

Inverness Ridge Association
General Meeting
January 11, 2014
at the home of Katherine Williams
335 Drakes View Drive

The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m. by Laurie Stetson, President. Board members present: Sydne Bortel, Diane Harley, Laurie Stetson, Helen Chapman, Richard Blair, Bob Lundstrom, David Wilson, Susan Fisher, Alicia Jackson and Michael Ongerth.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer Laurie Stetson reported a balance in our IRA account of \$8,753.90.

John Levy, who has recently taken over as Chair of the PRE Road Advisory Board from longtime Chair Harvey Freed, was introduced to the general membership.

The resignation of IRA Board member David Starkweather was reported.

Marna Clarke was nominated to serve on the IRA Board and was unanimously elected by voice vote.

Current Board members, Helen Chapman, Diane Harley, Alicia Jackson, Susan Fisher, and Laurie Stetson, who have completed their 2 year terms of office, were elected to new 2 year terms.

Members were reminded that in an emergency the combination to the locked gate at the top of Sunnyside is 0911, and that in the event the combination doesn't work, the gate is now a "breakaway gate" that is possible to remove with a vehicle.

Bruce Baum raised the issue of inadequate internet service in Paradise Estates and offered to chair a committee to look into the possibility of improving service and speed with the establishment of a fiber hub. Members who volunteered to help with this project include Alan Bortel, Rick Johnson, Diane Harley, Frank Seidner, Katherine Williams, and David Wilson.

Alan Bortel, who is Marin County's elected representative to the California Senior Legislature, explained that this is a state funded organization that shadows the state's legislation as it affects seniors, comments on pending legislation and also originates legislative proposals affecting seniors. He invited IRA members to contact him with their concerns about seniors for forwarding to this group.

The California Senior Legislature is now required to raise funds to cover its costs. Alan noted that the Code 402 check-off box on the California Franchise Tax Board's income tax form (side 4 of form 540 C1) can be checked off and used to make a donation on behalf of the CSL and urged IRA members to consider doing so.

The short General Meeting was then adjourned in order for Laurie to introduce our speaker, Jennifer Stock, Education and Outreach Coordinator for the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary. Jennifer described with infectious enthusiasm the many facets of this large and remarkable marine reserve just off our coast and invited us to visit the Oakland Museum which features Cordell Bank as one of Seven Special Places in California in a new exhibit in its Gallery of Natural Sciences. Underwater photos taken on Cordell Bank similar to those Jennifer showed us may be seen at www.cordellbank.noaa.gov/science.

Following the speaker IRA members enjoyed the traditional pot luck lunch and the opportunity to socialize with their neighbors.

The next meeting of the IRA Board will be held at Sydne Bortel's home on March 8 at 9:30 a.m.

Susan Fisher, Secretary