

**VERDE VALLEY LAND PRESERVATION INSTITUTE**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING IN Camp Verde**  
**JULY 14, 2008**

The meeting was called to order by the Treasurer, Bill Eich in the absence of Bob Rothrock, President, who was out of town at 12:00pm. In attendance besides Bill Eich were: Jane Moore, Jerome; Dawn Lorenzo, Grant Writer; Chip Norton, Camp Verde, Tim Elinski, Cottonwood; Dick Ellis, Member-at-Large; Marybeth Carlile, Sedona; Fred Shute, Beaver Creek Regional Council and Jane Whitmire, researcher and Marshall Whitmire,

Chip Norton made a motion to approve the minutes of May 12, 2008; this was seconded by Tim Elinski and passed unanimously. A motion was made by Pat Williams to approve the Treasurers Report; this was seconded by Chip Norton and passed unanimously. We have Cash-on-Hand of \$12,566.09 after bills were paid. There is a balance of \$5,052.33 in Money Market #1 and \$10,034.18 in Money Market #2.

Jane Whitmire presented a short report on her research project and various meetings she has had or will have with various other people regarding this project. The idea of a "gift" to EMA was tabled as this whole subject needs Board discussion before any action can be taken. Bob Rothrock will following up with Karan English and Jane to set up another meeting with this sub-group. A gift to NAU will be a future agenda item for further discussion.

Dawn Lorenzo gave a status report on her work. Sixteen information letters have been sent out and eight Proposals that are still pending. Things have slowed down the last month or so and Dawn is working on revising and strengthening our proposal, especially after having received the grant of \$5,000, our partnering with The Nature Conservancy and possible partnering with Northern Arizona University on our research project. She will also work with Jane Whitmire and Bob Rothrock on re-establishing needs and funding goals. She believes a project for the Website is a good idea; we could brainstorm on this. Two other areas we should discuss are: a public education project and continuing our search for an Executive Director.

Regarding the open space values workshop and the meeting with the Ecological Monitoring and Assessment group, it was stated that Pima County has set aside 80% of the land for open space while only 25% has been allocated in Yavapai County. Why? Also discussed was the relationship between us and County Planning. For quite a few years we received enormous help from Enalo Lockhard. However, Enalo has retired and it appears no one else has been appointed to our group. We have to follow up on this. A discussion followed on a gift to the Ecological Monitoring and Assessment group but no action was taken on this.

Regarding revising our website, Bill Eich, Bob Rothrock and Tim Elinski have all worked on revising the website. Our webmaster will revise the site and send out a draft copy to us for our review to firm up the draft before final implementation.. Then it will be changed. Our webmaster's mother has been ill so she has been out of town recently, thus the delay.

Tim Elinski presented copies of two thank you postcards he has made up so we can send them out to everyone who sent in checks from our fundraising effort and to the new

people who have joined. Walt Miller gave the labels to Pat Williams. As soon as the post cards are ready, Pat Williams will pick them up and mail them out.

Marybeth Carlile made a motion which was seconded by Pat Williams that our group send out a letter to the Mayors of the local towns as well as the unincorporated areas in the county, requesting them to appoint a person to serve on our board. This motion was passed unanimously. The revision of the brochure and these letters were tabled until the next meeting for further discussion.

Pat Williams made a motion that we appoint Fred Shute, President of the Beaver Creek Regional Council to our board. This was seconded by Marybeth Carlile and passed unanimously.

Board members were asked to contact program chairs in each of our communities regarding setting up further presentation to them.

Tim Elinski raised the question as to whether we wanted to have a booth at the Home and Business Expo being held in May, 2009 to further publicize our efforts. This item will be on a future agenda for discussion.

Jane Moore provided the group with information on the new County Planning and Zoning Ordinance entitled "Open Space Preservation Subdivision. This is a proposed amendment to the county subdivision code which would, among other things, grant a right to all property owners to build a subdivision according to its requirements, as a matter of law. Further, it would allow large subdivisions to shift densities around with the subdivision without any public hearings. The subcommittee was comprised of county building officials, real estate agents, and contractors and excluded the county's own Regional Plan work group and VLPI. There is a meeting planned on this subject on July 23, 2008 in the County Supervisors' Office at 9:30am. A motion was made by Pat Williams and seconded by Dick Ellis that Bill Eich contact Bob Rothrock about writing a letter stating opposition by the VVLPI to this amendment in its present state. This was passed unanimously.

Our next meeting will be August 11, 2008 in the Cottonwood Safety Building. Tim Elinski will make arrangements to reserve the room.

Pat Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:10; this was seconded by Dick Ellis and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia F. Williams

Approved:

---

Bill Eich, Treasurer

VERDE VALLEY LAND PRESERVATION INSTITUTE  
MINUTES OF MEETING IN JEROME  
AUGUST 11, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 noon by President Bob Rothrock. Present in addition to Bob Rothrock were: Jane Moore, Jerome; Dick Byrnes, Village of Oak Creek; Marybeth Carlile, Village of Oak Creek; Chip Norton, Camp Verde, Fred Shute, Beaver Creek, Walter Miller, Beaver Creek Kiwanis and Pat Williams, Clarkdale. Bob Rothrock made a motion to approve the minutes of July 14 with minor corrections; this was seconded by Dick Byrnes and approved. The Treasurers Report was presented. We have \$12,484.35 cash on hand and there is \$5,058.27 in Money Market 1 and \$10,034.18 in Money Market 2. Walter Miller moved that the report be accepted as presented and this passed unanimously. Unfortunately, our current Treasurer, Bill Eich has had to resign due to health reasons. His letter of resignation was accepted.

Dawn Lorenzo stated she has sent out one Letter of Inquiry and five proposals and is waiting to hear back from these organizations. She is updating the biographies of our board members and is working on updating the proposal letter adding the information that we received a \$5,000 grant from the Yavapai Community Foundation and our possible affiliation with NAU to work on the open space project. She will send out a copy of this draft proposal letter to all board members for review.

Jane Whitmire was in Tucson for the day but will attend our next meeting to give us an update on how her project is progressing.

Discussion was held on the meeting held July 23, 2008 in the Supervisor's Office in Cottonwood regarding the Open Space Preservation Subdivision Ordinance. There was a large attendance of various groups, all of which were opposed to this proposal. No decision was reached by the County Planning and Zoning Commission and it was felt that the committee should be expanded to include more groups that are dedicated to preserving open space. Since that meeting Bob Rothrock and Chip Norton have been added to this committee. This is an incredibly complex issue and the committee has been expanded with a more balanced group of participants at the table. Bob Rothrock and Chip Norton had a meeting with Chip Davis, County Supervisor to review this proposed ordinance. The next meeting will be August 22<sup>nd</sup> in Cottonwood. Marybeth Carlile suggested that we should see if the Central Arizona Land Trust would like to be involved in this. Jane Moore stated that we should first identify the lands we want to preserve to present at future meetings. Fred Shute suggested that we should engage our membership to work on this ordinance. As it is currently framed, it would have a major detrimental impact on efforts to preserve open space.

The website has been revised and each board member was asked to review it and send any changes, deletions, additions or corrections to Bill Eich before we make the final changes. Work is continuing on our brochure. Bill Eich, Tim Elinski and Bob Rothrock worked on this also and there are only a few changes. It was mentioned that the brochure should be consistent with the website.

We reviewed the two "Thank You" postcards to send out to those who responded to our fund raising letter. It was decided not to use the current photo on the front but to ask Mayor Doug VonGausig, Mayor of Clarkdale, to go through his photos of the Verde Valley to find one that is suitable to use on the face of the card. Pat Williams will check with him to see if he is willing to do this. If he has a suitable one he can e-mail it to Tim Eliniski who is producing the cards. Pat Williams will do the mailing.

A discussion was held regarding seeking new members to our group and a way of sharing various duties within the boards. It was felt we should have a workshop to address these issues as well as sending letters to local officials and new membership letters. It was decided to hold this meeting on July 26<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 2:00 at the Cottonwood Safety Building. Bob will make arrangements to obtain a room and Chip Norton will arrange for lunch to be delivered.

Bob Rothrock will make arrangements with Karan English to have a meeting on the open space project. What we are looking for from her is how do we accomplish our goals and "get on track" with this project. Dawn Lorenzo would also like to attend this meeting. There is the possibility of the Verde Valley becoming the model for NAU's Blue Model program. This program includes using GIS mapping and map overlays with various values incorporated in it.

As we need a new Treasurer, Pat Williams made a motion to appoint Walter Miller; this was seconded by Fred Shute and was passed unanimously. Walter has an extensive background in finance as well as computer skills.

Our next meeting will be held September 8<sup>th</sup> at the Keep Sedona Beautiful building from 12:00 to 2:00pm. Pat Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Rob Rothrock so moved and the meeting was adjourned at 2:25.

Respectfully submitted,  
Patricia F. Williams  
Secretary

Approved:

---

Bob Rothrock

**VERDE VALLEY LAND PRESERVATION INSTITUTE  
MINUTES OF MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2008  
HELD AT THE KSB BUILDING IN SEDONA**

**The meeting was called to order by Chip Norton as Bob Rothrock was out of town. Present in addition to Chip Norton were: Fred Shute, Marybeth Carlile, Dick Ellis, Walter Miller and Jane Moore. In addition to the board members, Marshall Whitmire, Jane Whitmire and Chad Daines were also in attendance.**

**The agenda and the minutes of August 11<sup>th</sup> were reviewed. Pat Williams was absent due to illness so these minutes were prepared by Jane Moore.**

**Walter Miller presented the Treasurer's Report providing our income and expenses related to the research grant. Marybeth Carlile moved to approve the report; Fred Shute seconded; and the report was approved unanimously.**

**Jane Whitmire gave a status report on her project. She stated she will send out a written report. Blue Model research questions have been distributed to board members. Genevieve Johnson is preparing an MOU for Blue Model work; the data base will compliment work being done. She stated she met with Joe Marlow, a Land and Resource Economist in Tucson on economic value of open space preservation. He took part in a collaborative survey, the "Lincoln Institute/Sonoran Institute, Fiscal Incentives and Barriers to Smart Growth in the West/2008". Developers recognize their development is more valuable if it includes open space, however a problematic factor in this is the value of water. Ranchers/developers can sell water rights; water is valued at \$12,500af compared to previous \$2,500af. She also talked to Tim Davis of the Sonoran Institute regarding the Montana Smart Growth. Informational pamphlets were passed around related to her report. Chip Norton asked Jane when the Blue Model Project will be ready. Their goal is December, but that may not be possible. Marybeth Carlile commented that there are so many agencies to contact for the project. Jane Whitmire suggested we meet with Ms. Johnson at our next meeting (October) to discuss this project. Chip Norton suggested we have a special meeting in mid-October rather than at our regular meeting. Jane Whitmire suggested we also include Laura Burnette.**

**Under New Business, Chip Norton said he has not received a reply from Karan English as to when we could meet on the Strategic Plan. A lengthy discussion on what we want was held. Jane Whitmire suggested Karan may be able to help us identify what it is we are looking for. Jane Moore mentioned the Verde Valley Regional Plan and the goals set up for our organization to accomplish. Marshall Whitmire suggested we consider other groups to collaborate with and what threats there may be to open space preservation that are current or upcoming.**

**Items B.—Friend’s Preserve-new developments by Fred Schute and Item C, Sample DVD by Fred Shute were tabled due to a lack of time.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 2:45.**

**Respectfully submitted:**

**Jane Moore**

**Approved:  
Chip Norton**

---