



Greater Cement Hill Neighborhood Association

Minutes - All-Members Annual Meeting

10/4/21 on Zoom at 7pm

Attendees: Patricia Fuenzalida, Joy Elson, Ellen Hagan, Joanne Browne, Peter Traugot, Susan Wiesner, Jan Hart, Patt Lind-Kyle, Gregg Dwight, Annette Seabury, Spencer LeGate, Uli Paulin, Debbie Wandro, Brian Waag, Richard & Patricia Katz, Amanda Ringnalda, and guests Susan Rogers and Ember Amador

Introductions were made. The agenda was approved with an additional announcement (9.2) of the NC Coalition of Firewise Communities meeting on 10/5.

Guest speaker Susan Rogers from the Nevada County Coalition of Firewise Communities spoke about the responsibilities for GCHNA as a Firewise Community stressing the need for us to keep people engaged in fire preparedness. We need to stay aware of our action plan and have a committee that regularly discusses progress made. Our area reps can play an important role. Publicizing the Coalition monthly meetings helps GCHNA meet its educational meeting responsibility. The Coalition website (<https://www.nccoalitionfwc.com>) is a valuable resource for information on fire preparedness and Susan walked us through the Educational Resources section, particularly the Best of the Best. Specific, up to date information is available on all aspects of fire preparedness.

Patricia honored Don Enoch who passed away recently. He and Beth have been active members representing the Indian Flat area. Their efforts for GCHNA are much appreciated. Don will be missed.

Guest speaker Ember Amador is a representative of CHIRP which is a non-profit organization supporting the Nevada City Nisenan tribe in its effort to obtain tribal recognition from the U.S. government. She explained the goals of the organization and the ways that individuals and businesses help which include donations and increasing the visibility of the Nisenan by educating the public. GCHNA is interested in supporting the tribe's efforts. In response to a suggestion by Patricia that GCHNA could create a presence on our website, Ember said that would be appreciated. Having a parcel of land that was part of the original Rancheria would be very useful in furthering the efforts toward tribal recognition. Spencer LeGate asked about the status of litigation regarding the succession of the land once lived on by tribal members. Ember will look into that. She'll send us links to help us learn more.

Reports of Officers

- The minutes were approved.
- Treasurer's report - Susan reported a balance of \$10,023. GCHNA is doing fine. We have fewer expenses. Money is still being collected for the Hirschman's Pond plaque. \$800 of the \$1000 needed has been collected. Susan hopes someone steps up to be the new Treasurer.
- Joanne reported a mail theft on Indian Flat.

- Brian wanted us to know that he had contacted neighbors to learn if there was an interest in working together to negotiate a contract for land clearing. Unfortunately, there was little response.
- Uli referenced an article in the Union which explained that there are new funds available for brush removal. People interested should contact the County.
- Joanne mentioned that there is a parcel in her area which is a fire hazard and contains debris from an old mine. It might be a possible site for a community cleanup event.

New Business

- More than 35 dead pines at Tobiassen Park have been cut down by the County. Nancy Paulson had made GCHNA aware of the problem, Susan followed up with a letter to the County expressing our concern, and the County acted swiftly.
- The election of Steering Committee members and officers will hopefully be completed by the end of the year. Patricia will contact current members and prepare a roster. The voting will be done electronically. Jan wondered if Eve would be interested in being co-reps for the Augustine Rd/Daisy Blue Mine area.

Committee reports

- Patricia continues to encourage ideas to increase membership. Signage with an intriguing logo along the road has been suggested. Laura might be able to help. Joanne has welcome packets that can be given to new neighbors.
- The next newsletter comes out in Jan. It will be mailed. Articles are needed in mid Dec.
- Spencer LeGate brought up the increased use of water by commercial farms in our area. He asked if GCHNA knew anything about the impact of this. Is there anything that can be done? Susan explained that each particular property could be a separate issue. When Brian applied to NID for ditch water, he was told that no new contracts were being made at this time.
- Spencer is also concerned about the increased speed of traffic on Cement Hill Road. There are no speed signs west of Augustine. Would it be possible to get the speed limit reduced? The process is problematic because the county would monitor speed and the limit might be raised. Might we put up our own signs? This issue could be raised in an article in the newsletter.

Firewise Committee update

Ellen reported that the Firewise Committee is now made up of: Beth, Ellen, Susan, Patricia, Annette, Joanne, and Joy. Ellen will arrange a meeting this month to organize how to proceed. The annual report to NFPA is due in Nov.

Announcements

The next Steering Committee Meeting will be Dec. 6.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Hagan, Secretary