

MINUTES FROM THE RIDGEWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (RNA)
GENERAL MEETING & SUMMER GET TOGETHER
SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

General Business

The general meeting and Summer Get Together was held outdoors on Fleetwood Rd.

Since this was a general meeting combined with the Summer Get Together there wasn't an official agenda or required committee reports. This meeting's main function is for Board nominations, announcements and community representatives meet-and-greet.

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by elected President Charles Luke.

Minutes for the August 10, 2022 Board meeting were approved for publication.

Charles introduced the current Board members and committee chairs present: Sandy Fisher, Vice-President; Chrystal Aceves, Secretary; Jerry Lewis, Treasurer; Karen Hebert, Block Captain Coordinator; Ralph Legg, Member-At-Large; and Sandy Piercey, Ridgettes.

RNA vacant positions include Webmaster, Vice President, Firewise Chair, and Co-Block Caption Coordinator.

Prior to the September 25th meeting, Tony Robinson agreed to take over the Webmaster vacancy. Tony will work with Don Nester to understand the current website content and platform. Tony will be updating user interfaces, navigation menus, and integrating multimedia content over to a new RNA website.

Vice President, Firewise Chair and Treasurer positions still need volunteers. Charles will revisit possible nominations at the close of the meeting.

Jerry Lewis, Treasurer indicated the current RNA fund balance is \$2,436.00. He eluded to the rising cost of doing business and how it continues to go up and mentioned maybe the Board needs to entertain raising the dues! We have 77 paid dues for 2023 with a possible 148 resident eligibility.

The general meeting portion was adjourned at 4:05 pm.

Tony Robinson, new Webmaster, was the master of ceremonies for our panel Q&A. Panel consisted of Ryan Campbell, Dore Beitz, Emily Kilgore and Bill Pooley.

Q&A Highlights

Insurance issue: Insurance Commissioner is putting forth regulations forcing insurance companies to take a closer look at individual property management and communicate the needs to property owners for proper property management considerations.

Measure X: Panel members urged a YES vote for a 1% County sales tax increase in Tuolumne. The sales tax is estimated to bring an additional \$6.4 million to the departments' existing budgets from the County's general fund. The ballot title for Measure X is as follows: "To protect and improve essential Sheriff, Fire, and Road services, shall an ordinance be adopted authorizing a one percent Transactions and Use Tax (sales tax) in the unincorporated areas of the County providing approximately \$6,400,000 annually that exclusively funds and is split between Sheriff (40%), Fire (40%), and Road (20%) services with annual public audits and expiring after 10 years unless renewed by voters?"

Public Services: Number one priority is public safety. Law enforcement is very concerned about their ability to respond to calls. Our town grows by 20-30K people on weekends including an additional ~5K on the waters. Response time is 15 minutes Code 3 (lights and sirens) and 1 hour for home invasions. For more information regarding Tuolumne County's staffing crisis visit the following link:

https://www.uniondemocrat.com/news/article_083b44dc-3a0e-11ed-a305-576c257a930b.html

In an emergency situation, PLEASE respect warnings for evacuation. As they too are short staffed and cannot come back to rescue you should you need their services. Know alternative routes and practice taking other roads out! Keep in mind the additional 20-30K individuals in our area are novices and unfamiliar with roadways and will likely panic in an emergency situation. Remember an evacuation order may be to get to another part of the County not necessary OUT of the County!

New Defensible Space Zone 0 – AB 3074 goes into effect January 1, 2023. Defensible Space Zones (Zones 1 and 2) currently make up the 100 feet of defensible space required by law. A new Zone was introduced in Assembly Bill 3074 in 2020. This *new law* requires a third zone (Zone 0) to be defined and made part of the defensible space. It now requires the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to develop the regulation by January 1, 2023. The board is to create a new ember-resistant zone (Zone 0) within 0 to 5 feet of a home. Check out the following link for more information regarding AB 3074: <https://www.fire.ca.gov/dspace/>

That is a sampling of the highlights from the Q&A panel representatives. There was a lot of useful information provided by our panel members.

President Elect Charles closed the day with a final call for nominations for Vice President and/or Firewise Chair.

Dave Ballard stepped up to accept the Vice President vacancy. Kathy Luke put forth the motion for Dave Ballard as Vice President and Sandy Fisher graciously seconded the nomination.

After further conversation with Emily and Charles, Randy Aceves stepped up to accept the Firewise Chair position.

Thank you...Thank you to Dave and Randy for stepping up.

Please consider joining us at our next RNA Get Together. It will enrich your life, familiarize you with your community, and connect you to people and ideas that can positively impact your perspective for the rest of your life. Giving back to the community is crucial to building trust and personal relationships with your neighbors.

Respectively written and submitted by Chrystal Aceves, RNA Secretary