

Caspar Community Board Meeting
Caspar Community Center
September 1, 2017

Board Members:

Present: Dalen Anderson, Rochelle Elkan, Robert Frey, Annie Lee, Ed Murrell, Paul Reiber, Paul Schulman

Absent: Glenn Rude,

Quorum present? Yes

Others Present: Office Manager Sienna M Potts, Event Manager Dana Fox, Michael Potts, Judy Tarbell, Paula Glessner

Proceedings

1. Meeting was called to order at 9 am by President Bob Frey.
2. Minutes of 8/18/2017: Approved.
3. Changes to the Agenda: none.
4. Community comments and input:

Michael Potts expressed concern about our fragile communal water system. He believes that the filling of the tanks at the Community Center contributed to a cascade of problems with his home water system. He feels that when he raised his concerns to the Board he was ignored. He hopes the relationship will not be adversarial but his concerns need to be addressed by the Board.

With the approval of the Board, Michael has spent hundreds of hours and thousands of Community dollars researching water in Caspar. He is glad that we now have a well on our own land and is very grateful for the added fire protection. He wants to see that the Community Center system is secure and monitored and asserts that smart monitoring and control on the well is easy and possible with simple mechanical solutions.

Sienna would also very much like to see an electronic monitoring system in place on the well and will work to see that happen.

Paul Shulman is uncertain that the water is connected and says it would be impossible to prove.

Dana agrees that it is impossible to know how connected the aquifer is but he also agrees that we should address the security issues.

Bob noted there is a good argument for monitoring and wants to discuss options at a Facility Committee meeting. Dalen said that metering of the well has always been part of the plan.

Paul Reiber asked for clarification on what monitoring would mean. Michael explained that an inexpensive (\$72) conventional analog meter outfitted with an electronic pulse output could be used to meter the well's output. It could be connected to a pulse counter that would interrupt power to the pump if a set number of gallons was exceeded in a day, and/or it could be outfitted with a connection to the Center's internet so that water usage could be accessed remotely on the web. Michael is installing similar metering technology on his property.

Ed asked if Michael is concerned about the use of Caspar Cattle Co. water as well. Michael said we are lucky to have an exterior well but the infrastructure of that system is very old, insecure and likely to fail in the near future. Michael suggested we continue to develop our on-parcel well for potability in case of Caspar Cattle Co. system failure.

Paul Schulman explained that the current Community system is set up to provide the Center with water but that an extensive, expensive filtration system would need to be installed since the Center is a public facility. Until the quality of the well has been established, the plan is to use water minimally, for the garden & fire protection.

Michael accepts that reasonable normal potable water usage shouldn't cause a problem but that a security breach or system failure could have serious effects to downstream wells.

Currently both tanks are full as fire protection but the water is not being used until the monitoring is in place. Paul Shulman suggested taking the input and implementing appropriate monitoring through the Facilities Committee.

Judy Tarbell expressed her gratitude for the fire protection we now have in place. Bob said Steve Orsi was thrilled when he inspected it. Judy suggests a fire drill. Dana promised that would be part of Disaster Fest taking place on October 21st.

Judy asked if the Center will be willing to share water when neighbors have difficulties. Ed suggested we look very carefully at how we feel about sharing water. Several people spoke up to say we should steer clear of that. Most of us have paid for a water delivery at one time or another and that is what people have to do. Michael noted that we, as a nonprofit, don't want to compete with companies that sell water.

Annie, Dana, Bob and Sienna thanked Michael for coming to the meeting.

5. Correspondence

West Mendocino County Baha'is would like to donate a bench in honor of the Light of Unity Festival, commemorating the birth of Baha'u'llah, the founder of their faith. Dalen said we would welcome another bench. Annie worries that the dedication is religious. Paul Reiber offered to contact Rebecca Motlagh to discuss the possibility.

6. Reports

A. Office Manager, Event Manager

Sienna and Dana both reported that the Center is very busy, heading into a couple of months full of weddings and other events.

B. Finance/Treasurer

No report. Next Finance meeting: 10 am on Thursday, September 14th.

C. Pub Night, Breakfast

Molly Bee is cooking for September Pub Night. The Pub Night committee (Ed and Dana) had a productive meeting and suggested we look into hiring a cleaner to wash the last of the dishes and clean the Center. It is very difficult to get a volunteer to stay so late and Dana usually ends up staying to clean by himself. Dalen suggested

talking to the Shul about the person who comes at night to clean up after their events on an occasional basis.

August Breakfast was successful. Paula Glessner is cooking in September. Dalen mentioned that Rochelle made a fabulous spreadsheet listing dishes over the last four years which will come in handy for the team of quarterly chefs next year.

D. Caspar Community Garden

There will be a Garden Work Day after Breakfast on September 24th.
Next Garden meeting will be November 16th.

E. Facilities

A new washer/dryer unit donated by Bob & Merideth Frey will arrive on Tuesday, 9/5. This particular unit was chosen because it is very efficient with water and electrical usage. Bob and Dana have been investigating possible locations and settled on the janitor's closet. They want to replace the water heater with an on-demand unit to make room. The new water heater would be more efficient so we would save on propane over the year. Dana proposed that he do the plumbing to install the new water heater and the washer/dryer in exchange for his rental of the Center for his celebration on 9/16. Paul Reiber moved to approve the project. Annie seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Rochelle requested that more flatware be purchased. Dalen suggested using the set we have saved out for rentals instead.

The next Facilities meeting will be 10 am on September 19th.

F. Fundraising/Marketing

Dalen reported that there was a rousing meeting about the Harvest Dinner event on November 19th. It will have a new name and a new procedure. The cost will be lower (\$20 in advance, \$30 at the door). There will be multiple food stations and dining areas mixed in with Silent Auction items. There will be music by the Jug Bandits. There will be beer & wine for sale as well as flights of 3 or 4 different cocktails designed especially for Caspar. People will vote on a new signature cocktail for Caspar.

Dana needs volunteers for the bar at HarmonyUs On Purpose on September 9th from noon to midnight.

G. Community Planning/Development

Next Community Meeting will be September 17th from 4 to 6 pm.

Agenda is open to allow for community discussion.

Sienna is taking submissions for a newsletter with a deadline of Monday, September 11th.

H. Human Resources Committee

Annie will come up with a cleaning schedule and list of routine maintenance as well as a job description.

I. Disaster Preparedness

The last meeting was very productive and the plan is filling out nicely. Judy said they are ready to start ordering and need to know about

storage. After some discussion it was decided that the Disaster planners would research trailers to be located off site for now.

7. Judy requested suggestions for Tarbell Foundation donation this year. Bob suggested that repairing the barn would solve storage issues. Sienna mentioned our dream of an outdoor kitchen area, possibly including an outdoor stage on top of an underground water tank. Sienna also suggested that storage added to the building along the North wall could be used for some emergency storage from the outside below floor level as well as storage for tables and chairs from inside the building. The tables and chairs have been clogging up the hallway (which is dangerous) or the rental rooms (which is unfair to renters). Any solution would be welcome.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Sienna M Potts.

Wondering what's going on at the Center?

Check the [online calendar](#).

Find the [most recent enews here](#).

Read the [latest newsletter here](#).