

Westport Village Society  
Board Meeting Minutes <> January 16, 2016

**1. Call to Order:** Westport Village Society President, Thad Van Bueren calls us to order at 9am.

**Directors Present:** Thad Van Bueren, Gary Quinton, Bill Knapp, Dorine Real, Lois Senger, Steve Brigham, Sarah Mathias,

**Guests:** Lee Tepper (secretary), Melinda McLaughlin, Kiran Chittimanent, Batul Merchant, Rock Bush, Carolyn Yale

**2. Public Input:** No additional agenda items.

**3. Administrative Items:**

**Bill moved and Sarah seconded we accept the minutes of October 17, 2015. All Ayes.**

**Bill presents the financials:** 2014's 4th quarter and 2015's 4th quarter show a healthy growth. Our income continues to outstrip our expenses. Thad asked that our balance be broken out into our separate funds. Treasurer Bill said it would take some doing. Following some discussion **Gary moved and Steve seconded that the fund breakout be available at the Annual meeting.**

**Appointment of officers:** Thad asked if current officers were willing to continue in their roles. They assented. Thad asked if anyone wanted on the Board. No one did.

**Thad moved and Dorine seconded that: Thad remain President, Steve remain VicePresident, Bill remain Treasurer, and Lee remain secretary. All ayes.** At this juncture we revisited our voting procedures to consider voting by mail. Generally this was seen as reducing the social interaction we are trying to foster. **Thad moved we not move to mail, or email, voting. Gary seconded. Thad, Steve Bill, Gary, Dorine, & Lois voted aye. Sarah abstained.**

**Correspondence requiring Board action:** Bill reported there was none.

**4. Active Business:**

- a. **Assessment: *What is the value of Westport Village Society membership?*** At the last meeting Board members were tasked with a response to the preceding question. One perspective is to balance membership fees with the *value* received. Steve pointed out we ain't broke, i.e. income>expenses. *Lets do what we do best*, (individually and collectively). Lois feels we have good involvement. Sarah said newbies need jobs. Headlands events provide income and mini-grants help a little on the jobs front. A community center would be nice. Gary speaking as a pro Democracy Capitalist feels we provide opportunities. Bill's said that following initial startup euphoria many

enterprises fall into a boring lull. He feels WVS has done a good job keeping it interesting. Thad quoted our mission statement that expresses a balance between land conservation (the Headlands) and people (residents and visitors). Rock appreciates the gatherings. Carol likes the coastal access but would like to attract some younger members. Batul said WVS provides a way for remote owners to engage. Kiran said he and Batul found Westport online so lets keep reaching out. Dorine appreciates the opportunities for interaction afforded by the WVS. Gary echoed Steve by saying he felt things were going pretty well.

- b. WVS goal setting update:** covered in a.
- c. Headlands Park update and actions:** Steve reported the swale cleaning is complete and came in under budget. Sarah has been holding regular markets the first??? Saturday of the month. A wedding is planned for September 17th, 2016. Also the Society for Creative Anachronism wants to hold an event in March. Dorine volunteered to work with Thad on these events and to take over the lead on arranging Headlands events.
- d. Consider assistance for Church and Recreation Center:** Treasurer Bill said the initial sum the Village Society allocated to get the Recreation Center on its feet is mostly gone. Classes there are administered by the Mendocino County Recreation and Parks District and WVS is happy with that arrangement. Steve, who also is on the Church board, listed historic Westport photos to complement the Church's iconography, folding chairs to complement the vintage pews, and a nice working fridge to replace the nonworking vintage one. Gary jumped on the fridge project offering to answer all issues involving the ecumenical icebox swap. Recalling past fees paid to the Church for WVS meetings held in the Church, **Thad moved we pay the Church \$500/year for meeting space. Gary seconded. All ayes save Steve who recused himself as he is on the Church board.** Steve said he had looked into chairs and found some nice padded folders for \$17. Following discussion and visioning **Thad moved we allow \$1000 for 40 chairs @ < \$25 each. Gary seconded. All ayes save Steve who again recused himself.**
- e. Historic photos for the Church:** Dorine accepted a ram disk of photos from the Village Society's archives and a mandate to have them printed, framed, and hung in the Church.

- f. Fundraising strategy:** Lois agreed to, again this year, organize the 2016 running of the ducks, Mother's Day. Bill contrasted the effort to write a grant against the salubrious state of our finances. (A silver thread running through this meeting seemed, to this secretary, to be a general satisfaction with Westport Village Society, its financial situation, and its good works.) To maintain this positive thrust a visioning/fundraising subcommittee determined to meet Monday, February 8th @ 7pm @ the Westport Hotel.
- g. Ducky Event planning:** Lois will once again lead us to aquatic glory as we hold Mother's Day rubber ducky heats in Wages Creek. Gary asked if a Ducky Race Playbook might be composed to facilitate future races. A Ducky Race meeting will take place on March 15th @ 7pm @ the Westport Hotel.
- h. Mini-grant update:** this was covered in **a.**
- 5. Set agenda for next board meeting (April 16 @ 9am @ the Westport Church):** April's meeting will consider but is not limited to the Budget, Headlands issues, the Ducky Race, nominating, and visioning/fundraising.
- 6. We adjourned at Noon.**