MINUTES FROM FIDDLETOWN COMMUNITY CENTER

BOARD MEETING, August 7, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. In attendance were: Susie Jones, Deirdre Mueller, Steve Jones, Mara Feeney, and Barbara Reilly. Kent Oster and Lin Sanders attended as guests.

Deirdre pointed out one error in the July draft minutes: FCC donated $650 to the fire hall from split proceeds from the Burn Your Own event combined with a personal donation to make it an approximately 50/50 share. With this revision, a motion was made to approve the minutes of the July Board meeting was made by Deirdre, seconded by Mara, and unanimously approved.

Stitch 'N Bitch and the new Book Club, both of which meet in the now-well-lit library space, are doing well. The Book Club has a solid number of members now, so we may want to reduce or cease advertising for it. Mara will check with Tevilla.

Bob could not attend this meeting but sent information about upcoming concerts. Now scheduled are Anya Hinkle on September 23, Wake the Dead on October 10, Late for the Train on November 8, and Farmer & Adele for December 6. More concerts are in the works and will be announced as plans are finalized.

We discussed lighting for the new roof under the fiddle at the front entrance. Bob had offered use of some sets he owns. In discussion, with Kent's advice, the group decided to opt for a more permanent solution to outdoor lighting. Kent can hardwire some floodlights and tie them to a dedicated indoor breaker, so that when events end, a simple flick of an indoor switch will kill all the outdoor lights at once, no fumbling to unplug strings from outlets.

Bob suggested we invite local artists to display their work on interior walls of the hall. This item was tabled until Bob can be present to provide more detail about what he has in mind.

We want to update the FCC Mission Statement to omit reference to park maintenance now that ACRA manages and maintains the park. Board agreed to table this until after the Jam, as it will have to be voted on by the general membership in December.

Fiddlers’ Jam, Sept. 20th – 11:00-5:00:

1. Vendors – 6 spaces available. Discussed coffee/pastry vendor. Agreed to give local company a try.
2. Kent needs to get a new smoker but committed to smoking 90 lbs. of Tri-tip. Dave available to help.
3. We have all volunteers except one for the barrier from 7:00-10:00. Will ask Gary Redmond to come or appoint a deputy to cover if no volunteer as it gets closer.
4. Encroachment Permit and waiver requested 6-13-25 has been delivered to the County.
5. Sandwiches – Tri-Tip, Portobello Mushroom and BBQ pulled chicken sandwich. Chicken has been purchased. Amador meats have been contacted about tri-tip. Asked us to order on Sept. 8th. Tri tip will be about $4.99/lb on that date.
6. Purchased bulk kettle chips to replace individual chip bags to cut costs and trash/waste.
7. All non perishable items have been purchased. Buns, garnishes, etc will be purchased later.
8. Amador Brewing - 3 pony kegs have been ordered and we have enough canned beer.
9. Rotary Plymouth-Foothill has confirmed its donation of $700.00 for the Fiddle contest.
10. Shirts: We have in stock t-shirts (58) and hats (42) and put out the Fiddletown t-shirts. Sell what we have and wait to purchase new shirts for our 75th next year. Will order more Fiddletown shirts to sell too.
11. Weekly social media blasts starting 8-9-25. KVGC - requested to go on 9/13, awaiting OK.
12. Banners to go up on August 8th. Mara agreed to put out signs along Ostrom Road for parking and shuttle bus.

Deirdre has been in contact with organizers of the Bluegrass Festival taking place in Plymouth same weekend as the Jam. Agreed to co-promote each others' events to enhance interest in and attendance at both. The festival is looking for volunteers to help with setup/breakdown tasks.

Salsa dance party with Javier is scheduled for October 18, 7:00-10:00 pm. Motion made and approved to order a new Salsa Party banner, as the old one is quite worn. Entry donation will be $10, $5 for members, kids free. BYO drinks and snacks. Mara to help Deirdre pull this one off.

Trunk or Treat at the firehouse - Deirdre to coordinate with Kayla on this event.

Fiddle Maintenance is complete, despite hornets nesting in the fiddle neck! Erik, Steve, Kent and Taylor pulled it down on June 21. It will stay down until late August or first week in September. Will need volunteers for getting the fiddle back onto the roof. Fiddle to be maintained (springs tightened etc) in Spring and again each Fall before the Jam. (Erik recommends doing it 3-4 times per year due to weather exposure.

Kent expects work on the new entry roof to be completed soon, possibly next week. Once that is done, perhaps after Jam, Susie will proceed with ordering cabinet to install on the front porch containing fire preparedness info, self-guided tour info, and books contributed by the library. Kent and helpers will begin on roof repairs above the kitchen soon.

A neighbor reported that a tree on FCC property may need to be removed. Deirdre to contact Brian Oneto and "Loggin' Login" to discuss this potential need and obtain estimates.

Mara reported that the RFP for tennis court improvements may be out now. Pickleheads are in discussions with Jamie Lubenko and others about a possibility to use one of the buildings at the Fairground for pickleball courts when not otherwise in use.

It's too early to plan FCC activities for next year, but Barb floated a couple of ideas, including a drive-by corned beef & cabbage dinner around St. Paddy's Day and some sort of sweetheart event around Valentine's Day.