**MINUTES**

**Inverness Ridge Association Board Meeting**

**May 13, 2023**

Present: Sydne Bortel, Joe Burgess, Leah Light, Julie Liss, Julie Merk, Michael Ongerth, Tim Stanton, Jim Wagner, Patty Wimpfheimer, Christian Winslow

Absent: Chris Eckert, David Wilson

Minutes: Leah Light

The minutes of the IRA Board Meeting of March 11, 2023 were approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Patty Wimpfheimer

Our previous balance was $26,671.51. Income since the previous reports includes $4.45 in interest and dues payments from several sources ($1,200.00 in checks, $150.00 via PayPal, and $550.00 via Venmo). We had expenses of $5.82 in Paypal fees and $96.00 in post office box rental. The current balance is $28,474.14. This balance includes a gift of $15,000.00 designated for the road repaving project. The question arose as to whether automatic reminders could be sent to members about dues payment.

Road Repaving Task Force: Mike Ongerth

A new engineering consultant has been hired and has been given an onsite tour of the proposed scope of work. The county needs to approve our contract with the consultant. After the consultant reviews the ILS specifications, the county will continue with its process and the specifications will go out for bids. We will not know the loan rate until the county approves a new loan rate policy for road divisions; this will most likely not happen before the end of May. The loan rate will impact the scope of the project that can be accomplished. The target date for repaving is sometime in August, but this is subject to change.

PRERAB: Mike Ongerth

We are awaiting county approval of approximately $15,000.00 for proposed road grading and removal of trees downed by recent storms, especially on Dover. We need to do weed-whacking on roadsides. Potholes on Douglas also need attention, possibly by a work party. Some budgeting issues need to be worked out with the county to avoid confusion about which source of funds available to us can be tapped for particular projects and to enable more systematic projection of our needs on an annual basis.

Emergency Preparedness Committee: Christian Winslow

Approximately 25 people attended the May 6 event with Mark Brown from the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority. Mark gave an informative talk about the behavior of wildfires in general and on the Inverness Ridge in particular and how that manifested in the big fire. He stressed that clearance is the major preventive measure for mitigating risk.

Twenty people have now signed on to be neighborhood leads. Christian has met with them to review the nature of the program and radio training is in progress. We need to plan for siren testing to resume on a regular basis. Also, an additional evacuation route exercise would be useful, perhaps in the fall.

Fire Safe Committee: Christian Winslow for David Wilson

Our first chipper day will be during the week of May 22 with the next in the week of June 26. Reservations are still open.  Note that pile size limits have increased (20’x4’x4’). Note also that some piles now at the roadside may exceed the limit. The 4’ height limit is the most important of the limits. If the piles are not close to the address marker for your property it is important to indicate just where the relevant piles are located. Please tell gardeners not to put weeds in these piles.

A short meeting on Marin disaster preparedness issues has been scheduled for May 25 at 7 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church in Point Reyes Station. Christian has asked neighborhood leads to pass along information about this event to their lists of residents.

Community Gathering: Joe Burgess

We will have an in-person community gathering on July 15 at the home of Barbara Jay. The agenda for this event will include briefings from the Emergency Preparedness Committee and the Paving Task Force. We will invite Dennis Rodoni and other county officials with whom we work. Members of the Board volunteered to handle various organizational aspects of the event such as obtaining chairs from the Dance Palace, directing parking, obtaining paper goods and drinks, and working with caterers. We will have entrees catered with attendees asked to bring salads or desserts. Residents will be asked to RSVP for the event so that we can properly estimate quantities of food to be catered.

IRA Website: Christian Winslow

Patty Wimpfheimer, Tamia Anderson, and Christian Winslow have been working on a new version of our website. Mike Ongerth will add material on the road repaving.

Christian suggested we might think about a phone app that would have IRA information, emergency information, and other useful news updates. We agreed that this would be worth exploring.

Next Meeting

Date: July 8, 2023

Venue: Joe Burgess