

## **April 23, 2015 GRF Board Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 6:05pm by President, Carol Steinbrecher. Directors present; Carol Steinbrecher, Dianna Feuerhelm, James Smith, Judi Brady absence excused.

Announcement-Thank you for coming, you are allowed to speak, you may stand and state your name to talk about agenda items. You cannot talk about your neighbor or people's private property, or complaints about cars or dogs. employees or benefits. There is a speaker form to fill out and you have 3 minutes to state your business.

Previous Meeting minutes approval:

Feuerhelm-Motion to approve meeting minutes from March 26, 2015, second-Smith, all in favor: Feuerhelm-aye, Smith aye, Steinbrecher-aye, motion passed.

### **Director and Committee Reports**

President/Architectural

Activity/ Tree / CC&R Report

3 pending tree removal approval  
1 down wood in the greenbelt  
4 Architectural projects approved  
Closed 7 pending CC&R violations

We had Open House last Saturday, April 18th, about 50 people attended; members were interested in upcoming activities planned.

The Communications Committee is planning a Preparedness Day. Invitees are: the Sheriff's Department, Fire Department, The Pollock Pines/Camino Fire Safe Counsel, and SARS, Search and Rescue, to be held on July 11th, the day of the Annual Membership Meeting. We will also have a BBQ following the Annual Meeting.

We are planning a Gold Ridge Forest Clean up Day on Saturday, May 9, from 8-12. We will be cleaning up the recreation area, we are looking for help.

There will be 3 board vacancies for the upcoming election. If you would like to be on the board, you need to have your letter of interest in by May 11th. All members must be in good standing with GRFPOA, if you have any questions, please see me after the meeting. This year we will have a candidate's forum in June so that all members can get a chance to meet the candidates and have a chance to ask them questions. Only those members that are in good standing on June 1st will be receiving election materials. We want the association to be seen as an open and welcoming organization are looking forward to involving lots of new members.

Architectural Committee will be meeting with the CC&R Committee next month to look at streamlining the CC&R's.

CC&R

Judi Brady has closed 7 CC&R violations by working with members to get compliance. 3 open violations, one requiring attorney contact still pending.

## **Finance**

Dianna Feuerhelm-Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual to date, we made the second contribution to the reserves, half funded for the year. All the major reserve spending has been done for this year. We do still need to purchase some pool chairs and umbrellas and chaise lounges. We also have shuffleboard, which is scheduled to be done on May 9th Clean Up Day. We will repaint and reseal the court, our grounds person will do it. We did not have a finance committee meeting this month, plan to schedule one next month. I am working on creating and writing a financial policy which will involve standardizing a written policy that we have 3 quotes for everything we purchase will all contract work. We also are requiring there are 3 quotes for all greenbelt work. We are also in the process of working with people who are late on dues, contacting them and standardizing what collection policies are. I have a generic list of office supplies so every month we can check off what is needed to order and get prior approval.

## **Greenbelt**

Jim Smith May 2 is last time to burn, after that you have to go to Fire Department and get a permit. On March 2 greenbelt committee met and decided to concentrate on areas adjacent to roadways clearing depth up to 100 feet which is average for the GRFPOA lot. Area C-5 is now completed. GRF has received bids from Hilltop Tree Service and Godzilla's, the only 2 vendors who submitted bids out of the 4 companies for C-16, C-17, and C-6. We now have online a GRF map and in the office marking work done since 2006.

Heather Campbell from the Fire Safe Council will give presentation.

## **Recreation Committee**

The Pool will open on Saturday, May 23rd. We will be hiring staff to work as pool attendants at the end of this month; they will start working next month. Jeff Beers our Pool Manager will be hiring along with other board members.

Drought restrictions-we have received the notice from EID, and we will be setting timers on sprinklers to coincide. We are looking at ways to reduce water; we may set up timers and turn down hot water. Lawn mowing short requires more water; we will allow the grass to grow longer. Jeff is working on pump management to reduce water use and recycling water for filter cleaning.

## Old Business

Vision Statement and Mission and Rights and Responsibilities

Dianna F-I would like to add in keeping with our environment, motion to adopt this as our mission statement and vision statement, second-Smith, all in favor, all aye.

Heather Campbell-Fire Safe Council

The Green waste policy was changed according to grant funding guidelines. It has been interpreted there is a level of enforcement, which was not the intent.

They want to track acreage, cubic yards, etc. There is a dumpster manager who reads the policy and understands, there is big sign, forms to pick up in one box, and complete and drop into another box. There needs to be a manager to communicate with Fire Safe. The clearing house has funded, but the bad news is getting it released in \$36,000 increments, which has been used and now waiting for more funding. The program is suspended while waiting for Forest Service to release funding. Pat Dwyer advises we put application in and have it ready to go when funds are released.

Jim Smith- El Dorado disposal gives customers vouchers for big item pick up for free.

Heather Campbell-The program is currently suspended awaiting funds to release from the state. Without the forms completed and submitted, next year's funding will be affected. You can request 2 dumpsters at once. There is a notification requirement to give 30 day advance notice to community to do the work to prepare to transport.

Carol-We need to identify a person to be our green waste manager, Jim, would be willing to take that on?

Jim-Yes.

Suggestion to members to come by and check the dumpster for room before filling trucks to transport.

The signs and forms will be available for members to fill out and drop in box.

The chipping program is funded by a different grant.

The chipper is for bushes and tree limbs. The green waste bin is strictly for forest litter, needles and leaves and smaller stuff that normally goes into your green waste. The green waste program is NOT for brush or bigger stuff.

Heather Campbell-clarified confusion on mulch use: There is a big difference. Mulch is a very good tool for reducing water for landscape purposes for potted plants and ornamentals in flower beds. That is to conserve water specifically for that use. It does not mean it is for whole widespread for the property. For the best practices, to keep your home safe from an ember, you want your property cleaned down. You want those needles gone.

Carol-GRF has written letters to the Department of Transportation and the county supervisor to request the roadsides maintained by the county be addressed. We will follow up with phone calls to ask what the plans are to maintain the county land.

We have \$29,000 in the greenbelt budget that will spent, will be looking for other ways to fund more work.

Heather Campbell-Regarding Defensible Space and on GRF's Preparedness Day on July 11, I plan to come with hand outs to describe what a fire adapted community is. It is also community protection that is needed. The Webber Creek Shaded Fuel Break is, there are still trees within the fuel break, the goal is to have a 10 foot space between the foliage, so if a tree is torched it will not spread to the next tree.

The next part is defensible space which is basically always means reducing your ladder fuels by lower plants spreading to bushes to higher trees. Good landscaping, knowing what ornamentals to put near your house so you don't get the dead foliage underneath, and you can see it to clear it out. There is fire resistant paint on the market, for 2 hours it is resistant to flames. One quarter inch mesh on all your vents and eaves covered.

There is a lot more that can be done on our homes that were built in the 60's, 70's & 80's to protect our homes, like putting in the gutters that don't collect leaves & debris. Evacuation-I have a streamlined list of what you need to do. For example, you need to move you furniture away from your windows, bow and rake everything away from your foundation. It is a check list, we were one of the first to be evacuated, Becky and I did it in under 45 minutes. We knew what we had to do and we each had assignments, I finished photographing belongings, Becky got on the roof and blew it off, everything from the patio was put in the garage, and we went down the list.

Access is huge, it also means for the fire fighters being able to visually access your house by having the 4 inch reflective home number sign. What you need is something you can see from the height of a fire truck unit and that can be seen through smoke.

For the roads, the standard clearance is 22 feet wide and 15 feet high, many of our roads built in the 1800's were designed for this. What we recommend is for you to do defensible space from the edge line, 10 feet out, and 15 feet high, most fire engines are that size today, to reduce the flame lengths so if it is an area for a fire truck to go through, there is not that much direct heat going onto the fire engine.

Choke points, finding an area to make a turn out isn't only for fire engines, could be for all personnel to pass each other.

Carol S. Some individuals in Gold Ridge have taken the training offered to become defensible space evaluators, Heather and Jim Smith have offered, if you are interested in having someone come out and look at your property and give you some information on how your property stands as far as defensible space. This will be done by invitation, call the office if you would like a defensible space evaluator come out to look. This is to help you get ideas and answer questions about individual properties. We would also like to set up a training with Heather presenting Defensible Space information.

Thank you Heather for being here.

### **Greenbelt Bids**

Jim Smith-We contacted 4 companies, 2 declined to submit bids, we got two bids, one from Godzilla's for \$28,000 and one from Hilltop Tree Service for \$9,000.

Dianna Feuerhelm- motion to approve the bid from Hilltop for the next round of greenbelt clearing, -second-Smith, all in favor: Feuerhelm-aye, Smith-aye, Steinbrecher-aye, motion passed.

Heather Campbell-suggested in the future to contact CCC for greenbelt clearing.

### **Water Meter Reclamation**

We have a total of 3 water meters, one for the lodge and 2 for the recreation area including the pools. One of the meters has not been used since 2006 and we are currently billed \$63 every 2 months, which is \$378 per year. I asked Karen to contact the water company and find out what we need to do to take it out. They will come out and remove it at no charge, but did want to disclose if we ever want to reinstall it is \$24,000 for commercial meter. I would like to ask for a motion to have it removed.

Dianna F.-motion to have the water meter taken out, second-Smith, all in favor: Smith-aye, Feuerhelm-aye, Steinbrecher-aye, motion passed.

May 9<sup>th</sup> Gold Ridge Forest Clean Up Day

Come Saturday morning with your rakes, will set up pool furniture and do as much as possible to save money on the recreation salary budget. We set it up for the week before Pollock Pines Clean Up day sponsored by CEDAPP. We will bring our own trucks to dispose of trash and green waste collected at Gold Ridge to the free dump sites in Pollock Pines the following Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **Preparedness Day-July 11, 2015**

Carol-Steve and I practiced an evacuation in 30 minutes at our house., getting all the things that are important and getting out. I am hoping to get some information on a program you can use for insurance purposes to take pictures of valuables. We will have a demonstration in the morning, have the Annual Membership meeting at 1:00 and then have a BBQ following. Please invite your friends and neighbors. Many people have commented they would like to get to know neighbors on the weekends.

### **Questionnaire**

Dianna F. We sent out Q , we have received 88 returned, if you still have not turned it in, please do. We are collecting the results and will publish the Receiving statements and newsletters via email or mail, how would you like to be contacted if dues are late.

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| Statements and newsletter by mail      | 33% |
| Statement by mail, newsletter by email | 25% |
| Both by email                          | 41% |

We will save on postage and copy/mail costs

Late payments assessed quarterly, due on the first day of quarter,

Contact by phone and/or email before late

Dues increase based on cost of living, or have BOD decide-largest percentage.

## **Community Events**

Old Car show, community yard sale, craft faire annual picnic, approx. %30 for each.

And comments will be added to the website.

## **Email for Board Members**

The use of personal emails for business is no longer acceptable, as a board member, we should be using a GRF email address and not personal accounts.

We researched with Davis Sterling, we should have them for the association, which will be owned by GR and will be transferable to the next member.

The cost is \$143.76 for 5 board members for 2 years.

I will check prices for 2 email address rather than all 5, most board members do not communicate with members from home.

## **Open Forum**

Larry Notaro –It is deemed safe by the Department of Agriculture and the county  
Question is there any opposition from the board to use round up on a 10 foot strip of greenbelt boarding my private road.

Jim Smith,- not on the greenbelt , no.

Steve Steinbrecher- it has a half life for about 20 minutes, it is safe for animals, and safe for people.

You are asking to spray in on your side of the greenbelt, discussion, and agreed it is safe.

Steve Steinbrecher has written permission for owner of vacant lot next door to clean lot.

Dianna F. If you neighbor has an issue with it, please be respectful.

Carol-yes, Dianna-yes,

Carol-please submit a copy of the letter of the owner granting permission to have on file at the office.

Dianna F. motion to adjourn meeting at 7:23, all in favor.