

Board Retreat 1-29-2015 Minutes

Attendance: 9 Board Members: Charles Ansorge (CA), John Harland (JH), Chris Spence (CS), Mike Smith (MiS), Patti Smith (PS), Kevin Burke (KB), Deborah Neal (DN), Merilee Sommers (MS), and Anita Johanson (AJ).

CA opened at 9:15 at MS house with an agenda previously distributed.

Began with an opening motion by DN and seconded by AJ to approve KB as a board member. Approved. Term: 1-½ years to June 30, 2016. Kevin took over for Sally who was elected last May to a two-year term.

Neighborhood news: AJ said the dead bird count was 190 at mile 286. Mile markers have washed out with storms. AJ's son-in-law just got a job at Tillamook Hospital as head of the lab and will move into our area soon with his family.

Topic 1: Activities to promote four missions of CMCA.

Education:

A **schedule of activities** needs to be on the website. CA will do that but hopes others will take some of that responsibility.

Potlucks & Events are usually the 4th Saturday + Memorial Day, July 4th, Regatta end of July, Christmas. DN said it should be the last Saturday. Approved. Rec: always begin at 6. DN has made a kiosk board to announce the potlucks that she made. It will be in front of the Community Center. It will be stored in the CC. The banners that we have are very expensive and often too specific with nails on the CC to attach them to.

Well done, DN. This will help visitors and others not on Nextdoor. DN will take over the entry sign.

Special events include the Art Class 12-3:00 on 2/7.

Feb 7 there is a meeting in Oceanside with a State senator.

CMCA meeting is 2/21 at 10.

Rec: Mar 17 has the water board & possible St Patrick's Day Dinner to ask BJ to cook. Pending event.

Mar 28, Apr 25 Potlucks.

Suggestions: Easter egg hunt for 20-30 Foster children in Tillamook in the gardens, serve treats and maybe have beach games on April 4th. We need a volunteer to head that event. We allotted \$100 for that event.

May 9 is the CMCA annual meeting.

May 19, the water board meets

May 25 is Memorial Day, so a potluck would be the Sunday 24th at 1:00. Last year we had 67 people attend.

June has no event.

July 4th is a Saturday. There is a minus 1.3 tide at 9:03 am that morning to suggest a beach walk.

We are aware that someone is handling a parade on 4th. DN will ask Foster kids to be involved that day. If people have children's costumes to donate, please call DN

for help. In that case, we will ask for potluck participants to bring extra food. This year's theme will be Safety/Emergency Preparedness. She said whoever is the parade marshal usually requests line up at 10:45. We suggest that the marshal space the parade participants to spread the event out.

The July 4th potluck is at 1:00 and last year we almost had 200 people in 2014. It is hard to estimate how many will attend and have the right amount of food purchased.

CA suggested that events should have committee members to chair, set up, greet, & clean up for the whole year. We will also use Nextdoor asking for help. He wants to ask for people to donate time—not just the Board meetings. AJ has the donation sheets where people agreed to donate time. DN needs 3 people to be on her Social Committee.

There was a suggestion that entertainment should be paid for events for the major events. We would like any community members who want to volunteer to entertain for free to contact DN. There is a great amount of musical talent in CM and the Board agreed that a community band could meet weekly in the CC in exchange for free entertainment at events. Contact John Lopinski. DN suggested a guarantee of \$100 but hoping that more than that would be raised to pay the entertainment.

Example, the art teacher gets \$100 but each participant is paying \$15 towards that amount. Extra amounts go to the entertainment, net of any expenses incurred by CMCA. Last year, we paid \$100 for a lifeguard for the Regatta. We hope that most speakers will not charge. Other needs may involve providing housing.

Cannards rented July 17-19.

July 21 is Oceanside Water Dist.

July 25 is reserved for a water event—Regatta II, sand castles, etc.

We haven't heard if 4K for Cancer cyclists will be coming again. If so, we support the housing and a potluck for them again. Last year it was in late August.

August 1-2 is tentatively reserved.

Aug 8 is a CMCA quarterly meeting with no potluck at the end of August.

Sept 6 is a potluck at 1:00 for Labor Day and we only had 28 people in 2014.

We suggest that we use the RSVP function of Nextdoor to help us schedule food for the major events.

Sept 15 is a water board meeting.

Sept 26 may be headed by BJ Byron to celebrate her birthday on the 28th.

Oct 31 falls on a Saturday, so the Halloween potluck will be at 6 with costumes.

Nov 11 is Veterans Day and we hope to schedule something for veterans that fits in with other local events.

Nov 14 is a CMCA quarterly meeting. (second Saturday)

Nov 17 is a water board meeting (OWD)

No November potluck.

Dec 12 6-9:00 is a holiday social.

Dec 20 Caroling. We had it at 5:00 and hope that Ellen Steen will head that up. Hot chocolate will be served.

Dec 31 8-12:00 New Years Eve

Impromptu events include kite flying, s'mores, geology walks, MiS suggested a quarterly movie night, etc.

We are concerned that the November CMCA community meeting was not well attended. Save Our Spit and Roads meetings had been around that same date. DN has an idea to increase attendance. We have 4 areas in our mission. A Board member could take one topic and have a committee and meet in between quarterly meetings and separately give a committee report—one at each meeting. That would give real focus to a topic, like what happened at the SOS (Save Our Spit) group. We would then keep their findings. This gets away from just having a ‘business’ meeting. KB said some neighbors feel we are too professional as a Board and miss the ‘fun and loose’ boards of the past, but those meetings also were considered a bickering session, which this Board has tried to avoid. We realize we cannot please all of the people all of the time, but try to be diverse in our efforts. KB hopes that the annual meeting will be a big draw. Having 4 meetings a year is still agreed. DN will suggest a project for the February meeting. Therefore, quarterly meetings will be more interesting.

Special interest groups: MYN meetings are occurring, but with low attendance. The problem is that part-timers do not make it a priority to come down to attend those meetings. Clair Thomas at Tillamook HS brings kids to the Spit for science projects and would love to come give field trips, like how to shuck oysters. MiS, PS and Jane Spence are science coaches for him.

Education seminars: Pete Steen wants to give one on The Week After A Quake. Another is about Sanitation and Foraging after a major event. We want about 4 events a year that relate to the missions.

We need two surveys. CA will do one via Nextdoor to find people’s interests, when they want them, etc.

We also want to do short evaluations by attendees after events, asking questions as what they liked, didn’t like, did the timing suit them, if we should have/used a sign-up process, how they heard about the event, suggestions for other events and any other comments. We should document the numbers attending, funds raised and other comments.

Preparedness:

Pete Steen has head up the group for several years and began the MYN. Mike Neal has volunteered to be a liaison with CA and CS. We need a new MYN head. CS said that the coast-wide MYN strategy is a good model. We also need an annual calendar for emergency preparedness. Contact CS with ideas.

The PUD puts out **grants** annually, and a sub-group has worked on a grant proposal for 2015, and it requires that the money is paid when the project is done. We are asking for \$10,000 to provide for immediate supplies at 5 assembly points in CM. The community will have to raise additional funds to supply the buildings with emergency supplies. CS had emailed a copy of the proposal to the Board this morning and read it. Jane Spence was the originator of this grant proposal. We want to be assets rather than victims after an emergency. It is felt that 8 x 10 x 8’ custom-built wooden structures (or metal shipping containers) with no PUD power (but might have solar power) might be options on the road right-of-ways at the 5 DOGAMI designated sites. We are concerned not just for residents but also for visitors or tourists and would maintain ‘Go Bags’ for more people. We applaud and

support this proposal. Mike Neal will be heading this committee for further consideration if we get the grant.

Environmental Stewardship: The **Stimson Lumber** Company has 100 acres that are in limbo to donate to CM. It was awaiting our becoming a 501(c)3 organization. It is in a slide zone and has restrictions, like turning it into a park. There is some concern about the liability of that ownership and the cost of taxes. Another concern is the cost to maintain it. We need to look into it further. We need a community volunteer group with an attorney (Dave Audet, Pete Steen?) to review the letter that is in the Schoolhouse records. AJ & JH volunteered to head it up. Deborah will forward the letter to them. The status of ownership is unclear.

The **Bayocean Peninsula** group (SOS) is currently thinking there may be 'next steps' to protect the spit from development. CA & JH will keep pursuing this with the help of other environmental organizations (e.g. Oregon Coast Alliance) that became involved. This was not a 'Board' group, although every member of the board joined at least 25 others in this concern. Although we are not designed to be political, we are charged with Environmental Stewardship in our surrounding area. We are pleased with the factual presentations that showed our concern for this area. There is a form at the planning commission to applaud the professionalism of the planners involved in that process. CA intends to write a letter to the Headlight Herald applauding those involved. JH submitted 195 hours of volunteer work with his former employer and will get \$10 per hour to be submitted to CMCA now that we are a 501(c)3.

It was also pointed out that people doing volunteer work for CMCA keep records of the in-kind time that is expended. For example, today 9 people are devoting time (9-4:00) = 63 hours. We need to include this in the annual report due in April.

Cape Meares Loop Road: There is clearly a difference of opinion in CM regarding the reopening of the Loop Road. Our Bylaws allow the Board to make a position. It is our stand that we need a permanent solution for emergency concerns. Our belief is that the Road Department does intend to make a repair. CA has drafted a note to Liane Welch to state that the Board supports a solution for emergency exit and emergency water or utility access. This letter will be sent before the deadline of January 30th.

Historical Preservation: We have over \$6400 in the **Building Preservation Fund**. There are still finishing touches to be made. DN suggested that the current storage by the original front door be made into a lending library (books, audio books and videos) and to store holiday decorations in the garage. She located some antique shelf brackets. MiS & PS are the building managers. The coat racks are necessary for events. MS & DN will join with MiS & PS for a good design for \$350 for that old front entry. AJ wants receipts promptly.

We need a **historian** for the community. The old committee included Carolyn Ollikainen, Spike Klobas, Barbara Bennett, MS (who else?) who did the scrapbook.

This could involve videos, a portion of the website, etc. We suggest that the interest group for fall be the history group.

Community Well-Being: CA would like to see a monthly morning coffee and rolls event mid-week, something like 'First Thursday'. Also he wants an afternoon tea (third Thursday?). MS added that a personal invitation to new residents be made. DN is making a Comings and Goings bulletin board.

Responsibilities of Board Members: Non-profit organization requirements include the annual report, which will be written by the President. DN had written a report on our accomplishments for 2014. We have the tax report but do not need an audit because we did not have enough in cash to qualify. We did agree that another person should review the books for the previous year. A simple tax reporting will be done by AJ.

We need a **nominating committee** for the three vacancies. Terms for Chris, Merilee, and Charles end June 30, 2015.

Terms for remaining Board members (except for appointees) end June 30 2016. Those three are Anita, John, and Kevin.

Again, the positions are not defined as 'treasurer elect' or anything. KB, JH, and AJ will do that. DN is an appointed position as Social Chairman as is the building managers MiS & PS. We want anyone interested in running to contact CA.

In 2014 the social committee budget was \$700, and with new social events it might need to be \$1000, and still needs contributions at the various events. DN reported that some of the social event budget was spent without her knowing about the expenses, which made it very hard for her to keep within her social event budget. It was decided that she should be given a budget and all social expenses should be funneled through her to manage within her budget and then she can report the expenses to AJ. If the Board wants additional expenses, we will need to allocate additional fund, if available.

We want the November quarterly meeting to include a budget for the next year because we are on a calendar year. Everyone who spends money should send input to AJ within the week.

Communication Tools: We have 130 people on Nextdoor and find it is working well for individuals. If anyone is not on there and wants to be, contact MS at merileesommers@gmail.com.

CA asked for guidance about cross-posting both on Nextdoor and MailChimp as well as just posting things on the website. JH suggested that the communications go out less frequently and pack more things in there. CA says some criticism has been that his communications are too long. There may be ways to 'bullet' items.

CA applauded MS for the Directory.

Fundraising: We depend 100% on donations of cash, auction items and time for the benefit of our community. We got \$2850 from the letter in December with a goal of \$5000 for our operating budget for 2015. We had some carryover from good

stewardship in 2014, but we should always have a buffer. We need to collect for the shortfall of the December campaign. DN built a 'thermometer' for our \$5000 goal to display out in front of the building so people can see our shortfall. AJ can do periodic reports on Nextdoor to applaud the collection total. CA said that there were low results from the mailer. One family very kindly donated \$1000, which is a considerable amount of the funds received. About 25 families made contributions and others submitted items for the silent auction for New Year's Eve. AJ will have her budget for the Feb 21 meeting. She will appeal for continued donations. We do not intend to be pushy but may have to reduce benefits if funds are not raised. We are trying to find reduced insurance costs now that we are a non-profit organization. Anyone who has an account at TLC might be able to do automatic deductions transferred monthly as a contribution, or have automatic payments from their other accounts to our account at TLC. Our Bylaws say that our dues are \$0. AJ would like a non-board member to help with ongoing fundraising.

Building Report: The 2 fire extinguishers are still good but we will need another 5 pound canister will be needed in 2016.

The floors were cleaned but it did not do much. The main floor is too thin to sand again but the entry floor is the only part that can be done. KB said it is \$2/sq. feet to refinish the floor. We need a new rug inside.

The shed is being cleaned out.

It was agreed that it would be good to have Internet and TV cable at the Schoolhouse to enhance the number of events that we can sponsor. KB & CA will explore the costs and options, including personal sling boxes from their satellite TVs.

They use petty cash and submit receipts. Estimate \$500/year. The TV needs repair. The Spences and Burkes bought extra siding and shingles, and those funds will go back into the Building Preservation Fund. They reminded everyone to clean the BBQ after use. We need a workday to stain the outside bench and outside tables. It was proposed that April and October cleanup days would be good.

Thank you, Charles for the pizza for lunch and for organizing the meeting.

The February meeting will be Feb 21 at 10 a.m. in the Community Center.

These minutes will be posted on

www.capemeares.org