



Greater Cement Hill Neighborhood Association
Steering Committee Minutes - April 1, 2024
7:00 pm at the Madelyn Helling Community Room

ATTENDEES

Steering Committee Members:

Christy Barden, Joanne Brown, Jeff Coleman-Hunt, Tom Dale Creighton, Joy Elson, Ellen Hagan, Will Hart, Janet Johnson, Eileen Jorgensen, Spencer LeGate, Amanda Ringnalda, Karen Wcislo, Marlene Widmann

Others:

Steve Danner, Ken Brown, Gregg Dwight, Rick Panos, Chris Panos, Cynthia Burton, Laurie Segal, Cheryl Haines

Guest Speaker:

Evan McLenithan (Nevada City Community Risk Reduction and Outreach Officer)

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Will called the meeting to order. The minutes were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Janet reported that we'd received \$4970 in dues so far. Given the dues increase this year, we are ahead of last year. Expenses were \$1751. Our budget is \$7290. The checking account balance is \$7187.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Joy reported that 172 members have joined or renewed for 2024. 97 who were 2023 members have not. Joy will communicate with these people and encourage membership renewal. April 1 will be the new deadline for membership in 2025, though people can join anytime. Joy sends the names of new members to Ferrellgas.

FIREWISE COMMITTEE REPORT

- Karen reported that the Scotch Broom pull will be Sat. 4/6 at the junction of Cement Hill Rd. and Indian Flat. Nevada City will remove the debris. Stan will maintain the quarter mile section.
- Our 3-year Action Plan has been completed and submitted to NFPA. It's available on the website.
- Micro-grants of \$3600 were offered by the County for fire preparedness. Each Firewise Community could submit one proposal. A proposal for a firebreak on Diamond Oaks was submitted by Marty and Jeff Coleman Hunt and was approved by the Firewise Committee for submission to the County.
- Free green waste disposal days sponsored by the Fire Safe Council will be arranged and will occur at the McCourtney Transfer station.
- Cheryl has researched opportunities for vegetation management of large parcels. There are 60 in our area.
- Cheryl met with Patrick Mason from Consolidated Fire and learned that there are measures that could be taken to make her property more accessible to fire equipment and improve evacuation. She suggested he be a speaker at one of this year's meetings.

GUEST SPEAKER

Evan McLenithan, Nevada City Community Risk Reduction and Outreach Officer

His talk included:

- Describing his job responsibilities, which include fire prevention, evacuation improvement, and fuels management primarily within the Nevada City limits. Measure C funds will provide additional funding.
- Hirschman's Trail and the Old Airport property are city-owned and within our neighborhood. Members made him aware of the concerns about hazardous vegetation on the Hirschman's property.
- On the Old Airport property, only roads will be cleared at this time.
- The CWPP (Community Wildfire Protection Plan) dictates priorities for money spent.

- He suggested GCHNA members complete a survey available online to encourage attention to our concerns.
- Information is available at <https://www.nevadacityca.gov/pview.aspx?id=20713&catid=0>
- Evan is available at evan.mclenithan@nevadacityca.gov.

NEWSLETTER

Ellen reported that the next newsletter would go out in April. She'll email Steering Committee members asking for contributions. The newsletter will include a President's message, Firewise Committee Report and appropriate educational information, and a membership list.

HWY 49 ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Will gave an update on the long-term project.

WEBSITE

Joy reported that the website is working fine now and there is no urgency to make changes.

EVENTS

Amanda will reach out to members to form a committee and do event planning.

NEW COURTHOUSE

Three locations have been proposed for the new building, one being the Pello property at the corner of Cement Hill Road and Hwy 49. A tunnel from the jail to the Courthouse was mentioned. Eileen expressed concerns about the increase in traffic and evacuation problems. This issue was discussed and members voted in favor of GCHNA writing a letter to Nevada City expressing our concerns. There will be a meeting tomorrow and members will try to attend.

WATER CONSERVATION

Given the problem at the Spaulding Lake dam, Will encouraged members to conserve water.

COMMENTS

- Sam Palmer is giving a music recital at the Rayo property on 4/28 and needs chairs.
- Joanne reminded road reps that she has Welcome folders for new property owners.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Steering Committee meeting will be June 3, 2024 at 7 pm at the Madelyn Helling Community Room

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Hagan, Secretary