MINUTES FROM FIDDLETOWN COMMUNITY CENTER

BOARD MEETING - THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2025

Meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. on March 6, 2025. In attendance were: Susie Jones, Deirdre Mueller, Steve Jones, Mara Feeney, and Barbara Reilly plus guest Kent Oster.

Motion to approve the minutes from our February 6, 2025 meeting was made by Deirdre and

seconded by Barbara. The Board approved the motion.

Bingo games have been scheduled for March 12, June 11, and October 8. If the forecast for a substantial rainstorm in March materializes, we will move Bingo to April 9.

Our first Town Hall meeting is scheduled for March 8 at 10 a.m. We thought this would be a good time to remind people about fire preparedness, due to the recent devastating LA fires. Chief Withrow and Kayla Dale will present information on vegetation burning safety and the differences between Amador Fire and CalFire responsibilities. A second Town is planned for May 31 with speakers from the Office of Emergency Services and Fiddletown Neighborhood Radio Watch.

Most of the planning and provision purchasing for the Pancake Breakfast scheduled for March 22 is complete. This year, to keep the pancakes coming, our volunteer Brenda will be making batter while Kent and DJ man the griddle. All Board members plus four seasoned volunteers have agreed to help and have been given assignments. Banner is up and flyer out. Community residents have helped out with egg donations and reduced-price fresh eggs. Set up will happen Friday, 3/21 from 9-11 am, along with table setting, fruit cutting, and other preparations. Board members should arrive 6:30 am on Saturday, other volunteers at 7:15 am.

Upcoming Bob Hines concerts include: Rita Hosking on March 14 (Barbara to help at the door), Dirty Cello on April 4 (Mara and Barbara at the door), PJ Jacobs on April 17 (Susie & Steve at the door). Others planned include Slocam Ramblers May 23, Richard Smith June 6, and Alice Wallace Band June 13.

Florence Chilton is organizing the Fiddletown Flea communitywide garage sale on June 7, and FCC and AFPD are co-sponsoring a "Burn Your Own" barbeque event same evening at our local fire station. Our firemen will do the grilling. We'll offer ribeye steak, Swingle chicken sausages, plus three salads and beans. Beer, wine, and other beverages will be available for purchase, too. Susie will ask Javi about bringing his sound system for music. We plan to do advance ticket sales. Lin is making a flyer. Banner is ready to go up after Pancake Breakfast, likely mid-April.

We had a brief discussion of how to cooperate with the Bluegrass Festival happening at the fairgrounds 9/18-20 and how to address parking concerns. Anya Hinckle may be playing at the festival in Plymouth that weekend. Bob to inquire if she might be a headliner for the Jam.

FCC applied for the Lowe's Hometown Grant on January 30 and should hear by March 7. With no word yet, time is running out and hope fading.

The fiddle over the community center entrance will be taken down for repainting this Spring. Waiting for Erik to set a date. It will also be spiffed up annually before the Jam.

Kent showed us the newly-installed electrical panel, with plenty of room for future expansion. Thing of beauty! Thanks to financial assistance from Supervisor Oneto, this project came in below budget. We discussed replacing the old florescent light fixtures in main hall with LED lights, which would last longer and reduce our energy bills. Deirdre is also getting ideas and estimates from a commercial lighting company.

Things are happening at our library! Carolyn has recruited more helpers, including an enthusiastic young woman named Maisie who adores books and is eager to help. The library will now be open one Saturday a month (thirds Saturday) from 11am to 12:30pm. An organizational meeting to see if there is interest in forming a new Book Club in Fiddletown will be held on Wednesday, March 26. If there is sufficient interest, the Book Club will continue to meet on fourth Wednesdays of the month. In addition, a group of local women who have been traveling to Plymouth for their weekly Sewing Circle (aka Stitch "n Bitch) want to start meeting twice a month in our library since it is closer and more convenient. This Fiber Arts group will hold its first meeting on March 19, 11-12:30 pm, with future meetings held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. Anyone welcome to bring a sewing, knitting, mending, or craft project along. Flyers and social media will be used to announce these happenings.

The Pickleheads group is going strong, with play sessions most Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday mornings 9:30-11:30. In addition, they have sponsored three recent clinics to improve skills, hold periodic lessons for beginners, and have an open invitation for a Beginner session at the courts to be held on March 29, 10 am to noon.

There have been some break-ins on Tyler Road recently. Residents are contemplating holding a meeting to consider setting up Neighborhood Watch group.

FCC will add two new features for the monthly newsletter: stories about the history of the community center building, and town history blurbs, with input to be provided by the Preservation Society.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.