

## **Paradise Community Guilds Business Meeting April 9, 2018**

Bob Trausch and Bill from CHAT (Chico Housing Action Team) made a presentation about the work they are doing to house people and families experiencing homelessness in Chico. They already have 18 houses, with anywhere from 2 to 6 people in each, and they hold the lease, providing support for the tenants with such things as learning how to shop and cook, solving disagreements among housemates, and growing food. They are very hands-on and need lots of volunteer support. They offered any kind of help we need with doing the same in Paradise. A team of those present met a week later at St. Nicholas Episcopal Church with Pastor Ann, who was inspired by CHAT's work, to form what we are temporarily calling PHAT, using the same model. Anyone who is interested in pitching in should contact Community Action Chair Susan Dobra.

Monthly meeting called to order at 7:35 pm. The opening ritual was conducted, and Chaplain Lisa read a poem by Wendall Barry about the coming of spring.. David Z. led us in song, "Make Hay While the Sun Shines." He asked David Bilinski to bring us a song next month.

Roll Call of Officers: David Zink, President; Dan Joseph, VP; Verna Myers, Treasurer; Lisa Flores, Chaplain; Pyramid Michael Walden, Executive Committee Member; Jennifer Petersen,,Executive Committee Member; Karen Quattlander, Secretary; Susan Dobra, Lecturer. Members present: Zeke Lipe, Charlsey Cartwright, Nancy Eaton, Jay Rose, Judy Fox, David Bilinski, Richard Mann.

**Minutes for March 12, 2018, were accepted unanimously, with amendments on the date (2018) and the name of the third candidate for new membership, whose name Pyramid will find out (it was not Lynn Costa!).**

Anne Sullivan, a pastor at St. Nick's Episcopal Church, introduced herself and talked briefly about her interest in helping homeless people in Paradise and expressed a possible interest in membership.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Membership:** Paradise Community Guilds Membership Committee met on Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm (Karen and Susan attended), to prepare for the Spring Equinox Ritual & Potluck Dinner, which was held Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm and was a great success, with a lovely ritual, although there weren't many potential members there. We had about 12 members attend, however, so we had a great time. Next meeting: Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, and Susan will send around an invitation.

**Rental:** Jennifer reported that there will be a workday on Saturday, April 21st at 10 a.m. to spiff up the place so it will be nice for the plant sale and in general do some spring cleaning. 4-H groups will help and Jennifer will make some snacks. Cigarette butts are becoming a problem. There is no smoking 20 feet from the building. Jen has gotten a butt container and will put it out by the oak tree over by the plot garden with a sign inviting people to smoke there. Jen asked that we remind people that cigarette butts are trash and not very environmentally friendly. We will also be creating a tiny library for the street.

**Building and Grounds:** Dan reported that the Building Committee had a good month. Pyramid Michael got some irrigation going and grounded the electrical system. Mike McGrath helped with several projects. Richard Mann helps with all things growing. John-Michael and Mike Petersen helped with the deer fence, which is now completed or at least to 7 feet (we're planning for 8). Almost completed: front deck, garden shed. We planted four new fruit trees, and we have about 800 new bees!! (The previous hive was "robbed" by a rival hive—they killed the queen and made off with the rest of the bees.) Dan created a smaller entrance that will be more easily defended.

**Events:** Verna reported that our first event of the month was cancelled (Eric Taylor was sick), so David had the idea of having a music circle which went very well—and we even made some money on selling wine and beer! The Events Committee was mightily involved in the Leonard Cohen event March 29 and 30, with a

WONDERFUL dinner Thursday night. We sold out both nights, and made a total of \$2,573, after expenses (ABC license, food, booze—for both attendees and musicians—and recording costs of \$1,000). Coming up: April 15 (Ian Ethan Case), April 28 (Berkley Hart). Susan asked for help with hanging flyers and passed around a sign-up list. She's advocating for hanging flyers more often because we seem to have lost people who are not online and also because it's such a great opportunity for branding and getting our name out there in the community.

**Community Action:** Paradise Community Guilds Community Action Committee met on Sunday but nobody came. **Motion to participate with Ridge Coalition for Peace and Justice in putting on the Unity in Diversity Festival on September 15 on the grounds of the Norton Buffalo Hall passed unanimously.** Community Action will be participating with Pastor Ann and SHOR on a Housing First project for Paradise. More to come. KZFR is having a pledge drive from April 4<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>. Dan will be working the 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> with Susan and Lisa working the 8<sup>th</sup>. Contact Dan if you can help.

**Community Garden:** Jen reported that there will be a Plant Sale/Homesteader's Faire on May 5<sup>th</sup> from 10 to 3. Jen would like all of our participation in the event and in the gardens in general. Baked goods would be welcome for the Plant Sale. There will be crafts and raffles and homemade goods like soaps, jams, quilts. Cost to vendors will be \$20 inside and \$25 outside. There will be a seed ball-making workshop. There was a pretty large group from Behavioral Health in the garden today pulling weeds and generally kicking butt. There has been a request for a lock on the plot garden. Members are asked to consider it for a vote next month. Richard requested a 12 x 4' demonstration plot that would be double dig rather than permaculture-oriented. **Motion to allow Richard to have a demonstration plot passed unanimously.**

**Civil Dialogue:** The Guild for Civil Dialogue met Sunday, March 18 at 3:45 PM for hors d'oeuvres and 4:00 PM for meeting. Bill Dolinar and Susan attended. Next meeting Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Youth:** On hiatus until the spring.

**Secretary's Report:** Karen reported that we received correspondence from Friends Benefitting the Ridge thanking us for donating \$25 and we also received a newsletter from The Hub.

**Treasurer's Report:** Verna reported that as of today, we have \$11,040 in our checking account, of which about \$8,000 is for the roofing fund. We had two house concerts, "lemonade mixer" (Eric Taylor cancellation music circle, making lemonade out of lemons), and open mics as revenue makers. We paid our entire dues to the California Guilds and our property tax. Reports are online on the website: [www.nortonbuffalohall.com](http://www.nortonbuffalohall.com) PW: Demeter490

**Old Business:** Joel Allen proposed a project that would start with a Sunday Breakfast and widen out to a local economy of locally grown, locally made products delivered to your door OR picked up at the Sunday Breakfast. There would be a website, a guide book, a Party in the Park table—but it all starts with the Sunday Breakfast. To do this whole project, we would need the kitchen to be registered as a commissary. **Motion to co-sponsor a trial breakfast event, offering the room for a reasonable fee passed unanimously.** Joel will put together a specific business proposal about how it will all work.

Are we having fun? Yes.

**New Business:** Keagan Nicolaides, an open mic regular until he left for Ohio, is returning to Paradise in early May and would like to put on a concert of several local musical acts. Susan read a proposal from him requesting co-sponsorship from the Guilds for the event, including a reduced fee for renting the building from 3 to 10 pm on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Susan promised to be present for the entire time and to ensure that both the sound system and the building are well cared for. **Motion to co-sponsor Keagan Nicolaides' Dream Big musical event on May 4<sup>th</sup> passed unanimously.**

California Guild has had to vacate their offices in Sacramento. Next court date is upcoming. National Grange and its California affiliate are moving fast. We feel we should not be on the hook for loans and past dues.

Nancy Eaton let us know that the Rotary is meeting Thursday and will be disbursing some funding, so she would like to know if we would like to request funding for anything and if so, what. Discussion around the chairs—why are they denting. Maybe lightweight tables? Nancy showed a picture of a cool ice chest as well. **Motion that we request funds from the Rotary for a set of lightweight tables passed unanimously.**

Zeke's right leg has gone numb and can't drive. Please keep him in mind and let him know if there is anything you can do to help him. Karen passed a card around for him.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Dobra