative of Caspar Community to be present at their "Pure Mendocino Day" open house on September 3, 2005. No action was taken.
- c. Mary Flannery Kraut presented her letter of resignation from the Board. It was noted that Mary has been a key member of the Caspar Community since and prior to the inception of the board, and warm appreciation was expressed by all for her hard and dedicated work. Her resignation was accepted with regret and appreciation for both her service and her need to take a break.
- d. It was noted that with Mary's resignation a new fourth authorized signature would be needed for the bank accounts. David Alden was nominated and approved to fill that role. He will need to go by the savings bank in Ft Bragg to sign the cards.

4. Reports.

A. Finance: Balances as of the meeting were:

Caspar Community Savings Acct: \$3233.13
Caspar Community Checking Acct: \$1529.63
Caspar Community Center Acct: \$5006.80

Sales Taxes in the amount of \$4427.00 have been paid.

Down payment advanced to Oscar in re the corner property has been returned and deposited.

Land Trust Alliance dues will be due soon.

Paul Reiber's evening soirée raised \$205.00. Discussion was had about whom to invite for the next "Meet Your Neighbor" event.

B. Manager's Report:

On September 1, 2005 we will undergo a Compliance Review and Security Inspection by the USDA. They will look into such issues as the ethnicity of users, employees and directors, ADA accessibility etc.

The person who has been doing the Children's' Drama Workshop has been researching

our ability to show films at the Center, and is organizing an outside movie night for perhaps 8/14.

Doug Nunn of the Hit and Run Theater raised the stage with six-inch risers, and would like to be reimbursed \$105.00 for his material costs. Dalen was authorized to pay him.

The new lights in the main hall are ready for permanent installation.

C. Children's' Garden

No news to report.

D. Bakery Café

A meeting is scheduled on August 10, 2005 at 7:00 pm at the Center for those interested in planning the kitchen/bakery Café proposal. Deb Dawson and Margaret Fox have expressed interest. Others who will be involved include David Alden and Dalen Anderson. [Others?]

Dan Dixon is waiting for elevations to be prepared before he can do final drawings. David Alden is to clarify what he needs in this regard.

E. Community Garden

Garden is flourishing. No issues to report. Garden was mentioned in article in local real estate magazine. Mary noted the need to add this to an official archive of information about the center. She has it at the moment, but it needs to be transferred to the Center offices for maintenance.

F. Solar Project. – Through the proxy of David Alden, Judy Tarbell reported that the proposed suppliers of the solar equipment would be giving us a “hard number” for its cost soon, hopefully by the next board meeting. E-mail from Michael Potts opining that the solar project was not as cost effective an investment as may have been thought originally and suggesting that it be tabled for now was read. It was noted that while we have the Coastal Development permit, the major issue was where to get the funds to go forward with the project. Dalen raised the possibility of a focused fund-raising drive. Old Mill Farm is interested in helping out. It was also noted that we should research whether the new Federal Energy bill might make some funding available. (No action was taken on this.)

G. Road/Driveway

Judy Tarbell reported via proxy that a grant for \$27,000 has been awarded as part of a bicycle/pedestrian access program to install a culvert and sidewalk along the front of the property

(from the corner to the north end of the Schul property.) It was noted that we should write an article for the Community Newsletter about this.

H. Greenhouse

It was determined that caution tape and no entry signs should be placed around the greenhouse during the Folk Festival.

I. Septic System

The septic soil investigation has been performed. No report has been received yet. Preliminary reactions from the contractor were that the system was clogged, and that while it could continue to function for some time, it would eventually have to be replaced, and certainly so if any major septic related project was proposed to be built. Contractor thinks a non-standard (and therefore more expensive) system may be required because of the soil percolation characteristics. The contractor explored percolation characteristics for all areas identified as possibilities for locating a new system. It was discussed whether an in situ replacement of the existing system was a possibility? The report may address this.

10. Folk Festival

A Work party is planned for July 29, 2005 to clean up the exterior in preparation for the festival. Ads for the program are being sold and work slots for volunteer staffing are being filled by Judy Tarbell. The South Room will have shirts and performer CDs for sale, as well as a "will call" station. Information about the Community Center and pledge sheets will be available at the will call booth. Some help will be needed on Friday, and perhaps even Thursday prior to the festival for facility preparation.

It was noted that advance ticket sales are lower than in prior years, and hope was expressed that gate sales would make up for this. There are fifty vendors who have rented booth space (at \$75.00 each) for the festival. Expenses for entertainers so far are \$4,058. Additional expenses will be incurred for porta-potties, facilities rental and food. Wine and Beer are donated once again.

11. Web Site

David Alden and Judy Tarbell are to meet with Sienna Potts to discuss maintenance of the website. Michael Potts still has control of the e-mail distribution list. It was determined that the Board needs to get possession and control over the list and needs to develop guidelines for using the distribution list. It was decided that an e-mail sign up board should be set up at the Folk Festival for those interested in being added to the e-mail list.

12. Land Trust Alliance

We have been requested to sign an acknowledgment that the Board has read and is adopting the policies and standards for land management established by the Land trust Alliance. A motion to approve a resolution adopting the LTA standards and practices was made and approved. It was noted that it is useful to the Center to be a member of the LTA because of insurance rates we get through membership in LTA.

13. Community Coordinator Funding

Rhoda Teplow clarified that her charges for grant writing are \$250 per grant definition (or theme), and not per grant application, plus 10% of all grant funding received, with no cap. It was reported that Jim and Judy Tarbell had attended a grant funding workshop and it was determined to await a report from them and to explore the possibility of doing the grant writing in-house. It was also noted that the Board should reach a decision on this within the next few months because of the lead-time between grant applications and the receipt of funding.

9./ 10. Setting Goals for coming years and recruiting board members.

It was proposed that a community meeting be held to report on the status of various Caspar Community issues and to again seek input from the community as to what goals/priorities should be. It was noted that we have been having these approximately once every quarter, and that September would be a good time to schedule one. The dates of September 18 and September 25th were proposed for consideration. Among the issues to be covered would be to report on the land development issues, the Children's Garden, the septic and Bakery/Café situation and the Community Coordinator position. Among priorities and goals to be discussed would be the Bakery/Café proposal, the solar project and the land development situation.

Paul Schulman volunteered to follow up on the status of the Kennedy/Rait proposal. We will ask Judy to report on the "greywater" proposal she mentioned in a prior e-mail to the board.

In terms of recruiting Board members, it was noted by Mary that a small working board would be preferable to a large "supervisory" board. It was suggested that the Board let Mike Dell'Ara know how much his return to the Board would be welcomed and appreciated.

Discussion was had about whether someone should look into the pros and cons of converting from a private 501 C (3) to a membership one with an elected board. There are undoubtedly advantages and disadvantages to both. The latter also presents some issues about how to define qualified members. It was decided to give thought and study to this issue.

Other items

Discussion was had about moving the meeting time of the Board meetings. It was the consensus that if daytime meetings were to continue, the current schedule of Friday mornings seemed most workable. However, continued thought and discussion was to be had regarding

moving the meetings to an evening time to facilitate participation of working men and women.

Mary Flannery Kraut volunteered to look into the potential expansion of the capability of the Community Center in the area of emergency services, including the storing of supplies for disaster relief, fire protection and blood drive capability. It was suggested by one sanguine soul that Halloween might be an opportune time for a blood drive.

The next meeting was scheduled for August 12, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. at the Community Center.

The meeting was adjourned.