

Paradise Community Guilds Business Meeting March 13, 2017

Prior to the formal beginning of the meeting, Richard demonstrated his double-digging approach to planting the fruit trees behind the garden. Suggested to consider calling it Andrew's Orchard in honor of our dear departed Andrew "Moose" Allagree.

David reviewed the proceedings of the recent GuildsStorm, March 3-4. Notes from that meeting are available on the website.

David reported that Extra Self-Storage, which has an outlet here in Paradise, had stepped forward as a donor. They auction off items that are left with them and donate the money to local nonprofits. They will contribute to us through Heartland Foundation (California Guild foundation) until we can get our own 501(c)(3). They will help us with the roof.

Nancy reported that Rotary has money that they want to distribute. They give out a whole range of funding, usually in the hundreds of dollars. They like to see projects that there has already been some fundraising for. So possibly we could ask them to fund the stage, new chairs and tables, or whatever. David suggested the Building and Rental Committee meet and invite whoever's interested to decide what we want to ask for.

Monthly meeting called to order at 7:50 pm

Roll Call of Officers present: David Zink, President; Dan Joseph, VP; Verna Myers, Treasurer and Executive Committee Member; Karen Quattlander, Secretary and Executive Committee Member; Pyramid Michael Walden, Executive Committee

Members present: Jennifer Petersen, Mike McGrath, Lisa Flores, Pete Samuel, Zeke Wheeler, Johnny Baty, Elizabeth Evans, Susan Dobra

Minutes for February 13, 2017, were accepted unanimously, with the caveat that Susan Dobra's name needed to be added to those members present.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Susan reported that we are finalizing the Pathway to Membership material and should have a membership packet soon. She passed out the most recent version of the requirements and benefits of membership and asked members to review the email that will be sent to all those who express an interest in being a Friend of the Guilds and to send her any suggestions for revision. She also passed out business-card-sized prototypes of Paradise Community Guilds welcome cards, which she requested that everyone carry on their person and give to anyone who expresses an interest in the PCG. If they give their email, they become a Friend of the Guild and are sent the email about the pathway to membership. Sponsorship (a Friend who donates money but does not want to be a member) is another option on the path.

Rental: Jennifer reported that Quota is having a rummage sale this weekend here, Friday and Saturday, and then the following Friday will be a party scheduled. April 8 there will be a memorial. May 6th will be the Artisans' Faire. Wedding in June. Jen and Dan will schedule a meeting soon and invite everyone.

Building and Grounds: Dan reported that last work day we painted the east and south walls. Tarps are holding up. New parking lot light bulb was installed. Looking forward to spring work efforts. Dan will be here on Sunday around 9 a.m., before the Civil Dialogue Guild. Would like to finish front steps. We need about \$70 in materials. Richard mentioned that white trim is needed, so getting paint would be a good idea. Requested to put a strip of white paint or reflective strip on the edge of each step.

Events: We met last month to organize the Halie Loren show and Simon Lynge show, both of which went well. Simon went home with \$887. Finances reported in Treasurer's Report. Coming up: Martin Gerschwitz on April 1. We need bakers, workers—contact Verna. We need to discuss Unity in Diversity Festival and/or our relationship with RCPJ. Also Moody Little Sister on June 23. Next meeting, with Membership Committee, next Monday at Verna's, 6 pm.

Community Action: May morph into a Guild.

Garden: Jennifer reported that gardens are getting geared up. Plant sale will be in May. Seat at the Table is giving grants to the Paradise School District, and it will have Paradise Ridge Neighborhood Garden's name on it. They will also fund a watering system for our community garden. Goal is 200 lbs. of food into the food bank. Also would like to contribute food to the Guilds for events and perhaps a Foodie Guild. Garden Tour is first weekend in June. They fill the whole hall with raffle prizes. Gardeners are here Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and soon Sundays or Saturdays. Here's news: The Gold Nugget Museum has a heritage apple orchard and no one is caring for it. There is potential for the Community Neighborhood Garden helping out. If interested, contact Jen by email.

Civil Dialogue: First meeting February 19, 15 people from Chico and Paradise in attendance. Sense was that people are in grief about the deep divide in our communities regarding politics and civic issues. Wanting to establish rules of the road, and will discuss the topic of what constitutes reliable information, credible facts. We all agreed to bring someone from the other end of the political spectrum from us. Second meeting, this Sunday, March 19, 4 to 6 pm.

Transformation: GuildsStorm report happened before the formal start of the meeting.

Secretary's Report: We submitted our quarterly report to the State Guilds. Karen reminded everyone that dues are due and she is accepting them.

Treasurer's Report: Verna reported that she spent significant time reorganizing our finances. We have been using 20% of Events income and from other incomes for the roofing fund. \$5481 in there now, to add to the \$1260 from the crowdfunding site. If we don't need all of that for materials (we have a donor for the work), we can shuffle some into a fund for chairs or whatever the Rental and Building Committee decides we should ask the Rotary for.

Old Business: Motion to accept the bylaws proposed at the last meeting. Seconded.
Discussion about our relationship to the California Guild. **Passed unanimously.**

GuildsStorm was held March 3-4 at Karen and Michael's house. Notes from it are available online, and David reviewed them previous to the start of the business meeting.

Motion to sponsor an Artisans' Faire May 6. Seconded. Discussion of using it as an opportunity to talk up an Arts & Entertainment Guild. **Passed unanimously.**

New Business: The Heartland Foundation, the charitable arm of the state Guild, is being targeted in the Grange/Guild legal process. Therefore, our executive committee is proposing that we form our own foundation to accept tax-deductible foundations. **Motion to form our own 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Seconded.** Discussion about what the benefits would be (ability to accept donations, distance from the Grange/Guild conflict, ability to act independently of the Heartland Foundation, better ability to get grants and awards (and beer) from charitable foundations). **Passed unanimously.**

Motion to name the foundation The Norton Buffalo Hall Foundation. Seconded. Discussion about the pros and cons of naming it after the hall or after the organization, i.e., The Paradise Community Guilds Foundation. Perhaps mention in the narrative that it is the home of the Paradise Community Guilds. It was generally felt that naming it after the hall would give us more insulation from the Guilds/Grange conflict. **Passed unanimously.**

Last night's Second Sundays call revealed that two grange halls had been in crosshairs of the Kowski group and expressed concern that they may be moving forward, to take possession of their building, as happened in to the Marshall Grange. **Motion to make money available to increase security on our building. Seconded.** Question about whether we are there yet. It was pointed out that our vulnerability is in how many non-members we allow into the hall (renters, gardeners, Guild members). Concern was expressed about the dollar amount and specifics. It was suggested we give a heads up to the police, our bank, and our post office. David offered to write such a letter. It was suggested that the motion be tabled until we have more specifics. **Motion tabled.**

Bill Booth, an old Grange member and former President of the California State Grange, is sick. We send him good wishes for a speedy recovery.

Meeting adjourned at 9:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Dobra