

Minutes of Caspar Community Board of Directors Meeting

February 23, 2007

I. Call to Order/Present: (Call to Order at 9:15 a.m.)

Board Members: David Alden, Susan Keller, Paul Reiber, Ray Duff, and Judy Tarbell.

Absent: Paul Schulman, Susan Juhl

Staff: Dalen Anderson.

Guests: Jim Katzel and, Mike Dell'Ara

Quorum Declared: Yes X No

II. Approval of Minutes:

No Minutes for the last Board meeting having been timely distributed, approval was tabled 'til next meeting.

III. Reports

A. Correspondence

The Department of Forestry has begun sending us copies of all timer permit activity. We got a personal, hand made thank you note from the school kids, who apparently enjoyed their use of the CCC over the past several weeks.

B. Treasurer:

End of Year financial statements were distributed, including a balance sheet, P&L by account and a YTD comparison with prior periods. We currently have \$63,265 in the Caspar Cooks kitchen account.

We are still trying to get QuickBooks up and running on the new computer system. For now, the books continue to be maintained on the old PC.

C. Manager's Report

Dalen distributed a calendar for the upcoming months. The MCN Listserve is up and running and a notice in re the next breakfast was sent out on it. There was some discussion of whether everyone was in fact getting messages.

The logging pulley is going to the Kelly House.

IV. Old Business

A. Airplane Noise

Mike Dell'Ara, ably assisted by Jim Katzel, made a very informative and detailed report on

the US Air Traffic Control System. Large scale foldout maps with many circles and arrows were presented which, to the delight of the entire Board, proved just as much fun to play with upside down as right side up. It turns out the entire country is covered with traffic lanes. Of course, these aren't actually painted on the ground like car lanes: Mike patiently explained that this wouldn't really be all that practical for the government to do. "Why", he said, "that would make as much sense as trying to build a brick wall between the U.S. and Mexico to keep out aliens (heh, heh)!" Anyway, instead, pilots in their very tiny cockpits, and while steering, apparently have to unfold these 6' by 8' maps to figure out where these imaginary traffic lanes are so that they can follow them to get from place to place. Since this isn't easy, they are apparently also allowed to just imagine that they are actually flying in them. Furthermore, those few pilots that are capable of figuring out where the lanes are won't fly in them because (like Toots Shor's) they're too crowded. Soooo..., if there were an imaginary traffic lane above Caspar, which there does not appear to be, the planes people are hearing would almost certainly be imaginary as well. However, the fact that there is not an imaginary traffic lane above Caspar, almost certainly means that the planes are very likely real and are either 1) lost, in the sense that they are not in their imaginary traffic lanes where they're supposed to be and in which case there is no way to complain about them unless we can get their license numbers (there being no plan filed anywhere which shows they intentionally meant to be there) or 2) coming in from a foreign country, in which case they're probably just glad to have found the right continent, let alone an imaginary traffic lane, and in any event are probably using their own imaginary traffic lane maps which they won't tell us about for security reasons.

This is just an abstract of my actual notes, which can be obtained on request.

Although all felt that the air had been significantly cleared on this issue, Mike did indicate that he knew someone in the FAA who might be able to further clarify the reason for the density of air traffic over Caspar "Air Highway to the World" California. There is also a private organization (which sounds a bit like Alcoholics Anonymous but goes by the acronym AOPA (American Operating Pilots Anonymous?)) which has a "chapter" which meets every Wednesday night in the basement of the Willits First Baptist Church and which assists pilots and their enabling communities with "problems". Mike will follow up.

B. Kitchen Project

Dan Dickson is still working on the Coastal Development Permit application.

The Fund Raising Committee met again and has come up with a variety of fund raising proposals, including regular movie nights one Sunday per month starting May 20 with a documentary focus and potluck supper. Also suggested is a theme dinner every second Friday, with the theme being country/food oriented. Also, on an ad hoc basis, there will be funny items auctioned off at each of the monthly breakfasts. The March breakfast will start a white elephant auction, where wrapped presents will be auctioned off blindly for \$5 a piece. If not all the presents sell, Judy will devise a plan.

An interesting and fun fund raising "thermometer" will be crated showing progress.

The offer by Little River Realty is in place. For the first two listings (anywhere on the coast) which the seller designates as being for Caspar, the Realty will donate 1/2 its commission. The customer has to be new to the Realty office. Susan Keller suggested that a limit of only two sales was not that reasonable, since the plan would be bringing new business to the Realty office. However, the general consensus was that it was a generous offer and should be accepted. The board did indicate that it did not feel that a time limit should be part of the arrangement. This will be communicated to Little River.

We are applying for a Community Foundation grant to cover the artwork for the mailbox pavilion. Ray will contact the Post Office to make sure the pavilion is OK with it. We will enter into an agreement with Paul Reiber to do the work contingent on the grant being approved.

C. The town square property

The proposal is that as part of our offer to purchase the town square parcel, we will offer to support density transfers to permit 6 additional residences and 2 commercial lots on the remaining Cattle Company property, consistent with the map that we had originally presented to Oscar Smith. The offer ultimately will be for \$10,000 plus a resolution of the Board supporting Oscar's (or his assignee's) application for density transfers as defined by "X". Alden agreed to meet with Mike Dell'Ara to define exactly what we are intending to support and to put together a draft of the offer for the Board's review.

D. The Newsletter

Deadline for articles is today, but has been extended to Monday, February 26.

V. New Business

A. Traffic Controls

It was clarified through discussion that there are two separate issues concerning traffic: one is whether a pedestrian walkway can be created to connect east and west Caspar. The second is whether CalTrans can improve safety at the intersection of Fern Creek Rd and Highway I. Both merit serious attention.

B. Ed Powers

Ed Powers has applied for a timber-cutting permit, with a close of comment period of Mar. 19. Ray Duff agreed to find out more about it.

C. Community Meeting

Agenda Items for the next community meeting on March 11 should include the airplane issues (see above), some general information about the dump proposal and a discussion of what to do with the flag flown in front of the CCC. There apparently is diverse and fervent feeling in the community on the latter subject, and the Board feels it should be brought up for discussion.

D. Garden Grants

It has been proposed that grant funds be applied for to buy garden equipment. An application will be sent to the Board.

E. CasparFest

A new date of September 29-30 has been selected for the Fest. There will be workshops on sustainability. Dinner may be consortium of CELL, Noyo Food Forest, Old Mill Farm and Caspar. The next meeting in re the Fest will be April 2 at the CCC.

VI. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:30 a.m.