



**Greater Cement Hill Neighborhood Association**  
**Steering Committee Meeting Minutes – April 6, 2026**  
7:00 pm at the Madelyn Helling Library Community Room

**Attendees:**

*Steering Committee Members:* Will Hart, Joy Elson, Ellen Hagan, Christy Barden, Karen Wcislo, Eileen Jorgensen, Todd Krein, Joanne Brown, Sierra Buryn, Brad Reynolds, Susan Zdarko, Dale Tom Creighton - a quorum

*Members/Neighbors:* Dave Herbst, Linda Andreas, Steve Danner, Tom Elson, Patricia Graves, Laura Pappani, Richard Panos, Laurie Segal, Bob Aron, Yvette Young, Safeer Jiwan and Lore James

Will Hart called the meeting to order. Minutes were approved.

**Deer Creek Behavioral Health Center Presentation**

By Ariel Lovett, Chief Fiscal Administrative Officer, Ryan Gruver, Nevada County Health and Human Services Director, and Megan Murphy, Behavioral Health Program Manager. They spoke about the up-coming construction of the new in-patient treatment facility at the Rood Center. It will give much needed help to those in need of acute psychiatric care. It is being financed by a \$23.7 million grant from State Prop 1 funds. Presently patients who are a threat to themselves or others must be kept in the hospital or sent to facilities out of the county. When completed in September 2027, these people can be treated here.

**Treasurer's Report - Joy**

Revenue to date - \$4,980 from dues. Expenses - approximately \$1,500 which includes the newsletter cost of about \$1,100. Pello Project funds in a separate account are \$6,700. Total funds - \$17,300

**Membership - Joy**

There are 247 current member households

**New Road Reps**

Laura Pappani and Erin Smith were approved unanimously as co-reps for Upper Cement Hill Road replacing Jeff Coleman- Hunt.

**Firewise Committee Report - Karen**

- Karen reported that the U.S. Forest Service is being restructured and there may be changes that affect the way service is provided.
- The need for property owners to maintain road safety by clearing brush 10' from roadsides and 15' up was stressed. Patrick Mason from Consolidated Fire is available to assess road safety at neighbor's request. Building permit requirements for property on private roads are being enforced. The road must be at least 20' wide with a 2' shoulder on both sides or there must be a turnout every 400'.
- Code Red is no longer functioning and the County is researching a new opt-in emergency warning system.
- An early warning smoke sensor has been placed on Cheryl Haines' property facing the Yuba River Canyon. It is a pilot project. Working with a Watch Duty representative, Cheryl has arranged for 3 cameras to be placed in our neighborhood. These cameras can be an invaluable tool for early fire detection. Cheryl's efforts on the Firewise Committee are much appreciated.
- Molly Breen is now a defensible space advisor and is available at member request.

Joanne Brown reported that PG&E's Wood Management Team has been asked to remove logs on 7 properties on Indian Flat Road.

#### **Annual Party Update**

Oct 17 is the date. 35 people have volunteered to help.

#### **Courthouse Update - Eileen Jorgensen**

Preparation for an EIR is being done and interested parties can submit things to be mitigated. Members are encouraged to give input. Of particular interest to GCHNA is the maintenance of the aesthetics of the scenic corridor which includes natural landscaping.

#### **Hwy 49 Corridor Improvement Project - Will**

Changes have been made to the plans for the Hwy 49 project. There will no longer be a traffic circle at Maidu. There will be crosswalks and sidewalks.

#### **Newsletter - Ellen**

The number of issues per year will be reduced from 3 to 2. The Winter issue which is printed and mailed to all property owners will remain the same. The second issue will be digital and will come out in June to include important information on safety during fire season.

#### **General Comments**

Laurie Segal expressed concern regarding the proposed NID rate hike of 12.5% per year for the next 5 years. There is the need for more information.

#### **Announcements**

The next Neighborhood Meeting will be on June 1, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Madelyn Helling Library Community Room.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ellen Hagan, Secretary