

Inverness Ridge Association Board Meeting Minutes 2014

Inverness Ridge Association Board Meeting

September 13, 2014

at Susan Fisher's, 5 Sunshine Court

The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m. by Bob Lundstrom who was acting Chair in the absence of Richard Blair. Board members attending: David Wilson, Laurie Stetson, Bob Lundstrom, Susan Fisher, Marna Clarke and Sydne Bortel. IRA member Myn Adess also attended.

Minutes of the meeting of May 10, 2014 were approved unanimously on a motion by Laurie, seconded by Bob.

Treasurer's report: Laurie said our account total at the last meeting was \$10,624.30 to which \$150 in dues and \$.96 in interest have been added. Payments of \$720 to the Inverness Garden Service for thistle removal, \$200 to residents for fire safe chipping, \$30 to Marin County for use of their PRE address list, and a \$12 service charge to WFB were made. Net balance is \$9,813.26.

Old Business:

Bob reported on his **meeting with the Marin County Fire Chief**, Jason Weber, which he said was disappointing in that the Chief confirmed that there are no effective rules governing fire permits in place with his office. He did say that the County should have clear rules, there should be compliance with BAAQ rules, and that burns should be supervised. He pledged to meet with the Bay Area Air Quality people to develop better procedures.

Following Board discussion it was agreed that Bob will write a follow-up letter to the Fire Chief memorializing the points agreed to in their conversation and asking for a status report.

PRERAB. Chair John Levy did not attend the meeting and there was no formal report from PRERAB at this time. Laurie reported that the dust suppressant has been laid down in three 100 foot long trial locations on Douglas, Upper Roberts and Sunnyside at a cost of \$1,000. Residents affected said it has made a noticeable difference to the air quality in their areas. No final decision on its wider and repeated use will be made until after the rainy season when it can be determined how often the treatment would need to be reapplied and at what cost.

Some residents have raised concerns about potential environmental damage because of the salt contained in the suppressant. Tamia Anderson of PRERAB has done extensive research on the product, providing PRERAB and the IRA Board with answers to many of the questions raised. The issue will be revisited after the winter rains.

New Business:

Disaster Council Coordinator: Bob Lundstrom announced that he would resign as IRA's Area

Coordinator to the West Marin Disaster Council effective January 1, 2015. A replacement is urgently needed.

Newsletter. The Board discussed how frequently a newsletter was desirable; noting that former IRA member Diane Harley distributed one quarterly. It was agreed that we should have a minimum of 2 per year, one in November or early December before the Annual Meeting and a second mid year.

Annual Meeting and Potluck. Following discussion it was agreed to set the date for the 2015 annual meeting on **January 10** with a possible change to later in the month if too many Board members are away in early January.

It was agreed that we would ask CLAM Director Kim Thompson to be our speaker. Myn Adess will contact her.

Sydne said that she would host once again but asked that we look for a new venue if at all possible.

New Board Members: Our Bylaws permit us up to 16 members. We currently have 11 but several members are frequently absent, resulting in quorum issues at times. It was agreed that we would each try to recruit candidates for election to the Board in January. Myn Adess said she would serve if nominated.

(N.B. After the meeting Sue Brown submitted here resignation, leaving 10 members on the Board.)**Costs of roadside chipping in the PRERAB County Road maintenance budget.** There was discussion of Marin County's objection to use of road assessment monies to pay for chipping at the time of routine road maintenance. Various suggestions were made on how we might compromise in order to continue this valuable and convenient fire safety chipping, including adding up to \$500 from our IRA budget as a supplement. We will discuss further with PRERAB.

A clipping reimbursement request of \$100 has been made by Victor Stangenberg who, in the interest of neighborhood fire safety, undertook extensive dead tree trimming and clipping work for a neighbor who is not an IRA member. Victor has asked to be reimbursed for this work as a stand in for the neighbor. After discussion David moved that the Board authorize the \$100 chipping payment in light of the unique circumstances presented, and with the understanding that this is a one-time payment that establishes no precedent for future authorizations of this kind. The motion was seconded by Susan and passed unanimously after discussion.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 p.m.

The next meeting of the IRA Board is scheduled for Saturday, **November 15**, at 9:30 am. at Bob Lundstrom's home.