

Paradise Community Guilds Business Meeting April 10, 2017

Monthly meeting called to order at 7:35 pm

Roll Call of Officers present: David Zink, President; Dan Joseph, VP (arrived late, previous commitment); 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, Elizabeth Evans, Susan Dobra, Patricia Light, Nancy Eaton.

Minutes for March 13, 2017, were accepted unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Susan reported that emails have been sent out to all Friends of the Grange who expressed an interest in membership over the past three months (since the dedication of the hall), and that membership packets are being put together to give to anyone who requests one. Verna is making stickers from our logo for the folders/envelopes, and Lynn Costa is designing the Benefits/Requirements chart. The folders will also contain the state and local bylaws, the mission, vision, and values statements, and the one-page overview of membership that Bruce did, as well as a membership request form. It was agreed that having a few in the office was a good idea (let Susan or Karen know if you give one out) and that having a digital version was also a good idea.

Rental: Discussion about how to ensure the hall, including floors, gets cleaned thoroughly before our major events. It's too much for Jen. Can we hire someone? Jen says it takes about 3 hours to thoroughly clean. Discussion of recycling, trash ended in a decision to get rid of the two cans outside the door and to have Richard's "crew" help themselves to the recyclables in exchange for making sure the trash and recycling receptacles are at the curb for pick-up. Jen asked everyone to be aware of the rental calendar so that the trash and recycling can be ready for our renters. Jen also reported that Brian Marshall proposed having a book reading/author's workshop here on June 1st that would feature his new book. Brian is requesting that we help him with selling alcohol, having hors d'oeuvres, advertising the event, etc. Pyramid said he had that date in mind for the first Youth Guild. **Motion to sponsor Brian's author night and sell alcohol and light food, date to be determined, with the friendly amendment caveat that Brian be involved in putting it on. Passed unanimously.**

Building and Grounds: Dan reported (through David) that the following work has been completed: One more step on the front stairs, last wall inside was planted, freezer was defrosted. David and Dan met with anonymous big contractor donor, did a walkthrough to see what he could help us with. Roof is first priority. Will look for leaks after then next rain is finished. Dan also reported, here and on the website blog, that he and Richard and local bee keeper Ken Smith of Smith Apiaries installed 8-10,000 bees and 12 fruit trees. Need to install trim on back kitchen door, look at handicap ramp door for ant damage, finish garden shed, change out women's room light switch, work on bushes out front. This coming Saturday, April 15, is work day. Weeding and other spring care of the grounds is needed. Please come if you can.

Events: We had Martin Gerschwitz on April 1. We gave him \$390 and we made a total of \$283 after

expenses, with some wine left over. Verna will pass over her notes to Susan and Jen for the event June 23rd (Moody Little Sister), which David will also be gone for. Susan will MC the show and John-Michael will do the sound. Pam Mark Hall may perform here—born and raised in Oroville, has worked with Bruce Cockburn and other luminaries. Gold Nugget event is cancelled, may be rescheduled for first weekend in July. Artisans' Faire will be May 6. We still have space for artisans, should be handmade, \$25 space. Guatemalan clothing, Laura Smith's Indian clothing, upcycled craft items, other things. Light food and snacks and beverages will be available.

Community Action: Revolution Now group met with David. Civil Politics

Garden: Jennifer reported that all the plots are rented. Jen suggested that we ask Dan to make a plaque for Andrew Allagree. Karen will talk to Andrew's mother about the idea, get her blessing, and thoughts, and invite her to a dedication ceremony of some kind. Can we add a few citrus trees? Jen asked. Suggestion to put a lemon, mandarin, and some other citrus at the end of the grape area.

Motion to add up to \$50 worth of citrus trees. Passed. Also, May 21st might be a garden event, plant sale,

Civil Dialogue: Second meeting March 19th, 11 people from Chico and Paradise in attendance. Susan led a discussion about what constitutes facts and factual information. David observed that we have to structure in the opportunity for people to talk, since they come with a lot of strong emotion. Next meeting April 23rd, at the Norton Buffalo Hall, 4 to 6 pm, light potluck.

Transformation: We have several motions to consider:

Motion to accept new Articles of Incorporation. Passed unanimously. We complete a step in our progress toward Guilds-ship with the re-statement of our Articles of Incorporation. They are attached to these minutes, and also available at www.nortonbuffalohall.com/agendas-and-minutes.html under April. The Executive Committee has already voted to approve them -- if approved by members, we will send them to the Secretary of State for filing.

Motion to change the name on our deed. Passed unanimously. This is actually a Board (Executive Committee) decision that was executed in real time during the membership business meeting. Currently our deed reflects the owner as "Paradise Grange #490, a California Corporation." We are changing it to "Paradise Community Guilds."

Motion to send a letter to National Grange acknowledging our withdrawal from the Grange. Passed unanimously. We have rejected the overreach of the National Grange, continued our alliance with California Guild (formerly California State Grange), changed our name and our by-laws, and now are restating our Articles of Incorporation and changing the name on our deed. Once these tasks are done, we have one more measure to take—sending a letter to National Grange acknowledging our withdrawal from the Grange. Until we do this, NG may claim we have not abandoned our charter, and assume a lingering tie that they can leverage to challenge our rights to our property. Discussion included admonition to seek advice from legal counsel on the wording of the letter.

Secretary's Report: Karen reported that we received a thank you note from the Friends Benefitting the Ridge and a copy of their program with our ad. Also, Extra Self Storage is sending a

check this week, amount unknown.

Treasurer's Report: Verna reported the month's financial statements are posted on the web. Total income of \$1,828.14 included \$90 from the garden, \$410 from dues, \$655 from events, and \$575 from rentals. Total expenses of \$2,818.81 included \$352.40 events expenses, \$690.56 for insurance, \$647.62 for property taxes, \$930.0 in dues to the State Guild, and \$198.23 in utilities. We still owe \$664 to the California Guild for our septic. Will be paid off by November. Verna noted that she had misreported the roofing fund last month. It is instead \$4,261.81.

Old Business: Are we having fun? With the cancellation of the Gold Nugget festival, we get a little breather. This is good.

Last month we discussed that several grange halls had been in crosshairs of the Komski group. A motion to make money available to increase security on our building was seconded but tabled. Pyramid has been doing research and found that we could have a fairly tight security system that would be controllable from a distance for about \$500. David drafted and Susan sent letters to the Paradise Police, Butte County Sheriff, and all locksmiths in the region letting them know about the legal situation with the Grange and requesting that they look with suspicion on any request to change the locks on the Norton Buffalo Hall or any attempt to assert ownership of it. David will also draft a letter to our banks.

Also, we agreed to research what it would cost to get WiFi at the Hall. Jen will research and report next month.

Youth Guild has been meeting. Want to open June 1st and go every Thursday throughout the summer for 8th grade to seniors. Interested in life skill workshops and how to move out of high school and into the world. We may sell snacks and find ways to generate income by advertising their skills. Pyramid, Lisa and Elizabeth are spearheading—will meet this Thursday after tai chi.

Motion to charter a Youth Guild. Passed unanimously.

New Business: Pyramid would like to use the hall from 5:30 to 7 Tuesdays and Thursdays, so new students can be taught at 5:30 and experienced students at 6. Everyone agreed this would be OK.

Lisa Flores had to go to Seattle because of a family tragedy. Our thoughts are with her.

Judy Fox is still recovering from her surgery. Keep her in your thoughts, reach out if appropriate.

Verna and Karen are leaving on May 3 to walk the Camino de Santiago. They'll start in Paris, go to a little village in the French countryside. Then they will take a train south to the east side of the Pyrenees. Then they will walk through the Pyrenees to Spain. They will walk 10-15 miles a day, stay at night in hostels. They are walking as a pilgrimage to think about their relationship with the world.

Meeting adjourned at 9:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Dobra

