

Westport Village Society 2015 Annual Members' Meeting

October 2nd, 2015, 7:00PM, at the Westport Community Church

Draft Minutes submitted by Steve Brigham

Call to Order: After a social half-hour that began at 6:30PM, **WVS President Thad Van Bueren called the 2015 WVS Annual Members' Meeting to order at 7:00PM and led the meeting.**

WVS Directors present were President Thad Van Bueren, Vice President Steve Brigham, Treasurer Bill Knapp, Lois Senger, and Gary Quinton. WVS Directors absent were Dorine Real and Nita Regalia. WVS Secretary Lee Tepper was absent, and Vice President Steve Brigham was appointed to take the meeting minutes in his place.

WVS members and guests present were Sarah Mathias, John Allison, Rebecca Picard, Pam Brown, Steve Brown, Baile Oakes, Matthew Frey, K. Rudin, Mildred Saunders, and George Lancaster.

After the introduction of the WVS Board members, the first order of business was the **approval of the minutes of the 2014 WVS Annual Members' Meeting** which was held on October 3rd, 2014 at the Westport Community Church. Bill Knapp moved that we accept the minutes, and Gary Quinton seconded; the approval of the minutes passed unanimously.

President Thad Van Bueren then gave a very informative **summary of WVS activities** during the past year, complete with excellent descriptive slides. Topics covered included Fundraising, Headlands, Community Center, WVS programs and projects, Publicity, and Mini-Grants. Treasurer Bill Knapp concluded with the **Annual WVS Financial Report** (for fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015), which illustrated the excellent financial shape of the organization.

The main item of business for the evening then commenced with the **Election of Board Members** to fill two openings on the 7-member WVS Board (as Gary Quinton's and Nita Regalia's 3-year terms were ending). President Thad Van Bueren mentioned member Bob Finnell expressed interest in voting by mail as an alternative to in person voting. The WVS bylaws allow either approach. Members

were asked about their preferences with none favoring mailed ballots. The Directors will give this further consideration, taking into consideration the member input that was received.

President Thad Van Bueren then encouraged all interested members who wanted to serve on the WVS Board to introduce themselves and say a few words. Gary Quinton was pleased to be considered for another 3-year term, and Sarah Mathias kindly voiced her interest in serving on the Board as well. There being no others interested in serving, secret ballots were then distributed to all members and tabulated by Vice President Steve Brigham. Each member could vote for two candidates. The results of the vote were 13 ballots cast, with 13 votes for Gary Quinton and 13 votes for Sarah Mathias. Congratulations to Gary and Sarah on their new 3-year terms as WVS Board members!

The next item of business was an **open discussion on WVS fundraising approaches** and other related topics. Lois Senger, a founding Board Member who has long been responsible for our annual Ducky Races fundraiser, presented a handout on potential new approaches to WVS fundraising. A huge amount of support was voiced for the continuance of our traditional Annual Mother's Day Ducky Races, as they are seen as a unique event which is not only profitable but defines Westport itself. However, it is clear that we need new talent to work on this project so that it may continue in the future. Gary Quinton suggested a written Procedure Manual for the Ducky Races so that it would be easier for new volunteers to step in and run various aspects of this fundraiser. Also discussed were various different sources of WVS funding, such as grants, donations, and membership dues, which also folds in to the ongoing Board discussions on organizational goals and activity emphasis. All of the topics in this open discussion will continue to be discussed in future Board meetings.

The 2015 WVS Annual Members' Meeting was then adjourned at 8:20PM.

The final presentation of the evening was an excellent and very informative 40-minute slide presentation by Thad Van Bueren on the archaeology and history of the local Seaside area, as based on his recent research. This was a fascinating account of the many hidden treasures and little-known secrets of this long-inhabited coastal area that many of us drive through every day (and is now undergoing a Highway 1 facelift). The history of this area indeed has many surprises!