

Minutes of Caspar Community Board of Directors Meeting

July 17, 2009

I. Call to Order/Present: (Call to Order at 9:05 a.m.)

Board Members: David Alden, Paul Schulman, Judy Tarbell, Susan Juhl, Bette Goldfarb, Annie Lee

Absent: Rhoda Teplow, Paul Reiber, Susan Keller;

Staff: Dalen Anderson.

Guests: Kendall Smith; Howard Dashiel

Quorum Declared: Yes X No

II. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes for the Board meeting on July 3, 2009 were reviewed and approved as amended.

III. Reports

A. Correspondence

Notice from County received that our tax appraisal is going up. It was noted that we don't actually pay property tax. We received a copy of the letter CDF sent Ed Powers in re road bumps.

B. Treasurer

Balance sheet and P&L were distributed. All accounts have been reconciled. Board decided we should post financial periodically on the new Bulletin Board and on the web site. Judy asked for a breakdown of the money maintained in the Schwab account, and Dalen will see if that can be generated. \$3,440 was transferred to the CCC account from CC to cover insurance payments. No payments were made for D & O insurance, since that was a paid up two year policy.

C. Manager's Report

Some classes have canceled, which is usual during the summer months. Dalen proposed and the Board approved scheduling a periodic pizza/bread baking day for the Cobb oven. Also, inquiries have been received about making the oven available for private parties. The Board decided that we should make it available to community members, along with the bathrooms and picnic tables. Should probably charge a nominal fee. We will use the most current request as a trial run.

IV. Business

A. Drainage/Sidewalk Proposal; Trail Issues

Kendall Smith and Howard Dashiell, head of the County Department of Transportation, joined us to discuss infrastructure issues in Caspar, particularly the proposed resolution of drainage issues in front of the CCC, the possibility of constructing trails between East and West Caspar, and the under-grounding of utilities.

1. **Drainage** – funding of \$25,000 was originally approved by MCOG to address drainage in front of the CCC (and the Shul and neighboring properties). \$6,000 (approximately) has been spent on studies. The question is how to use the remainder. Howard Dashiell reported that he is familiar with the drainage issue, and that to solve it will require replacement of the old 12” pipe with a new 18” pipe which would take the water over to Caspar Creek. The cost of doing this would be about \$150,000. There is no money available to fund this. Howard also said, however, that the pedestrian access along Caspar Road in front of the CCC and Shul needed upgrading. To put in currently compliant pedestrian access there would also cost about \$150,000. There might be federal money available to do the pedestrian upgrade and, since drainage would be part of correcting the substandard pedestrian access, the drainage project could be appended to the sidewalk project, for a total of \$300,000, and paid for with federal Transportation Enhancement funds. Howard would need to spend the rest of the originally allocated \$25,000 on putting a design together and taking it to MCOG for approval, which he seemed confident could be obtained. The proposal would be a widening of the road by 7 feet for parking with an ADA compliant permeable sidewalk and new drain, culvert and drainage pipe.
2. **Path connecting East and West Caspar** – Kendall Smith has Prop 40 money which she can direct and which she either uses in the next 12 months or so, or loses. She believes that linking East Caspar into the trail systems being implemented by the Mendocino Land Trust in West Caspar might be a qualifying use of the Prop 40 funds. The County, though, has to have control over the facilities funded through Prop. 40. It is also possible that Transportation Enhancement funds might be available for a trail system linking East and West Caspar. Such a project would involve approvals from the County General Services Agency, DOT and CalTrans and may involve obtaining private property owner agreements as well, depending on the configuration of trails. MCOG would also be involved if federal TE money were used.
3. **Under-grounding Utilities** – Right now Gualala is being under-grounded and DOT believes that Booneville is next on the list. Judy T believes the County committed to come to Caspar next and will provide documentation to Dashiell. Kendal and Dashiell believe that an Assessment District might be required now to use funds for under-grounding utilities.

B. CasparFest

Next meeting is at 4:00 on July 27. Annie has approached a number of businesses about sponsorship. An approach will be made to the promoters of the proposed Eco Fest that Fort Bragg turned down.

C. Kitchen Update

We haven't heard from Dan Dickson *in re* status, but the specifications for the stove are needed before he can proceed with the next step. Oscar has volunteered to head up this design project.

Judy T raised the issue of whether we need to reevaluate taking on the additional debt which the kitchen project calls for. It was agreed that the Financial Committee should discuss, review and report.

D. Playground

No further news on the second grant application. The grant may require changes in the planned equipment and thus a change in the application to the building department. The idea of moving the playground location to the eastern fence line seems to be generally still of interest. We should also look at the possibility of building it as an "L" shape around the pump house.

E. Newsletter

David A. will write a brief article about water issues. We will also add an article about the sidewalk/drainage issues.

F. New Meeting Time

This was raised again. It was pointed out that the board had already discussed this at a recent meeting, and had decided to keep the current schedule for the time being. It would be reconsidered if additional board members were identified and scheduling became an issue for them.

The meeting was adjourned at about 11:45.