



**Greater Cement Hill Neighborhood Association**  
**Steering Committee Meeting Minutes – June 2, 2025**  
7:00 pm at the Madelyn Helling Library Community Room

**Attendees**

Steering Committee: Will Hart, Joy Elson, Janet Johnson, Ellen Hagan, Christy Barden, Jeff Coleman-Hunt, Tom Dale Creighton, Eileen Jorgensen, Spencer LeGate, Karen Weislo - a quorum  
Members/Neighbors: Sue Thomsen, Susan Zdarko, Laura Wilson, Tom Stone, Peter Traugot, Al Macias, Laurie Segal, Jeff Gold, Willie and Sue Brusin, Laurie Oberholtzer,

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

**Treasurer's report**

Janet reported that revenue to date is \$5890. Expenses were \$1694. Our current balance is \$12,347.

**Membership**

Joy reported 248 members currently.

**The Pello property**

Keeping the 2.2 acre Pello property at the corner of Hwy 49 and Cement Hill Road open space is of interest to GCHNA. It would become part of the Hirschman's property and ideally might become a city park. Laurie Oberholtzer explained that the Pello family is interested in selling it. The Sierra County Land Trust is willing to be the fiscal agent and apply for grant money from the State for the purchase which would be \$350,000 - \$400,000 approximately. Once they take ownership, they would transfer ownership to Nevada City. There would be no significant cost to GCHNA, but money may be needed for a lawyer, a rendering, and possibly a biotic study. It might be possible to recreate a wetland. Support from Doug Fleming and the Nevada City Parks and Recreation Committee will be requested at a meeting in July. Tom Dale Creighton brought up the issue of maintenance and cautioned that GCHNA not commit to regular maintenance of the property.

**Firewise Committee**

- Karen reported that a video link of the presentation on fire safety by Joann Fites-Kaufman is available on the GCHNA website.
- GCHNA, with support from Nevada County OES, provided opportunities for members to have their green waste chipped and/or to use WM dumpsters brought to the neighborhood. Joy communicated with neighbors and coordinated these programs with OES. Steve Renz was exceptionally helpful. Spencer supervised the dumpster in his driveway. Both programs were successful! 27 people took advantage of the free chipping. The 2 dumpsters were filled. It's not clear if dumpsters will be available from OES next year, but if not, GCHNA could budget to provide one. Karen learned that there might be a way to dispose of Scotch Broom and blackberries if there is enough interest from members.
- The Fire Safe Nevada County Coalition is a new organization and a tremendous resource for us as a Firewise Community and the community in general. They plan to train defensible space advisors. There

is an event on June 26 at Pioneer Park. It was moved that we donate \$250 to FSNCC. The motion passed.

- Will has done an amazing job summarizing the information presented at the County OES Virtual Office Hours. There is a link to these on the GCHNA website in the Firewise section.
- The Firewise Committee has gathered information on landscaping. At some point in time, insurance companies will likely require the 0 - 5 feet area around homes to be plant free because all plants will burn. Embers igniting flammable material close to a home cause many fires. Make your home resistant by cleaning out all areas where leaves, etc. accumulate.

### **GCHNA Party**

Joy has met with the party planning committee. The date will be August 24 at Christy's Big Yellow Barn, from 1:00 - 6:00. It's a time for socializing. Will, Karen, and Heidi Hall will speak. We'll play the trivia game. The meal will be a potluck at 2:00. Young people are needed to park cars.

### **Newsletter**

Ellen reported that the next newsletter will go out in August. Articles of interest are requested.

### **Next Meeting**

The next Neighborhood Meeting will be on Aug. 4, 2025 at 7 pm at the Helling Library Community Room.

Ellen Hagan, Secretary