

## **Minutes of Caspar Community Board of Directors Meeting**

**March 21, 2008**

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

**Board Members:** David Alden, Judy Tarbell, Susan Keller, Paul Schulman, Paul Reiber, Rhoda Teplow

**Absent:** Susan Juhl

**Staff:** Dalen Anderson.

**Guests:** Loraine Duff, Annie Lee, Bette Goldfarb, Star Decker, Gene Parsons, Jim Katzel, Elizabeth Alden, Jim Tarbell, Michael St. John

Quorum Declared: Yes   X   No     

### **II. Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes for the Board meeting on March 7, 2008 were tabled pending review.

### **III. Reports**

#### **A. Correspondence**

Our insurance company wrote that they were deleting the coverage for liquor related events. A phone call clarified that this coverage was now being included in our general coverage, and not specifically listed as a rider. More support letters were received in re the kitchen project.

#### **B. Treasurer:**

Final P&Ls for 2007 were prepared. A year end donation of \$200 was received. Ongoing rental activity was up \$5,000 vis a vis last year. Propane bill is also up significantly. It was suggested that as part of our project planning, we examine whether a more efficient heating system is practicable. It was noted that Fittings now has a used heater similar to that installed in the south room for sale for \$700, about ½ of retail price.

#### **C. Manager's Report**

Deb Dawson has proposed putting on a class through College of the Redwoods on Cooking for a Crowd. IT would be next fall, culminating with our November dinner that the class would prepare. The SurfRiders benefit dinner will be this coming Saturday.

### **IV. New Business**

#### **A. Newsletter**

Judy Tarbell asked Jan Boyd whether she would be interested in taking over management and production of the Newsletter, since it is simply too big a job for Judy to continue to be responsible for. Jan declined, although she indicated she would be happy to continue to help out. Discussion ensued about whether to convert the newsletter to an electronic email document only, given the extent of labor and time it takes to issue a mailed version. There are approximately 500

people on the mailing list. Decision was made to issue one more printed newsletter with an announcement that we are switching to an email distribution. The newsletter deadlines will be: April 4 for articles; April 11 for mailing. Bette Goldfarb raised again the question whether we can have an interactive section of the website for posting and discussion of community issues.

## **B. Community Meeting**

The agenda for the next community meeting will include an update on the pavilion and kitchen projects; a campaign for final donations to keep the mortgage as low as possible; the use of solar power; the funding of kitchen equipment; and announcements re board members and officers. Gene Parsons and Star Decker proposed that the next community meeting include a discussion of the land use issues raised by the Caspar Cattle Co. property. They have proposed that a number of people be selected to make short presentations on various positions which have been put forward concerning the future of Caspar from a land use perspective. Gene and Star asked whether a special meeting should be held for this purpose, given the amount of time it may take and given the need to provide sufficient advance notice so that anyone who wished to address these issues would have an adequate opportunity. The consensus of the board was to proceed at the May 4 Community Meeting, with 15 minutes allotted per speaker plus 5 minutes for specific questions, with discussion to follow. It was decided to start the meeting early, at 3:30. We will publicize the meeting through the use of email, posters posted at the mailboxes, and through announcements at the breakfasts, as well as through the newsletter. At Jim Katzel's suggestion, the community discussion following the individual presentations will be facilitated by a panel consisting of the speakers.

## **V. Old Business**

### **A. Earth Oven Project**

The date for the Earth Oven seminar and construction project will be August 30-31.

The USDA is visiting the CCC on March 13 at 11:00 a.m. All who can be there are encouraged to come.

### **B. Land Use/Community Land Trusts**

Jim Tarbell and Michael St. John led a discussion about how a community land trust might be organized to acquire and manage the development of the Caspar Cattle Co. property. There were considerable questions and discussion from and among the board members and guests present. Jim has constructed a very rough model of how the property could be successfully acquired and developed through this vehicle. It is anticipated that more discussion will occur at the community meeting. Michael St. John indicated that he was enthusiastic about the community land trust model, but that he had no plans to pursue it or any other model at this time, largely because he did not wish to serve any longer as a lightning rod for community reactions.

### **C. Kitchen Project**

Judy Tarbell will call Bruce Ericson to get a quote for the solar component of the project. There was discussion of the need for a last minute fund raising event and perhaps for a program where people could adopt and fund specific aspects of the project in return for having their name appended to that piece of the project.

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