

## 6 COUNTY MINUTES

September 8, 2008

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm by President Matt Torrence.

**Present:** Guest Diane Billeci, President Matt Torrence, Vice President Dion Hock, Treasurer Mike Willmarth, Secretary Tammy Hill, MaryEllen Moskowite, Dorain Salle, Diane Blevins, Barbara Long, Bob Goeb, David Vane, Jim Bennett, Denise Parks, Glen Parks, Kay Carlile.

**Minutes** of June meeting – none, we met up at camp to do a walk through on how maintenance issues and to hand out the maintenance manual. Tammy will review her notes and do minutes and email to everyone.

**Treasurer** - Mike gave bank statement, profit and loss statement and balance sheet. We have \$68360.55 in the checking account. Diane Blevins needed reimbursed for garbage bags. Rebecca from Sacramento did not go as a cook at the last minute but was paid. Barbara from Sacramento will talk to her about returning the check.

All 2007 taxes have been filed. Previous penalty paid has been refunded.

**CAMP** – Diane Billeci came as a guest and is interested in getting C.A.M.P. up and running. She passed out a flyer with her information on it. 707-265-7865 home, 707-373-1954 cell and email is [dichell@att.net](mailto:dichell@att.net). We can do a day up at camp or an overnight or whatever everyone would like. Would like counselors and staffers involved. Tammy and David from Alameda shared their thoughts and encouraged that CAMP be brought up again. Glen suggested nature study as a session. Matt would like this to be a committee of the Las Posadas Camp Board and then look for any county who would like to participate and have them assign a committee member. Jim was concerned that this should not be a committee by Las Posadas. It was decided that all counties take the information back to their counties to share and get feedback. Even if we only have two counties participate it would get CAMP started again. We will talk about at the next meeting in November and try to set a date in the spring for this activity.

### **Review of 2008 Camp Season:**

Positive comments:

Alameda: David commented that they had the extra day of camp which was great for visitor day and served two lunches. 11:30 to 5:30 Pool open, great day. They have encouraged people to visit. It ended up being one giant day event with a lot of free time and enjoyed by all.

Napa: Great weeks, very mellow only lost one child to homesickness. Mike commented that our theme was Disney and Tammy had a light parade on Entertainment night with the little kids which was Fantasmic!!! MaryEllen commented that we had the Rock wall from Rockzilla which was a new event for us and the kids loved it.

Sonoma – Dorain stayed in the kitchen and had a great time there.

Sacramento: Staff kids stay Friday night. Took hike to spring with kids and learned about how the water gets to camp. They had an excellent camp.

Marin: 2/3 of their camp were first year kids, really excited and had fun. Ended last year on a sour note with personality conflicts. This year eliminated theme, recycled and brought all the good ideas from past years and used them. Kids really stepped up. Camp as an overall program was a lot of fun and very successful this year.

**ISSUES** that occurred at camp:

Mike reminded us that this is not a personal attack on any one person at this meeting but that we need to discuss things that happen at camp so that we can work on them and improve.

Contra Costa and the way they left camp: Some issues for Contra Costa were things tied to trees, amount of graffiti on rocks and destruction of camp in general, fire extinguishes discharged. Matt felt he received an unsatisfactory response from Mark Johnson basically denied that they had done anything, in Matt's opinion. Dion commented that Kay from Contra Costa should not be the person chastised and we all appreciated her being willing to come to the meeting to discuss these issues.

Kay commented that their program is in a rebuilding year. That when she leaves camp she is the last one and there is no one left to help clean up and she is just too exhausted to do anything more. She will not be going to camp next year but will be helping her county with the camp program.

Discussion was held on how all counties at one time or the other over the many years of camp that have had problems. Leadership is the key and Contra Costa needs to get some strong leaders in to help them make camp successful. Many counties do not let anyone leave camp until everything is cleaned up and perhaps Contra Costa needs to follow these guideline. All counties offered to go to a meeting to help Kay and do anything to help them rebuild their program.

MaryEllen commented that Contra Costa needs to have their board members attend meetings. Tammy suggested on probation.

Mike suggested a letter needs to be drafted that tells them the appropriate behavior and how camp needs to be treated. Matt said there is a check sheet for each county to go over. A letter will be worked on to send to Contra Costa County.

Matt discussed that a fine of \$200.00 levied on any county that destroys camp and the board agreed that that fine should be levied on Contra Costa. Tammy suggested a year of probation and the board all agreed that Contra Costa would be told they are on probation in the letter that goes out to them.

Tammy reported that a letter went out the Mineral and Gem Society thanking them for their help with cleaning the rocks at camp.

General Issue: David up at camp this past Saturday, the front gate was open and the lock set on the combo. Pool is green, chlorinator is broke. The covers were not on the stove and grill in the kitchen and he could not find them, however, he did find them just as he was leaving but they still need to be

put on. Matt reported those were not put on because a group was supposed to use camp but that ended up falling through.

David asked about the changed combination and Matt reported that happened because of the lifeguard situation.

Matt said back fence to pool all bolts were loose.

MaryEllen reported they had trespassers during Week II and perhaps we should get more "No trespassing" signs be put u, especially on the pool.

It also appears someone is going to use the pool in between camps and someone has told them it is ok and given them the combo to the gate. This needs to be investigated.

Lifeguard Issue: The lifeguard was let go due to inappropriate conduct and behavior.

Tammy suggested that we come up with a protocol on how to handle situations when there are problems with the lifeguard. By the time Dion had heard there were problems it was too late to come to any other resolution but let him go. It is important that when there is a problem that right at the beginning a call goes out to the Vice President who hires the lifeguard so that immediate corrective action can begin instead of letting a situation snowball and get out of control.

Napa County needs their lifeguards to be paid. Mike will get check of \$300.00 for each week ready to go out to the girls who were the lifeguards. Week I had Taylor Fulton and Week II had two girls who split the \$300.00.

Glen commented that Taylor Fulton who had was Napa's Week I lifeguard and who was their lifeguard as well did a wonderful job and fit in very well with their week and camp. They were very pleased with her.

#### **LEASE:**

Jim got a call that our lease was due, that information was needed and he supplied it to them. This was done some time ago but we were not a priority and the forestry put us on the back burner. Later communication came to him by email (attached) which said we were not in compliance with our lease and they wanted us to find the original deed holders heirs due to a 1938 complaint that made us out of compliance but that we were not to contact the heirs. The issue is the pool and ball field.

Matt contacted them and Brian at the fire station. Apparently they are planning to build a new station and there could be problems because of the complaint on our lease.

There was much discussion regarding this issue about how to proceed, whether Tammy as the Secretary should send out emails to the parties involved, have Matt as the President be the contact person or continue to utilize Jim who has good contacts and a good relationship with the University. All agreed we need to use the MOU and the University to help us with this issue. Jim had contacted them and they feel we are in compliance with the lease and they are willing to help us.

It was the consensus of the board that since Jim has worked on the MOU and has made good contacts and has an excellent relationship with the University that he continues to be our liaison and work on this issue.

**Dion made a motion: "To have Jim Bennett send an email to Irene at the Forestry department stating that we have placed the lease issue on our agenda for the October meeting. Then to have Jim contact the UC lawyers he has had contact with and to request their help in the lease issue."**

**Dorain seconded the motion and the motion was passed.**

**Camp Dates:** MaryEllen commented that Napa will not know our fair dates until the end of September due to a conflict with the Sonoma Fair. Camp dates will be tabled until the October meeting when fair dates are set.

Workdays/ training days picked by counties who were ready to and Dion will email the dates to add to these minutes.

**Other Business:**

Sonoma will be going up to camp in November and would like the water left on until then and we will do so.

Matt had information on using a conference call for meetings. We will try this approach for the November meeting.

Jim Bennett and Glen Parks are back as members of our board! Yeah!

David Vane made a motion the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Diane Blevins. Meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tammy Hill  
Secretary