

**WEST POINT INN ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Monday, May 11, 2015, 7:00 PM

220 Nellen Ave

Marin Water District

Board Room

Corte Madera, CA 94925

**MINUTES**

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by President Fran Rondeau

Board Attendees: Joel Blackwell, Ward Flad, Jan Gautier, Pete Martin, Bob Newcomer, Brenda Roberts, Fran Rondeau, Fred Runner, Olene Sparks

Board Members Absent:

Others: Ward Flad – Parliamentarian, Bonnie Jones – Secretary, Mark Northcross - Treasurer, Gordy MacDermott, Linda Hulley, Lin Marcuse, Caroline Thurm

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of April Board Meeting – it was noted that there was a name misspelled. Brenda Roberts made a motion to approve upon correction of the misspelling, which was seconded, unanimously approved.

Minutes of Spring Members' Meeting

Bob Newcomer made a motion to approve which was seconded, unanimously approved.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Fran reminded everyone to please have all newsletter articles and images to Alison by Monday, May 18th.

In Fran's absence, Bob Newcomer will preside over the June meeting.

Two Portapotties were added on Mother's Day. Everyone concurred that this was a big success. We will also arrange for Father's Day as well as Mountain Play weekends.

There was discussion over whether or not to have board meetings all summer. Reviewed Board Members' schedules. Board Meetings will take place as usual.

Pancake Breakfast was very successful. The Board discussed purchasing another outside grill. Mark Northcross will email a link regarding grill options. There were many questions about access to water to refill water bottles. Send ideas to Pancake Breakfast chair. Estimated 980 served.

The April work party was again successful. The volunteers refinished picnic tables, painted bathrooms, and Kathy got the garden all planted.

Besides the very successful work party the spring meeting was also "most excellent" commented Jennifer Barclay.

One Tam. We will be participating in the One Tam event at the Mill Valley Community Center. October 3 and 4. Details to follow at a later date. That contact person is as follows:

Michelle O'Herron  
Project Manager and Communications Specialist  
Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy  
Fort Mason, Building 201, 3rd Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94123  
Phone [\(415\) 561-3526](tel:(415)561-3526)  
Fax [\(415\) 561-3033](tel:(415)561-3033)

## OLD BUSINESS

*Website Update:* Jan Gautier reported that she has been working with new webmaster - going well. Jan will distribute pages to relevant committee chairs.

Discussion of tag line for website - From Ward Flad:

"Something magic happens up here" was coined by Vikki Garrod at MCF. She took the three dozen responses we got from the questionnaire that Ward sent out last year and created a brand summary for the Inn .

In addition to that phrase as a tagline, Ward would also propose the following from members:

"A secret above the fog"

"At the end of a journey with sunshine on coastal sage, damp Pacific fog, and a full moon over SF"

"Beyond a place, it is also a state of mind"

"A living library of Mt Tam- a place for all to read its history, geography, spirit and sport"

"It's so close, yet it helps you feel so far away"

These last five were phrases (or paraphrases) given by our members in reply to the questionnaire.

Fred offered "Simply authentic."

*Membership Cap:* Discussion of membership cap at 500. Gordy reported that there are 38 people on wait list.

Pete Martin made a proposal to establish an associate membership or raise the cap. Brenda brought up the idea of member emeritus. Olene expressed concerns about changing the bylaws. Gordy summarized steps taken for late renewals. Gordy recommended increasing reinstatement fee & increasing the late fee. From Scott's analysis last year, approximately 2/3 of overnight stays are non-members. Rose will be able to analyze overnight stays (i.e., member vs. non-members). Ward brought up the ideas of tiers (out of state) think about increasing life-time membership fees. Gordy stated that there is an "out of CA membership fee" \$40 & Gordy estimated perhaps 30 out of state members). Fran noted that to raise the cap we don't need to change bylaws.

Pete Martin made a motion to raise the cap to 600, seconded. Discussion. Yes - 8 No - 0 Abstain - 1.

Lifetime members - 65 - agenda - next month discuss lifetime membership fee.

*Heritage Rooms:* Proposal to create "Heritage Rooms."

Fred Runner sent out a detailed draft of a proposal to rename all of our rooms to honor certain historical figures important to the Inn. These include John Muir, William Kent, Matt Davis, Sidney Cushing, Barbara Dean, Melanie and Martin Kliewe, RF O'Rourke, Garnet Holme, EP Toby, Frank Bradley, Bill Thomas, and Dr. Washington Dodge.

He proposes that we put photograph & a biography (how the named person affected the Inn) in each room. Final list isn't in yet. Fred will send electronic copy to Board members.

Fred made a motion to allow the Heritage Committee to develop the idea of Heritage Rooms and to name rooms & cabins after people that are significant to the Inn's history, seconded, passed unanimously.

*ADA Cabin:* Mark and Ben the architect have finished the vertical plans for the ADA cabin. They are now preparing to meet with Richard and Kevin. Haven't heard back.

Donation requests (if any): None

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

*Treasurer's Report:* Mark Northcross - \$250K in the bank. Detailed reports distributed.

*Building & Grounds:* Brenda Roberts

Bead Board installed in ADA bathroom; new toilets, both bathrooms painted. New mirror installed in small bathroom.

Blinds delivered to the Inn, not installed yet.

Brenda put together propane kit (for lights) - will get professional cleaner to clean lights.

At the Spring Meeting a member inquired about installing additional lockers. Is it feasible to install additional lockers in basement? According to Gordy about 25 people would like lockers. Brenda will look into options. Previously we had lockers in basement -- access issues. Innkeepers had to unlock basement. Lin will follow up with Innkeepers to survey issues. There are 28 existing lockers.

*Communications/website Committee:* Jan Gauthier

Jan presented an update on new website (see above). Working on Dropbox file -- need credit card number for new Dropbox account.

*Development Committee:* Ward Flad

Ward held a brainstorming session at his house on Thursday May 7th at 5:00 pm - Suzie Koide, Caroline Thurm, Ward Flad, Bob Newcomer.

The purpose of the meeting was to garner any ideas regarding developing a strategy for ongoing fundraising, as well as thoughts on creating an endowment for the Inn.

Nine members have indicated an interest in fundraising.

Need true replacement costs for insurance coverage. Mark opined that we need to increase insurance coverage. HVS - Caroline Thurm will get estimate.

Request - Ward asked Fran contact Mike Swezy regarding our position with One Tam.

*Fire & Safety:* Pete Martin/Joel Blackwell

Pete gave a report following inspection by Redwood Security. He reported the total cost to restore the system to functioning condition - \$7600 and \$70 per monthly monitoring. No repair fees are included nor battery replacement costs. Doesn't include warranties on any materials that weren't supplied by Redwood Security. Mark brought up problems with the old system (CO monitoring was problematic). Pete brought up that only cabins with gas heat need CO monitoring. Panel will be relocated to Innkeepers quarters. We can have it set up so that Redwood Security will call Inn prior to alerting emergency services.

Pete made a motion to contract with Redwood Security to restore alarm system to functioning condition (\$7600) with \$70 monitoring fee, seconded, passed unanimously.

Two proposals regarding contingency drought emergency plan (last year lost water for three days).

Pete proposed that we encumber \$50K to be available for contingencies. Need a plan to look at options.

Mike Swezy had a suggested consulting firm to evaluate spring & options for enhancing spring flow. Brenda will investigate over the next few weeks & will work with Pete.

Joel made a motion Brenda authorized to spend up to \$2000 for the MMWD recommend consultant to evaluate options for spring enhancement, seconded, passed unanimously.

*Garden Committee:* Kathleen Kopp - no report

*Heritage/History Committee:* Fred Runner/Linda Hulley - spoke at the Marvelous Marin Breakfast club - well received. Short history booklet available next month. Heritage night 53 + 50. Another event same weekend - Heroes of the Air. Tribute to early aviators. Vintage biplane flyover. .

*Historian:* Fred Runner - no report

*Housekeeping:* Fran Rondeau - no report

*Membership:* Gordy MacDermott – no report

*Mountain Organization Liaison:* Olene Sparks - no report

*Newsletter:* Alison Bricker - no report

*Oldtimers' Liaison:* Marilyn Skaff - no report

*Pancake Breakfast:* Lin/Chris Marcuse  
It was a raging success

*Personnel:* Lin Marcuse

*Reservations:* Rose Sullivan - no report

*Work Parties:* Jennifer Barclay - see above

## NEW BUSINESS

Caroline Thurm - trouble making reservation. Questioned why there were bookings further out than four months. This was reviewed and explained.

Olene brought up California Alpine Club call for grants deadline May 23.

Car donation program is now active.

Brenda made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie M. Jones

<b>Motions passed</b>	
<i>Topic</i>	<i>Details</i>
Approved raising the membership the cap to 600.	Effective immediately
Heritage Committee approved to develop the idea of Heritage Rooms and to name rooms & cabins after people that are significant to the Inn's history	Fred to finalize list of names
Authorize contracting with Redwood Security to restore alarm system to functioning condition (\$7600) with \$70 monitoring fee.	
Authorize the expenditure of up to \$2000 for the MMWD recommend consultant to evaluate options for spring enhancement.	

<b>Tally of Donations of mid-week overnight accommodation - 2015</b>	
Month voted	Organization
January	Kiddo (schools in MV)