

FRIENDS OF ATASCADERO LAKE
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 20, 2014

In attendance:

Nancy Hair, Olan Kaigel, Joni Walter, Don Lynge, Paul Murphy, Jon Trumbull, Barbara Combs, Bob Edmonds. Guests: Dane Mumford, Sandy Rakestraw. Absent: Pat Mc Quaid, Larry Waugh

- Meeting called to order by Don Lynge.
- Approval of minutes from the April 15, 2014 minutes.
- Treasurer's report by Joni Walter: Balance of \$638.26 and a tax liability of \$65.00 for the t-shirt sales.
- Don introduced Sandy Rakestraw who found out about our organization from an editorial in the Atascadero News about Friends of Atascadero Lake. Sandy is involved with "Friends For Feral Felines Inc" and is interested in being involved with our organization. We know that Sandy will bring a lot of great ideas to our organization and we welcome her!
- Bob Edmonds has not been able to reach Kurt Stone of the Fire Department about setting up a strategic planning date. Hopefully Kurt's time will open up after the fire season. Bob also talked to the Elks about helping with a barbeque fundraiser, but again, the board felt it was to premature as we do not want to commit such a big expenditure at this time.
- Bob Edmonds also introduced Dane Mumford. Dane is a long time resident of Atascadero and works with the fire department and runs Cuesta Camp. Cuesta Camp is a crew made up of inmates of the Men's Colony. Dane contracts with non-profits and government organizations to do brush and open space clean up. Dane explained the process and how they are paid. Once a project is identified and the inspection is complete the work could commence in about a week providing there is no fire the crew is involved with. This was great news to us as we are planning a lake perimeter clean up day in the fall.
- Jon Trumbull gave a report on the Lake Perimeter Clean Up Project. The project will focus on creating "view shed" around the lake. There are many areas of the perimeter where you cannot even see the lake due to heavy growth. It was moved by Nancy Hair and seconded by Joni Walter to postpone the the clean up day until after the nesting bird season is over with. Initially the clean up day was scheduled for May 31, but a biologist would have to be hired to do a survey of the nesting birds. Even though the city would help with funding a biologist our group felt that the limited funds we have should not be used for this purpose. All agreed.
- Don Lynge gave his report on the Ecosystem Committee. They are in the process of working on a grant from the California Wildlife Conservation Board to restore a permanent wetland on the south end of the lake.
- Paul Murphy gave a report on what's happening with the existing well surveys. Filliponi and Thompson will hopefully do the well tests next week. They are busy and they are donating their time to do the work, so we need to be patient and we thank them for their help.
- It was moved by Don Lynge and seconded by Paul Murphy to give a t-shirt to Vernon Weigold of "Stylin Graphics Arts and Design" who did our logo. He did the work at cost and we appreciate that. All agreed.
- It was moved by Joni Walter and seconded by Bob Edmonds to sell the remaining t-shirts at \$20 with no sales tax. All agreed.
- Nancy Hair and Sandy Rakestraw will be heading up a Membership Committee, defining our membership structure and levels of giving.

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- The MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with the city is postponed until the next meeting due to lack of time.
- Joni Walter gave a report on the website she is developing. It was a free site so there is no way to Google the site. One needs to type in the address. She asked that all project chairman's submit project reports to her so she can add them to the website.
<http://mawltr.wix.com/friendsofataslake#> Click this link to view website. There is a link to PayPal where you can now make donations. Your donations are NOT tax deductible at this time. We have applied to the IRS for our 501c3 status and should be hearing in July for acceptance or if they require additional information. You can certainly make any donation and when/if we receive our IRS status we can write you out a receipt for your records.
- Barbara Combs gave a report on her ongoing idea of adding a "tint" to the lake to make it more appealing, especially now as the water quality and color are so bad. The proposed product would help clarify the water. She has submitted the product information to Dennis Michniuk of Fish and Wildlife.
- It was suggested to our group to help the city promote the 1/2 % sales tax ballot measure for November IF the city agrees to set a small percentage of the received funds for improvements to the lake. The city council will be discussing the tax and what it would be used for in June. So far the city is interested in using the tax only for roads, which we all agree do need improvements. The Friends of Atascadero Lake would like to have a very small percentage the 1.2 to 1.7 million that could potentially be collected annually be shared with "Parks" and the "Lake".

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Hair, Secretary