MINUTES FROM FIDDLETOWN COMMUNITY CENTER

BOARD MEETING, September 4, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 4:33 p.m. In attendance were: Susie Jones, Michelle Bell, Mara Feeney, and Barbara Reilly. Kent Oster and Lin Sanders attended as guests.

The minutes from our August meeting were approved.

Last Bingo for 2025 will take place October 8. We'll serve Chicken Parmesan casserole, salad, and garlic bread - $8.

Stitch 'N Bitch and the FCC Book Club are still going strong, with new participants checking it out. Strong attendance and appreciation for both activities.

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, Farmer & Adele for December 6, and Water Tower set for December 29. More concerts are in the works for the new year and will be announced as plans are finalized.

Mara took Lin's design to her acquaintance at Amador Steel. He believed it would require four separate metal layers to execute. His initial, off-the-cuff estimate was $3,000. Mara asked if there was a non-profit rate, to which he replied it would be $2,000 if they don't have to do installation. Board agreed that is too expensive and we will keep seeking alternatives as there is no rush on this project. Deirdre may have connections, and Mara to check with the volunteers who welded the heavy-duty pickleball nets for our downtown courts. Amador Steel did say they could provide the fiddle (they have a template for one that is almost identical) and some of the metal letters for $150-200 if we could find another background (e.g. a wood round). Mara spoke with Mike Mahoney and said if we go with wood, he would provide his labor for free.

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.

Fiddlers' Jam planning is in good shape. We have enough vendors, could add 1-2 more last minute. Inside vendors will set up on Friday, 9/19, 10-noon. Instructions for unloading/loading have been sent out. We also have all volunteer slots covered.

Kent will smoke tri-tip. Will get it marinated and to Kent 9/17 or 18. All food items have been purchased (Barb to go to Amador Meats after Labor Day to finalize final purchase of tri-tip). Perishables to be purchased on 9/17. Food prep will happen in the kitchen on Friday, 9/19 from 10 to noon.

Plymouth-Foothill Rotary has confirmed donation of $700 for the fiddle contest. Still waiting for their check. We plan to sell the Jam t-shirts (58) and hats (42) we have in stock and postpone ordering new merchandise until next year - for our 75th year anniversary. Susie ordered more basic Fiddletown t-shirts (we were out of some sizes) and they should arrive before the Jam.

Social media blasts will start soon, and KVGC interview is scheduled for 9/12. The music schedule is in place and there is lots of interest in the open mic stage spots.

Salsa dance party with Javier is scheduled for October 18, 7:00-10:00 pm. Flyers and new banner are ready, Mara and Deirdre will oversee this one.

Trunk or Treat at the firehouse - Deirdre to coordinate with Kayla on this event. Javi has agreed to provide DJ services for the event. Fire hall plans to serve hot dogs.

Fiddle Maintenance is complete and the fiddle was installed back over the rebuilt porch roof on 8/23. Fiddle will be maintained every 4 months starting in December.

Kent has replaced more obsolete wiring and added more outlets, including some that can be easily turned off when not in use (e.g. for special outdoor lights). All of the old aluminum wiring in the building has been replaced except for water heater. He's now working on the kitchen roof and expects work on the new entry roof to be completed soon. Last step will be to apply silicon coating.

Pickleheads attendance has been down due to many members traveling for the summer. Still hoping for establishing pickleball courts in one of the buildings at the Fairground so courts could be available during renovation of the park...

The Fiddletown Radio Watch Program is working on organizing an event, e.g. a spaghetti dinner, to raise money this fall. Revenues could be split with FCC to co-purchase a projector or other equipment that could be used in the hall for presentations and movies in future.

Mara asked if our paid hall cleaner could do some work in the library. Susie said no, the budget does not cover that and it should be DYI on library volunteers (should be time when the library is open).

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm