

DRAFT

VERDE VALLEY LAND PRESERVATION INSTUTUTE  
MINUTES OF MEETING IN CAMP VERDE  
APRIL 13, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Bob Rothrock, President at 3:00pm. Present in addition to Mr. Rothrock were: Walter Miller, Camp Verde, Treasurer; Marybeth Carlile, Village of Oak Creek; Dick Dahl, Sedona; Robin Prudhomme-Bauer, Clarkdale, Paula Woolsey, Cottonwood (Verde Valley Wine Consortium); Nita Cox, Verde Valley Wine Consortium; Cliff Hamilton, Sedona Council; Dick Ellis, Sedona; Jane Moore, Jerome; Harry Sweet, Cornville; Tim Elinski, Cottonwood Council; Diane Joens, Mayor, Cottonwood; Jane Whitmire, Camp Verde and Pat Williams, Clarkdale Council and Secretary.

The agenda was reviewed and the minutes of March 9, 2009 were reviewed. Marybeth Carlile moved that the minutes be accepted. This was seconded by Walter Miller and the motion passed unanimously.

Walter Miller gave the Treasurer's Report indicating that our balance sheet showed we have \$18,515.39; the total program income was \$279.52 and our expenses totaled \$3,227.30. Bob Rothrock moved to accept the Treasurer's Report; this was seconded by Jane Moore and passed unanimously.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Items A, Blue Model project and Item B, Dawn Lorenzo's contract were combined for discussion. Dawn has fulfilled her contract to date. She has offered to continue on an hourly basis. A motion was made by Bob Rothrock that we ask her to do an up-to-date report to the Yavapai Community Foundation for the grant we received ( 4 hours of time). This was seconded by Marybeth Carlile and passed unanimously. Bob Rothrock said he would check to see if the people at the State Parks are still available to continue work on this project. It appears the cost would be approximately \$5,700 to pull it all together. Walt Miller said we still have \$1,500 left in the grant money. Bob will also check to see if we could work out a payment plan with State Parks to complete this project. He will also discuss with Dawn the idea of paying her in block of time increments. If she agrees for us to pay her in increments, she would then work up a template for a new proposal for further funding on the Blue Model project which would help our budget. Dick Dahl, Chip Norton, Tim Elinski and Harry Sweet all volunteered to work with the Parks people on this project.

ITEM C, Jane Whitmire presented a short final report on her work on the open space existing conditions project.

ITEM D, Fox Ranch Access Easement: Marybeth Carlile reported she sent a letter to Steve Smarik, (USDA) and spoke with him. He and his organization are in accord with the new access plan and think it is a good way to go. Their only concern is the new alignment taking off from the current road. Marybeth doesn't think that can be changed. Steve said he talked to Mr. Karber and Steve will send the information to Mr. Karber's attorney. Steve did say that "we are here for NEW easements" indicating that our Fox Ranch easement is a secondary matter to them.

ITEM E, (moved from Status Reports); Verde Valley Wine Consortium. A presentation was made by Robin Prudhomme-Bauer, Paula Woolsey and Nita Cox on the development of wine growing and processing in the Verde Valley. The consortium is a

new group that is about one year old. There are 49 grape growers in Arizona and 7 to 8 of them are here in the Verde Valley. They are trying to bring back agriculture to the valley. They have a four pronged approach that includes education, sustainability, legislative action and marketing. They feel their mission and ours are dovetailed in that we both want to preserve the land. Dick Ellis stated "the two of us may be a good fit." Marybeth Carlile stated "this would be a good idea for easements." Tim Elinski felt that they have laid down a good groundwork plan. Diane Joens felt it was also a good idea and urged that their group representatives and members of the local Chambers of Commerce make a joint presentation at the local council meetings in our area to further promote their mission.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Item A, Land Trust Alliance pamphlets on conservation easements. The LTA has produced pamphlets on open space between developments and conservation. Discussion was held and Pat Williams moved that we order 100 of these brochures for \$40.00. This was seconded by Dick Dahl and the motion passed unanimously. Bob will order these. He would also like to order a stamp for our organization with our information on it so we can stamp the pamphlets with this information. Bob Rothrock made a motion to order this stamp; it was seconded by Pat Williams and passed unanimously.

Item B. Joint meeting with Central AZ Land Trust. Bob Rothrock is exploring the possibility of a joint meeting on May 8<sup>th</sup> at the Orem Ranch to discuss joint efforts on how do we move forward to preserve open space. Most attending board members said they would probably attend.

### **STATUS REPORTS:**

Item A, Rob Rothrock reported that he has made our power point presentation four of the municipalities' council meetings and will present at the Jerome council meeting tomorrow, April 14<sup>th</sup>. He is also presenting at the Keep Sedona Beautiful meeting on Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am.

Item B, YC Sustainable Planning Committee. Bob Rothrock reported that two separate subdivision ordinances have been proposed; both allow clustering development while preserving forty percent of the land for open space. One allows for greater density increases if sustainable building practices are used.

Item C, YC Regional Plan Bob Rothrock reported there will be a meeting on Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> in the Cottonwood County Annex at 2:00pm regarding open space, and reaffirming the 1998 resolution to keep buffers between the cities and towns.

Item D, VV Regional Trail Plan. This project is approaching conclusion and expected to be completed in a couple of months. They have maps with proposed plans, but these trails need descriptions.

Item F, Annexation of State Trust Land by Cottonwood. A discussion was held on this item. Diane stated there will be a public meeting on this on Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am in the Public Safety Building in Cottonwood. Diane stated that 30% was allocated as open space on this land before any development. Development would be concentrated away from the highway. Bob Rothrock felt that people were confused and need further explanation as to what annexation would mean to Cottonwood and to the preservation of open space. Jane Moore said that once annexation occurs and Cottonwood has plans to provide services to that area, this would make development

much more attractive to developers. Diane stated that if the land is developed, it should be within the Cottonwood city limits.

Marybeth Carfile said we should begin a search for a new Web Master as things have not been satisfactory with our current one. Bob Rothrock said he may know someone who would take it over and if he can't, we could get in touch with Pan Ravenwood to see if she would be interested in doing the job.

Our next meeting will be in Jerome on May 11th at 3:00pm. The meeting was adjourned at 5:10pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia F. Williams  
Secretary

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Approved: Bob Rothrock