

Inverness Ridge Association Board Meeting, November 11, 2017 Minutes

The meeting of the board of the Inverness Ridge Association was called to order by David Wilson, presiding in the absence of President Tim Stanton, at 9:46 a.m. at the home of Jennifer Howard and Tony Cascardi, 5 Sunshine Court.

Attending were David Wilson, Helen Chapman, Leah Cook, Sydney Bortel, Bob Lundstrom, Jennifer Howard, Kay McMahon, Ron Bennett, and Julie Merk. Visiting was Ken Drexler, representing PRERAB and the PRERAB task force on road repaving.

Minutes of the September 9, 2017 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's report: Helen Chapman reported a previous balance of \$12,424.42. Newly collected dues (3 new members) and interest income totaled \$75.49. Expenses paid for website maintenance totaled \$96.00. New Balance as of 11/11/17: \$12,403.91. It was noted that IRA has 64 paid members, on the low side.

Announcements:

Chipping: David said the fall chipping program will take place in late November or early December, depending on weather and contractor availability. It will be paid for differently in future years, probably modeled on the payment program used by the Old Inverness Association. This will be the last year IRA pays for providing fall chipping of roadside piles no larger than 5' x5' x10', approximately the size of a cord of wood. Participation in the project has increased yearly but there has been considerable miscommunication or misinterpretation of the rules. Some residents are putting out debris piles which are much too large. A pile of the appropriate size might be stacked separately, but excess should either be chipped or hauled away by the resident.

Update on the Davey Tree Company DVD Road Damage Claim: Ron Bennett reported that he, Tim Stanton, and Mike Ongerth met with Laszlo, Davey Supervisor, about damage to the edge of a PRE road at a spot where the Davey truck had been observed. Davey denies causing the damage. It is possible the damage was caused by a Horizon Cable truck. Complaints regarding the Horizon trucks include: extremely poor tree work; safety issues resulting from work trucks not using cones; poor application of tar paper to cable lines resulting in the tar paper flying off. When asked about the situation, Horizon shrugged.

Ron also reported that the fallen tree blocking the Laurel escape route had successfully been removed, and grass in the area was mowed by the owner, so that emergency route is now clear. The cost of \$650 was split between IRA and the Laurel road organization.

Old Business

PRERAB Update: Per Ken Drexler and Ron Bennett- PRERAB is getting road and sides of roads, ready for cleaning. They have waited for the first significant rains. Thanks to Mike Ongerth for the following list of fall road maintenance projects to be completed by Inverness Garden Service for the sum of \$14,720:

- Grading, remove washboard, fill potholes, respreads loose material down center ridge and fill wheel ruts on Sunnyside, East Robert, Douglas
- Resurface Sunnyside west of Burgess

- Clean culverts and drop boxes (35) on all roads
- Clean and restore ditches on all roads
- Restore water bars/rolls on Douglas, E Robert, Sunnyside (plus one new betw 18 & 35)

Ken also noted that the new county road superintendent is Larry Lewis, who is replacing Craig Parmley.

Re-paving Task Force Report : Per Ron Bennett – Barring a long dry stretch and the unanticipated availability of a contractor, DVD potholes will not be filled this year as the weather has become too wet. Generally, paving companies do not do this kind of work later than October. It is imperative that next year we get on a paving company's calendar earlier.

Regarding the selection of an engineering company to manage the repaving project: Ken Drexler says the firm should be selected in the next couple of weeks. We need to have an engineer who is committed to working with the task force for the next couple of years, is willing and able to meet with and communicate well with IRA residents, will understand the scope of the work and oversee it successfully, and certify the work to the county. David asked whether we will have such a person to address the IRA membership at January's meeting. We need to show progress. Leah asked how this will be communicated at the general meeting. It was agreed we need to continue to work on the FAQ sheet to inform IRA residents about the paving and election situation, a timeline, and some history about how we got to this point.

Disaster Capabilities Leah Light and Bob Lundstrom have delved into the current emergency/disaster picture in PRE. Here is Leah's email sent pre-meeting:

Dear Group:

Tim suggested that Bob and I summarize what we currently believe to be the state of affairs with respect to emergency preparedness in PRE. Our IRA website contains a fair amount of information as does the Point Reyes Emergency Council website.

Here is a synopsis plus questions for a brief discussion tomorrow:

In the event of a natural disaster, PRE has three possible actions at their disposal.

Neighborhood Liaison Program: Under loose direction from the West Marin Disaster Council there are 8 areas designated to facilitate disaster response and are activated by the Marin County Fire Department. PRE is one of the 8 areas in West Marin and designated as Inverness Park Middle (IPM). The structure of each individual area is headed by an Area Coordinator who is tasked with coordinating Neighborhood Liaisons and then disseminating pertinent information gathered by them to a Liaison Command Center in the Point Reyes Fire Department. Information is passed to the Area Coordinator by the Liaisons by walkie-talkies on a designated frequency for each area and passed to FD command personnel.

IPM has 9 designated sections where at least 1 Liaison should be trained and in place to make the system work as designed. Currently we have an Area Coordinator and 3 active Liaisons.

Emergency Siren: Installed after 1995 fire, the siren is located at 328 Drakes View. It requires electrical current to operate. In the past, it has been tested on the first Saturday of the month at noon. Past tests have proven that it cannot be heard in all areas of PRE. It is unclear if it is still tested on a monthly basis.

Evacuation: The Neighborhood Liaison program, if functional, seems designed for earthquakes or severe storm damage. In the event of fire, given topography and flora, safety of liaisons and residents would rely on quick evacuation. Quick evacuation would be dependent on knowledge of and maintenance of escape routes with all plans severely hindered by scope of incident.

Questions: How do we get more liaisons? Continuing issue... Do radios really work in all areas of PRE? Not currently tested in most areas. We may have an answer to this question by the time of the IRA board meeting. Do we need more sirens so that they can be heard throughout PRE? How do we maintain and assure regular testing of siren?

Bob stated that theoretically we have good planning, but implementation is another story. Some systems are not working, little or no outreach is happening. A back-up battery will be installed for the siren so that residents close enough to hear it will know to evacuate. At the least, in case of fire, residents should :

- Know how to turn off gas
- Be familiar with all evacuation routes
- Call 911 to report the emergency
- Learn to use NIXLE.com

Further volunteers, coordination, and communication are needed. We will reach out at the January general meeting to those interested in volunteering and improving disaster/fire/emergency prep.

New Business

NMWD Scoping Meeting Report: No one on the board attended the meeting at the Dance Palace, but Leah spoke with the owner of the property adjacent to the location of the proposed new water storage structure at the top of DVD. He had attended. It will be a concrete structure, able to hold 90,000 gallons, and work is slated to begin in April. When the new structure is finished, the old structure will be taken down.

IRA is in favor of new water storage. The only downside is the damage done to the already stressed road by so many heavy cement trucks going up and down the length of DVD. According to David, it may be possible to negotiate with NMWD a possible mitigation measure of returning the road to its previous state, if that action could help them avoid a time-consuming EIR. We need to find out particulars. Jennifer will speak to Rocky of NMWD about the size of the trucks.

Trail Clearing Project : Sydne ran into her contact from the Park Service, now retired, and was advised that she should speak to Sean Maloney, a park supervisor, about organizing a trail clearing party. She will contact Mr. Maloney and report back to us.

Annual Meeting Planning – Next Meeting

The annual meeting will be held at Barbara Jay's home at the base of Douglas Drive on Saturday, January 13, 2018. Tasks were divvied up.

- Leah will organize kitchen activity, and says Alicia will also work in the kitchen
- Sydne will survey the plate situation and fill in what is needed

- Wine – Bob- 2 reds; Sydne – 1 red; Merks – 1 each, red and white; David – 1 white Helen – 1 each of Miriam’s
- Chairs – Bob
- Parking – Ron and Randy
- Name tags, sharpies – Helen
- Yellow emergency cards - ?? We need more

Speaker: Our hope is that the engineer we hire to manage the paving project will be available and will be a good speaker. If we need a Plan B, we will rely on one of the board members – David? Ken? Additionally, the name of Dewey Livingston was floated.

Kay asks that some history be included to give the situation a broader context. Sydney asks that there be a chance to encourage volunteering.

Leah recognized we aren’t ready for the general meeting and kindly offered her home for a meeting on December 9 at 9:30 so we can update plans.

Other: Bob Lundstrom reminded the group we need to consider board nominations. Unfortunately, Bob doesn’t plan to re-join the board after his term finishes in December. The task of master list-keeper will have to be passed on to someone else.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:42.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Merk, subbing for Myn Adess