

**Minutes of Caspar Community Board of Directors Meeting  
July 11, 2008**

**I. Call to Order/Present: (Call to Order at 9:15 a.m.)**

**Board Members:** David Alden, Judy Tarbell, , Paul Schulman, Paul Reiber, Rhoda Teplow, Bette Goldfarb, Susan Juhl

**Absent:** Susan Keller

**Staff:** Dalen Anderson.

**Guests:** Ray Duff, Annie Lee, Mike Dell'Ara, Michael Potts, Elizabeth Alden.

Quorum Declared: Yes   X   No     

**II. Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes for the Board meeting on June 27, 2008 were approved with corrections.

**III. Reports**

**A. Correspondence**

Dan Smithburg is looking for a DVD on the Caspar mill. Bruce Levine has a copy. Mike Dell'Ara has a golf cart he wishes to donate for auction at CasparFest, along with a one iron that shows signs of having been wrapped around a small redwood.

Bette Goldfarb received a letter from PG&E stating that PG&E has reached an agreement with the County and has identified 151 poles along the north coast, including Caspar, for which it will apply a manual clear only policy for weed control and will not use herbicides. Also, if pole is on private property, the property owner will be given option to take over responsibility for maintaining clearance around the pole. We should send letter to PG&E and Kendall Smith thanking them for their help in achieving this. A news release to the Advocate News would also be a good idea. Bette Goldfarb agreed to draft same. Many thanks to Bette Goldfarb for her hard work in getting this result.

Paul Schulman spoke with Carl Ritterman in re septic improvements. He believes the existing system is functioning well enough that nothing new should be done.

Judy Tarbell spoke with Rick Miller at planning, and learned that the Planning Dept. views our CUP as a blanket permit to operate in anyway necessary to the purpose of running a community center. Therefore a shower with functions limited to those appurtenant to a CC is OK.

**B. Treasurer:**

Judy Tarbell reported on the status of the Juhl Account: she found that some payments had been incorrectly made from the account (about \$575) and some donations (about \$950) had not be appropriately credited to the account, with the result that the correct total in the account has been readjusted to \$9050.25. There is \$2900 in the CCChecking, \$2100 in the CCooks Checking, \$1100 in the CCC Checking and \$125,000 in the Schwab account.

### **C. Manager's Report**

The kitchen is in need of a major cleaning and help would be appreciated. Event scheduling is pretty normal. Consistent with Rick Miller's communication (see above), temporary tent use is permitted at the CCC.

It was suggested that we consider imposing a surcharge on the normal rental charges for groups exceeding a certain number to account for the increased wear and tear on the facility.

### **IV. Business**

#### **A. Kitchen Project**

The loan package has been sent in. A big thank you to Sonia Jacques for her help, along with Judy Tarbell who carried this to completion. The board will send Sonia a thank you note. Judy will probably have to do this too.

#### **B. Pavilion Project**

Four contractors have shown interest. Jim Deering (who provided our initial estimates for the kitchen project) is one. Others include Mike Able, Eric Owen and Jon Wosniak, although Jon is away right now for an extended trip. The drawings are done and approved by the engineer and will go into planning dept. next week. Mike Dell'Ara noted that the pavilion area is leased to the USPS and we should make sure they are OK with the plans as well. So far, the only concern shown by the USPS is that mail delivery not be interrupted by construction.

#### **C. Use of Herbicides.**

The County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution approving the selected use of herbicides at the Caspar Transfer Station as part of a gorse control measure, leading to expressions of concern by Bette Goldfarb. This led to a board discussion about the use of herbicides and whether the board should take a policy position on that issue, either as a general matter or on a case by case basis. Judy Tarbell felt that we should defer the questions until after the community meeting so that a broader based community discussion could occur and so that the example of controlling Eucalyptus trees in the headlands could also be discussed in this context. Mike Dell'Ara expressed the view that we should not attempt to interfere with the decision made in regard to the Transfer site because of all the work which had been done to address the gorse problem. It was noted that if the currently funded program for gorse control there is to go forward, it will have to include some limited application of herbicides. Otherwise, the control program will not be undertaken at all.

Michael Potts noted that we are attempting to control invasive species which are driving out natural habitat as well as creating fire hazards and that this must be taken into account in balancing the risks to the environment of herbicide use. Which creates the most acceptable risk, allowing these invasives to continue, or effectively controlling them with limited application of herbicides?

Ray Duff noted that the Fire Safe Council had formed no policy in regard to gorse removal. He noted that a consistent approach to gorse control was crucial, and that government agencies do not tend to be good at long term consistency because of budgeting problems. Duff believes gorse can be managed effectively through mechanical means. There is no silver bullet. One needs to approach in consistently, year after year, whether one includes herbicides in the plan or not. Duff advocated consistent mechanical controls.

Judy Tarbell noted that one dilemma we have is that one property can compromise

another, so that at a minimum, the community needs a policy in regard to gorse removal (by any means).

It was decided to put this on the agenda for the next community meeting, and that efforts should be made to encourage those living in the area of the Transfer station to attend.

It was also resolved that the CC should take on the Headlands as a community project to demonstrate that gorse could be controlled by mechanical/non-chemical means.

Finally, it was decided that a meeting should be scheduled on July 17 with Parks, and with key people in the community (Gil Dye, Carolyn Schooley) who have been active in the gorse control issue to discuss the overall gorse control problem.

#### **D. CasparFest**

The Steering Committee met again. CELL was absent, but is believed to be still participating. The plan calls for ongoing films, workshops, lectures and the like inside. (Could have a master gardener presentation.) Living Lights will be asked to participate. We will have non-profit booths for free unless they are also selling something, in which case we'll work out something. We need an indoor stage manager.

Hedzoleh Soundz is going to perform! (much excitement.)

#### **E. Luau**

The annual Luau is scheduled for Aug. 9, with slack key performances by guest artists as well as Hui Arago. A draft poster is underway. We need to publicize. Current price is \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door, but we are still trying to confirm what the musicians will need. Rhoda Teplow agreed to man the door.

#### **F. Burlesque Show**

Is set for July 25-27. Judy Tarbell agreed to man the door on Sunday; Help is needed to man the bar.

#### **G. Email List**

The new email list will be called the Caspar Exchange. The list-serve will be sent an opt-in message for those interested in getting day to day discussion emails, as opposed to general updates and notices.

#### **H. Disaster Preparation**

A local resident is a Red Cross representative. Bette Goldfarb will contact her to get information about getting a supply trailer at the CCC. Ray Duff and Annie Lee will create a phone network list.

#### **I. Newsletter**

Items for the newsletter should include the PG&E plans, disaster preparedness, an article on the headlands project, and article on the eucalyptus proposal, a President's letter including news on the kitchen and pavilion, a manager's report, an announcement of May Johnson's birthday and the Caspar Lumber Co picnic.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:30 a.m.