

Berry Creek Community Association

www.BerryCreekCa.org

Minutes

November 13, 2010

Berry Creek Volunteer Fire Station 61

Council members present: Loren Gill, Skip Gross, Dori Hamill, Bonnie Vincent

Treasurer's Report: Checking: \$ 53.87 Savings: \$365.50

Maidu Meadows: We did not receive the State Parks Prop 84 grant we applied for to acquire and develop Maidu Meadows as a Berry Creek Community and Nature Center. There were 475 applicants asking for \$1.6 *billion* in grants. There was only \$184 million dollars available in this round. A lot went to LA county and other southern California areas. Northern grant winners include Corning which will get a new park. Willets also received a grant.

Discussion of grant rejection: Church is open to alternative options to develop property as a park. We did not receive specific information as to why we did not receive the grant money but we suspect that population was an issue. Unfortunately we can't do anything about that.

The next round of grant money is coming up but no deadline has been set. The property has been put back on the market, but the church is open to continuing to work with us to acquire the property as a park if at all possible. We will continue to discuss this as the next deadline approaches to determine whether it is feasible to try for the next round of grants.

The process of determining what our community wants was helpful and that information can be applied towards Old Harts Mill.

Harts Mill:

The turnout at the FRRPD meeting to support the purchase of Old Harts Mill for a Berry Creek Community Center and Museum was wonderful. We had lots of community members speak as to the many ways that the Old Harts Mill building will be an asset. It will be a place that Berry Creek history can be preserved for future generations, a Sheriff Substation, community meeting place for the BCCA and the Sierra Foothill's Art Association as well as other groups and many other suggested uses including after school tutoring, art classes, farmer's market and more.

The incumbent FRRPD board supports the purchase. Unfortunately, there is a new board that is coming in soon and they may not be as familiar with Berry Creek as the current board. The property is in escrow, but may not close before the outgoing board leaves. We may have to continue to show our support for this project to the new board.

We will need to negotiate a contract for Old Harts Mill with the FRRPD. Forbestown has a museum and a current contract that we can look at as a guide. We will be combining community center and museum, since we will not have Maidu Meadows for the near future. Community center end of it might get utilities paid and other services like someone to change toilet paper, concrete picnic tables, alarm, and propane.

*ACTION: Need to form a contract committee to negotiate with district. Meet with sub committee and board to negotiate a contract. Anyone interested in joining the contract negotiating committee should email us at info@BerryCreekCa.org.

Public Works:

Letter submitted regarding mowing vs. spraying on the Bald Rock corridor. Letter approved. Will be sent to Mike Crump at County Public Works.

General Plan 2030:

Mary attended a small portion of general plan approval. Supervisor Bill Connelly noted that Berry Creek was a good example of unincorporated areas getting involved in process.

Some groups may contest water element in EIR.

Zoning: deer herd migration. Administrative use permit added to building a house to see if it impacts deer migration. More money for county.

Sierra Foothills Art Association presented a beautiful hand painted stepping stone to Loren in appreciation of his hard work on the Berry Fest. Sharon Hicks painted the stepping stone.

Roads and Trails:

Dumping: We are making progress on the Zink Rd cleanup. A lot of the garbage is old, but there was a lot of it. We encourage people to report any illegal dumping you find. During the last cleanup, while the Forest Service and Berry Creek community members were cleaning up, a

woman drove right past the Forest Service and dumped a toilet. She was reported and it was followed up and she received a \$300 fine.

This is our community and we would all like to be able to enjoy the outdoors in a clean, beautiful environment. Thank you to all of the volunteers that have given their time to help keep Berry Creek beautiful.

Public Information:

The Volunteer Fire Dept. will take over the upkeep for signage at Bald Rock/162 Hwy. It will bring in revenue for them. Businesses will need to pay an annual fee for upkeep on approved signs.

Website: Fire Safe Council has authorized Will to find cheapest hosting. They want us to pay all of hosting.

We have brought in \$140 on website so far for renewals.

Chipper program is going again but it is not free because they have lost funding. You need to join the Fire Safe Council to get services. Joining allows you 2 hours of chipper service.

Co. 61 Fundraiser, Nov 19th, Grange 5-8pm 8/4 spaghetti salad bread. This will raise money for our new squad.

Sheriff's Dept. Ride along program: Need a response from Sergeant. This is an important part of our emergency plan for Berry Creek. The ride along program was suggested at the OES meeting we had following the last big evacuation. It would allow community members to be trained to ride along with a Sheriff during an emergency to patrol neighborhoods to keep looting at bay.

Next BCCA meeting: December 11th at 9am, Volunteer Fire Station