



# Greater Cement Hill Neighborhood Association

## Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, 8/2/2021, 7pm (Zoom meeting)

**Attendees:** Patricia Fuenzalida, Joy Elson, Jeff Coleman-Hunt, Joanne Brown, Elena Rayo, Susan Wiesner, Randy Newsome, Uli Paulin, Ellen Hagan, Gregg Dwight, Eileen Jorgensen, Christy Barden, Debbie Wandro, Jan Hart, Richard Katz. - a quorum

**Introductions:** Welcome to Jan Hart, a new neighbor on Daisy Blue Mine. Patricia called the meeting to order. The agenda and minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's report:** Our balance is \$10,584. We're in a good financial position due to limited activities. Susan Wiesner, our treasurer for years, has submitted her resignation. She'll be continuing on the Steering Committee.

### Neighborhood Reports

- Gregg asked if there was any new information regarding fiber coming to our area. Patricia had no new news from John Paul.
- Jeff asked about the tree trimming to various degrees that he's noticed on Cement Hill Road. It was suggested it might be the County using the grant money earmarked for road clearing.
- Susan reminded members that dense brush along County roadways can be reported to the Dept. of Public Works. Take a picture and complete an on-line "Road Maintenance Request" through [Mynevadacounty.org](https://mynevadacounty.org) Public Works Dept. Here is a link: <https://nevadacountyca.portal.iworq.net/portalhome/nevadacountyca>
- Thank you to Joanne, the new Rep for Indian Flat Road.

### New Business

- The final draft of the 3 year Firewise Action Plan was presented to members for approval. Eileen suggested we specifically name the Nevada City Fire Safety Advisory Committee. For each year, under Fire Risk Reduction Actions, the draft was amended to read: "Work (or Continue to work) with representatives from Nevada County, Nevada City, including the Nevada City Fire Safety Advisory Committee, the Bear Yuba Land Trust, and the Bureau of Land Management to reduce fuels and fire risk in Open Space areas and along exit roads." Informing our members of the Hazardous Vegetation Ordinance and the process for requiring land clearing on a neighbor's property is a goal, but won't be included in the plan. Ray Gebney has contributed an article for the newsletter describing his experience. As amended, the Plan was approved unanimously.
- Patricia reminded us that Beth needs the help of Steering Committee members to collect fire mitigation data. We need to contact our neighbors. Beth will send us a form. A new form created by Joy is available on the website. Data should be sent to Beth Enoch in Sept. to be included in the annual report needed to maintain our Firewise Community designation.
- Thank you to Joanne Brown for volunteering to be a member of the Firewise Committee. She will assist Beth in completing the annual report. She has put together a Welcome To The Neighborhood packet of information on fire preparedness and fire safety available for people new to our area.

## Hirschman's Pond Plaque

- Randy updated us on the designation of Hirschman's Pond as an historical landmark and the plaque describing the contribution of Leb Hirschman. The Historical Landmarks Commission, the County, and the City have now approved the designation and the wording of the plaque which was written by the Historical Landmarks Commission. The plaque will end with the following: "Plaque dedicated 2021 by the Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission in cooperation with the Greater Cement Hill Neighborhood Association." The manufacturer has been instructed to proceed with the plaque with the language everyone had approved.
- (FYI From the minutes of the April meeting - "It was moved and unanimously passed that GCHNA would sponsor an effort to fund the mounting of a plaque. The cost would be approximately \$1200. Randy will donate \$500. \$700 will be raised by GCHNA in ways to be determined. Joy suggested we ask for donations on the website using PayPal. We'll publish a request in the newsletter. Eileen suggested the plaque include a map. ")
- Richard Katz, a GCHNA member, expressed concerns about the appropriateness of highlighting Leb Hirschman in this way and would prefer the wording reflect a broader understanding of the historical context. His comprehensive presentation included the history of the Nisenan tribe which he believes should be referenced and the negative effects of the Gold Rush and hydraulic mining which should be taken into consideration. He asked that we "pause" and reconsider our support for the plaque.
- A discussion followed with comments from the Steering Committee which included: sympathizing with Richard's concerns, suggestions that GCHNA step back and reconsider our support in light of Richard's concerns, a clarification that GCHNA had no input into the wording of the plaque (FYI Yuba Net published an article stating that GCHNA had "commissioned" the article which is incorrect), a reminder that the information on the plaque is accurate, and a reaffirming that GCHNA had made a commitment to providing funds for the project. The discussion ended with a suggestion that GCHNA honor its commitment to the project, but that we use the concerns expressed as an opportunity to engage with the Nisenan tribe to tell the story they want to tell. A newsletter article might be a way to make members aware of the issue.

**Annual Membership Meeting:** Plans have been made for an in-person annual meeting and election. It would be Sun., Sept 19, 4pm - 7pm, at Christy's Big Yellow Barn. The barn has doors at both ends which would allow air flow and is large enough for social distancing. A slate of Steering Committee members and officers needs to be determined.

**Newsletter:** Articles for the Summer Edition should be turned in to Ellen by the middle of this month. Articles would include an announcement of the annual meeting and election and Firewise information including a copy of the Action Plan, request for mitigation data, the new Zone system, Ray Gebney's article, and info on prescribed burning.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ellen Hagan, Secretary