

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
Aug 12, 2005

1.. Present were: Paul Schulman, Paul Reiber, David Alden, Ray Duff . A quorum was declared. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried to appoint Ray Duff the to Board.

2. Minutes: It was determined to review and approve the last Board minutes at the next meeting.

3. Correspondence: none reported

4. Reports.

A. Finance: Due to absence of treasurer, balances as of the meeting were not reported. It was noted that in light of Mary Flannery Kraut's resignation from the Board, a new treasurer was needed. It was suggested that Judy Tarbell had indicated a willingness to take this on. It was also noted that the finance committee of the Board, along with membership of all other standing committees should be reviewed. Discussion was tabled until next meeting.

Alden suggested that the book keeper and treasurer functions could be separated, so that Dalen could be responsible for day to day transactions and book keeping, with the treasurer fulfilling a review and report function. Paul Reiber said he would check with Judy and Dalen about this.

Paul Reiber noted that it would be useful to define more clearly what the purposes of the different banking accounts were. It was suggested that discussion of the subject of further defining the Board's varying functions (including the issue of whether there should be separate boards for the Community Center and Caspar Community) as well as the role of the standing committees would be a useful exercise. This was noted for further discussion at the next Board meeting.

B. Manager's Report:

The Festival appears to have been a success, with profits appearing to be higher than last year. Total appears to be about \$8,000. A meeting of Festival Planners, M. Potts, Franny; Jimma Abbott and Dalen met for 2 hours to review the event and to identify areas where things could be improved. Press reports about the festival were very positive. It was noted that there were some inaccuracies in the press reports which some felt to be significant and that some better review process over press releases might be appropriate.

The new lights have been installed in the north room.

A Fundraiser will be held on August 26 at the Center with Alice Di Micele performing.

A dinner is being planned for sometime in the fall to raise funds for the kitchen improvements.

c. The Road

A presentation was made to the Board by Aaron Rothblatt. In lieu of asphalt at the entry to the parking area, Aaron is proposing that a system of River “Jacks” interspersed with gravel be used. He believes this will be much more attractive and very durable. He believes they could be installed for a total of \$675 in material costs (for an area from the road in about 20 feet up the drive). Labor could be 2 to 3 times material costs. They could be installed in such a way as to make the surface reasonably smooth. It was decided that this idea should be tested against any requirements of the grant program (which is for pedestrian and bicycle improvements), with CalTrans requirements and with any other government requirements that asphalt be used at the road interface. Aaron indicated he would talk with CalTrans and Judy Tarbell.

d. Children’s Garden

Paul Reiber reported a conversation with Louise Morse in which she indicated the CG may still be interested in the site if the can deal with the wetlands plants issue. He was told to talk with Lisa Weg, but she had not gotten back to him.

e. Bakery/Café

Dan Dickson was going to do general drawings necessary to present to the county to get a use permit. He still needs “elevations.” Dalden will talk to him to clarify this requirement.

f. Community Garden – no report.

g. Solar Project

A bid that did not include labor was received from DCPower of \$15,500. After a \$7,200 state fund rebate, this would bring total materials costs to \$8,271. 00.

Paco Jordon at DC Power quoted labor costs to Paul Reiber (by telephone) of \$4,500, or for \$45 per hour to manage volunteer labor. Accordingly the total costs to the Center would be approximately \$13,000. It was noted, however, that the \$7,200 in state money would presumably have to be temporarily funded, resulting in cash flow requirements of approximately \$20,000

There not being a great deal of enthusiasm expressed by members of the board for this project -- due to the very long payback time and the need to raise funds for so many projects-- but in acknowledgment that there were strong public policy reasons to continue to consider the project, it was decided that this should be an issue raised at the next general meeting of the community. At that time we can assess the level of interest and financial support the project might have in the

larger community.

It was decided that the next general community meeting would be set for Sept. 18, 2005.

H. Greenhouse.

It was decided it was not possible to reach a decision about the Greenhouse's location without knowing the results of the septic system survey. This should be raised, along with issues about its future uses, at the community meeting.

I. Website

Dalden and Judy Tarbell will be meeting with Sienna Potts to discuss the website. Board members noted that the site should be updated, contain minutes and other information for the public, be user friendly for posting information, easy for the public to provide feedback and send messages to Dalen and should contain a schedule of all events.

J. Community Coordinator Position

Possible sources of grant funding were discussed, including the Mendo Community Grant Library. Whether to hire Rhoda to pursue grants was discussed. It was thought a wise investment of funds, but that the board should research whether there were alternatives available before making a decision Dalden will call Roger and ask about other grant writers he has experience with. It was also suggested that the board research whether other communities might be available for advice on this issue.

K. Other items

Notice of the Community Meeting on 9/18 should be sent out.

The Agenda for the meeting should include the Greenhouse, the solar project, an update on the land use situation, changes in the board and the need for new board members.

Jerry Juhl has informed the board that he will no longer be able to publish the community newsletter, and that an alternate means must be found.

Paul Reiber noted that he will be absent on Sept. 2 and that Ray Duff will be out of the country and unavailable for three meetings in Sept. and early October. Some discussion was had about the inevitability of Board members having conflicts and a suggestion was made that the Board develop an "excused absence" policy which would recognize this while at the same time providing board members with an incentive to come to meetings when there was no legitimate reason they could not.

It was decided that future meetings should include reports from all standing committees and Paul Reiber was going to give thought to the structure of the agenda to ensure efficient coverage of all necessary items.

It was noted that Mike Dell'Ara has a number of files, copies of which should probably be in the files at the Center.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:00.