**Inverness Ridge Association Board Meeting, March 9, 2019**

**Present**: Tim Stanton, Sydne Bortel, Mike Ongerth, Helen Chapman, Jon Wurtzel, Kay McMahon, Julie Merk, Jennifer Howard (second half), Mari Tamburo (second half)

**Absent**: Leah Light, Bill Tichy, David Wilson, Ron Bennett

The meeting was called to order at 9:48 by President Tim Stanton at 41 Sunnyside, home of Mike and Marian Ongerth. Minutes of the prior (annual) meeting of January 19, 2019, unanimously approved.

**Treasurer’s report** (Chapman)

Previous balance: $ 8,917.85

Dues collected (Jan, Feb): $ 1,140.00

Chipping fees collected (Jan): $ 210.00

Interest earned (Jan, Feb): $ .17

***Total Income: $*  1,350.17**

Expenses: $ 0.00

***Total Expense*: $ 0.00**

**Balance 2/28/19 $ 10,268.02**

Comments: Wells Fargo branch manager Giovanni very helpful; thank yous are appropriate. Above figures include 23 new or renewed memberships; 12 prepaid; 6 renewed through 2020; 1 through 2021; $140 in contributions.

**Announcements**

* **NMWD Tank Replacement** (Stanton for Howard): The Youngs have appealed to the Coastal Commission the Marin Board of Supervisors’ decision backing NMWD’s original new tank construction plan. It appears that Wynne Furth, the neighbor most affected by the new tank, is willing to allow the structure be moved five feet closer to her home and has engaged legal help to draw up a contract. NMWD representatives continue to meet with lawyers for the Youngs. If this matter is not solved by Wynne’s gracious move, it could be heard by the Coastal Commission, mid-spring at the earliest, at their meeting scheduled for the central coast. Because of this eleventh hour issue, water tank replacement construction is now put off until next year. Jennifer remains in contact with Rocky Vogler, NMWD chief engineer for the tank replacement project.
* **Trail Projects** (Bortel): Sydne checked in with the new Park coordinator regarding a possible spring trail project. After last fall’s successful trail work, Park staff had suggested working together twice a year. However, because of the government shutdown, Park staff find themselves far behind and unable to participate with us in a spring project. Tim stressed the importance of supporting Park workers. We will see them in the fall!

**Old Business**

* **Firewise Application Update/ Fire Safety and Prevention Issues**: (Stanton for Wilson): David Wilson has completed and submitted the application to Fire Safe Marin to have PRE designated a Firesafe Community. Valuable help throughout the process from Christie Neill, Marin County Fire Dept Battalion Chief, was much appreciated. If our application is approved, the door will be open to apply for grants for fire prevention work.
* Mike noted that 1) the Park has agreed to have the 15-man Marin Fire Tam Crew clear the outer Sunnyside corridor; 2) Marin Fire is recommending an expanded road clearance envelope throughout PRE as traffic congestion was identified as one of the greatest problems for both evacuation and arrival of emergency vehicles during recent wildfires; 3) though cleared to a greater width, the 100 Douglas/Laurel emergency escape needs extra work after recent fallen trees and storm damage. One section is possibly impassable to low sedans and needs gravel to ease passage for all vehicles. Reminders came from Sydne regarding establishing greater coordination with our neighbors on Laurel and from Kay regarding the emphasis on perimeter clearing mentioned by the Yosemite West visitors who recently spoke to this board.

* **Road Repaving Task Force** (Ongerth): Background: Members of the Task Force are drawn from both the IRA and PRERAB boards and are Ron Bennett, Ken Drexler, Jennifer Howard, John Levy, Julie Merk, Mike Ongerth, and Tim Stanton. The Task Force’s purpose is to help create a PRE repaving plan to present to PRE residents, manage the planning process, and work with engineers. Later, the Task Force will manage getting bids for repaving and work with the county offices which must sign off on the project. The Task Force is currently working with ILS Associates, a civil engineering and surveying firm from Novato. ILS has created a map dividing PRE roads into segments. Both parties are reviewing and revising recommendations for each segment. After revisions are made, the Task Force hopes to hold a community meeting (May or June) to present paving alternatives to the PRE community and to gain input.

* The water tank issue will result in a postponement of repaving. There’s no point in repaving until after hundreds of cement trucks are finished driving the length of DVD to pour the new water tank. Kay reminded us that there will be no money for repaving without a vote approving a parcel tax to fund road repaving. Discussion ensued, centering on the importance of communication with the community at large regarding the parcel tax.
* **PREPAB Update** (Ongerth): PRERAB has been extremely active of late due to wet, stormy, windy conditions for an extended period of time. Tasks completed include 1) Removal of three large bay trees at east edge of Douglas, just south of new slip-out, and resurfacing with gravel; 2) Removal of a debris cone blocking Douglas, restoration of drainage, and gravel resurfacing at gabion wall section; 3) Removal of dead Douglas fir in phone cables just above #1 Lower Dover; 4) Removal of nine dead and dying tan oaks from slide area on Dover opposite #21 to reduce weight; 5) Drop boxes/culverts cleaned where needed on DVD, East Robert, Sunnyside, Behr Lane, Dover, Douglas; 6) Removal of a slide and resurfacing of East Robert from Baywood east to the three canyons area; 7) Removal of fallen live oak at tank #1.
* Additionally, PRERAB is hiring a soils engineer to look at the Douglas slip-out. It has also recently set up a budgeting subcommittee which will look at long-term budgeting for maintenance and major repairs.

**New Business**

* **IRA Communications Protocol** (Stanton): Sherry Stanton and Myn Adess have assembled the most accurate list of IRA members. Many thanks are due to them. We have a very good list, but the question remains: How do we successfully communicate with the membership? In the past, Myn kept up the website and did updates. A new webmaster is needed. For now, communications and announcements should be sent to Tim.
* Fewer people use Next Door than used to because it contains so many ads and come-ons. John Levy had a Google list but people opt themselves out of it. Jon Wurtzel, a relative newcomer himself, pointed out how important it is to contact newcomers with safety facts like emergency exit information.
* **IRA Board Officers Election** (Stanton): Tim is willing to be IRA President through the time of the repaving election. Mike moved, Jennifer seconded that Tim be elected President. Passed unanimously. Thank you, Tim.
* David Wilson is willing to be Vice President again if there are no other takers as he has been so busy with the Firewise application. Mike moved, Jon seconded that David be elected Vice President. Passed unanimously. Thank you, David.
* Julie Merk agrees to be Secretary for one year.
* Helen Chapman has served as Treasurer for three years and is hoping to spend more time with grandchildren. Election of Treasurer is postponed until Helen can check around to try to find a replacement.
* **Other**: New board member Mari Tamburo was given the title of IRA Communications Coordinator, duties tbd.
* New board member Jon Wurtzel is hoping to use his talents for grant writing for Firewise issues.
* Future agenda item requested by Mike: How to convince renters to become IRA members.

**The next IRA board meeting will be held May 11 at the home of Jennifer Howard, 5 Sunshine Court.**

Thanks to the Ongerths for hosting.

Meeting adjourned 11:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Merk, Secretary