Las Posadas 4-H Club Camp

This letter is to advise all of the Las Posadas Board of Director as to the current status of Las Posadas 4-H Camp facility and the future.

There was a meeting on August 9, 2023 at the Napa County Administration building at 1195 Third Street, Napa, CA 94559 in the Crystal Conference Room. In attendance was Belia Ramos, District 5 Supervisor; Suzanne Ameral, Napa 4-H Program Coordinator; Chief Mike Marcucci, Unit Chief – Sonoma Lake Napa Unit; Brad Wagenknecht; and Matthew Torrence, Las Posadas 4-H Camp Board of Directors President.

I attended a meeting on July 11, with Chief Marcucci at the Cal Fire Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit head quarters to discuss the different points related to summer camp returning to Las Posadas Forest. No discission were made at this meeting. Chief Marcucci made the statement that because Las Posadas Camp Board did not have a lease with CalFire for the camp for an extended period of time the building on the property reverted back to the State of California. This means that any repairs on the camp facility must be put out to bid in the state process which requires 3 bides.

Chief Marcucci said that he had three fire stations which were currently in need of major repairs or replacement before any work could be started on the Camp. This means that it would be at least ten years before the any repair could started.

With the changes to the structure of Cal Fire they have only two forests which they are currently managing, Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest and Las Posadas State Forest. Cal Fire is not actively managing the forest, at Boggs Mountain they replanted half of the forest after the fire and left half of the forest unplanted to review the results. At Las Posadas they have not done any active management of the forest.

At the meeting on August 11, at the Napa County Administration building the discussion lead by Supervisor Belia Ramos was to use the Eco Camp Berryessa as a possibility for 4-H camp for all of the counties. There was no definite commitment that all of the counties would be able to use the facility. Supervisor Ramos stated that she thought that she could get some funds to help improve the facilities at Eco Camp.

Supervisor Belia Ramos is also serve as the Napa County 4-H Council president. She made the comment that she did not think the Las Posadas Camp Board was not meeting the need of the 4-H county programs. There was limited discuss on this comment.

About two weeks after Brad Wagenknecht reached out to the director of the Napa County Regional Parks & Open Space District director if there any thing that they could do to move the remaining part of Las Posadas State Forest into their oversite. Currently the upper management of CalFire does not want to make any changes.

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We will be holding a meeting on September 11, 2023, Monday at 7:00 pm to discuss the process to move forward. It would be great to have all of the board member attend and the members of the committee which put on your summer camp program. At this meeting we will attempt to make some decisions and answer your questions.

Thank you.

Las Posadas Camp Board

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