



Pollock Pines-Camino Rotary Club

P.O. Box 88

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17 September 2015

Minutes

Meeting conducted at Sportsman's Hall

The meeting was called to order by President Eric at 6:05 pm.

Members present: Carol Abbanat, Eric Bonnicksen, Heather Campbell, Ken Harper, Jack Mallinson, Rich Mason, Kevin Monsma

Guests: Jeanne Harper, Elizabeth Mallinson, Debbie Monsma, Lori Veerkamp and granddaughter Emma

Guest Speaker: Brian Veerkamp

Two bits...dollar: Carol donated \$1 to celebrate the story about a man who had put a winning lottery ticket in a book, and found it later. The book was a Rotary dictionary. Eric tossed in \$1 celebrating the find, by a relative, of a certificate that had been his grandfather's when the grandfather was president of the Rotary Club of Arcata in 1952. Elizabeth Mallinson donated \$1 to celebrate the raising, by Jack's former Rotary club in Healdsburg, of \$1,600, to assist victims of the recent wildfires in Sonoma County.

Evening In The Orchard: The consensus is that the event went very well. It was completely sold out, and everyone agrees that there was a good "vibe".

Guest Speaker: Brian Veerkamp is currently the Supervisor Representing the Third Supervisorial District in El Dorado County. He is formerly Chief of the El Dorado Hills Fire Department, and was a Rotarian there. The Supervisor gave an update on county legislative matters.

The county strategic plan is ready for public input. The county will use social media as one of the principal ways to get better responses, from a wider base of residents.

One satisfying issue is that a number of long-delayed issues are now coming to conclusion and implementation. One is the recently adopted sign ordinance.

There is significant transition in county staffing. The county now has an interim Chief Administrative Office, Larry Coombs, who is a retired annuitant. That status gives him some independence that many in county government feel good about. The county had a ten million dollar deficit that has now become an eight million dollar surplus, some because of restructuring, and some because of funds from the State. In most cases, as current county employees leave, their positions will not be immediately filled. Lack of deferred maintenance is an issue, and is now being built up. Top priority is the Sheriff's headquarters building which will be a state-of-the-art facility. He described the current headquarters building as seriously sick. The new one will be located in Diamond Springs. Escrows should close in two months. The El Dorado Center in South Lake Tahoe is also severely weakened, and needs to be replaced, as do the DA's office, and Juvenile Hall in Placerville.

The current feeling is that the county will not be continuing the partnership with CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates). It is a funding issue. Discussions are still underway.

CEDAC, the county development advisory group, has been restructured, and will again focus on economic development issues. The Parks department will get some funding. Camino and Pollock Pines do not have Community Service Districts, which have been used to great benefit to fund and operate local parks in other communities. In Pollock Pines an area that was planned to be the community park many years ago, will now be sold. The park acquired from EID will be the community park. Proceeds of park land will go to local parks.

Affordable housing is needed in order to attract businesses. The NIMBY phenomenon has been an obstacle, as have high fees. Another problem with getting affordable housing is one group that opposes all housing issues in the county.

On fire issues, the county will pursue a fire abatement ordinance that has been used by many other California counties, and some cities, to minimize damage from wildfires. It has been noted by many that some insurance companies have stopped offering fire insurance in much of California because of wildfire issues.

Guest Speakers: Speakers are needed for the October 8th, and 15th meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 7:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Kenneth Harper, Secretary