

**VERDE VALLEY LAND PRESERVATION INSTITUTE  
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 9, 2009 MEETING  
KSB BUILDING-SEDONA**

The meeting was called to order at 3:00pm by President Bob Rothrock. Present in addition to the president were Dick Ellis, Sedona; Jane Moore, Jerome; Dick Dahl, Sedona; Harry Sweet, Cornville/Page Springs; Walter Miller, Treasurer, Camp Verde; Marybeth Carlile, Sedona; Dawn Lorenzo, Grant Writer and Pat Williams, Clarkdale, Secretary.

Mr. John Neville of Sustainable Arizona gave a short presentation on the advantages of farming and gardening in the Verde Valley. His group is promoting bringing farming back to the Verde Valley and wine growing is high on their list. While it takes additional water to get the vines stabilized, thereafter they use less water than regular agriculture when established. They are working closely with the Wine Consortium (a group of all the wineries in the Valley) and Gardens for Humanity to sponsor some upcoming events. They are also making application to the Stimulus Package to try and obtain funds for this project, which would produce many jobs for people in the area. He states the Consortium has broad based support including the Ditch Owners, who have separate water rights and many want to use those rights so they won't lose them. They are interested in perhaps leasing out their land to grow food crops. They are also promoting backyard gardening and new opportunities for Farmer's Markets to thrive here. He also said there will be a meeting of the Consortium at Yavapai College on Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> to review the plans that the college has for providing classes on wine growing and setting aside land to start the growing process. John invited VVLPI to participate in this new venture as the agriculture promotes open land that will not have development on it.

The agenda was reviewed and the minutes of January 12, 2009 were reviewed. Marybeth Carlile moved that the minutes be accepted; this was seconded by Walter Miller and the motion passed. It was noted that our revised web site is up and running.

Walter Miller gave the Treasurer's Report. In 2008 we spent \$6,239.34 more than we took in and the current balance is \$19,235.67. He stated he will combine the two money market accounts. He has also changed our account at National Bank to non-profit status so we will begin to get interest on our checking account funds. He wants to keep no more than \$2,500 in the checking account and put the rest in the Money Market account. A motion was made by Bob Rothrock to do this; Marybeth Carlile seconded the motion and it passed. A further motion was made by Dick Dahl that Bob Rothrock and Pat Williams will also be check signers; this was seconded by Marybeth Carlile and passed.

**Unfinished Business**

A. Bob Rothrock obtained the disk from the State Parks re: Open Space Values, the Blue Model. Harry Sweet will work with this disk and incorporate the information into Google Earth so our board can work with the Blue Model program in the Verde Valley.

Items B., C., and D: The Yavapai County Sustainable Planning Committee, the Yavapai County Regional Plan and the Verde Valley Regional Trail Plan and all on going meetings.

There were no other liaison reports. Items on Fund Raising and the Friends' Preserve update were tabled to a future meeting.

Our next meeting will be **March 9<sup>th</sup> in Clarkdale in the Ladies Lounge beginning at 3:00pm.** The meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia F. Williams

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Rothrock