

MINUTES OF THE WESTPORT VILLAGE SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4 @ 7:00 P.M.
@ Westport Community Center - Abalone Street- Westport, California

1. *Call to Order: - Establish Board Quorum /Agenda*

Mr. Bill Knapp – Chairperson and President welcomed all attendees and called the Meeting to order at 7:08 pm. As part of outreach, the Board of Directors also timely posted and published an optional ZOOM meeting connection. Notice included preliminary Meeting agenda and supporting documents such as prior meeting minutes posted to the WVS website, financial account structure presented to the Board in advance and presented to the Attendees at the Meeting.

Per the WVS Bylaws, membership quorum established for voting Board candidates via in person attendance per the sign-in sheet of 18 Members. Since only one application of interest to serve for the two existing Board of Directors vacancies had been received in a timely manner, paper ballots were not issued for this 2024 Annual Meeting Director election. On September 15, 2024, WVS did issue Notice of the 2024 Annual Meeting and membership applications to approximately 214 residents in the WVS Membership Area. Board Members present at the inception of the Meeting: **Mr. Thad Van Bueren, Ms. Dorine Real, Mr. Bill Knapp, Mr. Robert Finnell (via Zoom from Michigan), Ms. Tabith Korhummel, Mr. Sebastian Beck Regalia.** Treasurer Mr. Gary Quinton was unable to attend. Twelve (12) additional members of the Members/public attending as evidenced by the proffered Sign-In Document to be archived with the Ballots. **Lee Tepper, Cy Wilcox, R. Holt (?), James L. Geneureax, Madison McKenney, Robert Ballard, Jeffrey Whitehouse, Melinda McGloughlin, Sheila Winslow, Kay Rudin, Victoria Patterson (via zoom).**

Mr. Knapp functioned as Chairman of the Meeting and Mr. Finnell (Secretary) recorded the Minutes of the Meeting. Mr. Knapp noted that the focus and a key interest of this Meeting, after administrative formalities, would be to focus on listening to the WVS Community's ideas, concerns and input to determine WVS success during the second half of the Annual Meeting.

2. *Financial Report (7:12 pm).*

Mr. Knapp led an overview of the WVS Financial Report, noting that WVS has grown in revenue (approximately \$21k) and assets year over year, with total assets just under approximately two million dollars. This growth was noted in spite of no material direct WVS special event fundraising events for the past year. Mr. Knapp noted that the financial information will be posted on the WVS website. Mr. Knapp expressed appreciation to Ms. Tabitha Korhummel for all the planning and work that went into reviving the WVS March 2024 Whale only to have to cancel the event due to inclement weather. Mr. Knapp noted challenges remain post-Covid to regain fundraising and event momentum for WVS. Questions were asked and answered during the discussion. Mr. Thad Van Buuren provided a summary update of the progress and development of the WVS De Haven property over the past year, highlighting the process for the parking lot access from Highway 1, the planned stairway, the status of the geotechnical survey. Mr. Van Bueren noted the focus on public access details, obtaining required permits, and the criteria for the future staircase to have a minimum fifty year useful life. Mr. Van Bueren thanked Director Beck Regalia for mowing the trail on his own time. Questions were asked and answered regarding controlling trash and refuse left behind by overnight campers, noting plans for signs regarding “haul out” all trash and placing a gate to reduce overnight access. Director Regalia expressed his view that the parking issues and risks are not a good situation, inviting longer stay motor homes and with no planned toilet facilities, the sanitary situation will likely be problematic. Director Regalia suggested a strategy to make the De Haven property less inviting

for motor home overnight parking. Director Van Bueren countered noting that as part of the De Haven grant there was interest in developing public access. Questions were asked and answered. Director Van Bueren noted that significant energy and public input process has been undertaken over the course of the De Haven grant initiative and the WVS continues to take all reasonable action to further the plan. Ms. Patterson inquired into the scope of local tribal input and Mr. Van Bueren noted that to date it has not be significantly material, but reach out would continue.

3. Presentation of 2023 Annual Meeting minutes. (7:40 pm)

Chairman Knapp presented the October 8, 2023 Annual Meeting minutes to the Board and Members, noting that the draft had been posted on the WVS website since late October 2023. Upon motion duly made (Regalia) and seconded (Van Bueren), the 2023 Annual Meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

4. Board of Directors – Election of two directors

As noted in the September 15, 2024 Notice of 2024 Annual Meeting, two positions were open, with only Director Regalia expressing interest. Mr. Van Bueren provided a brief overview of WVS Director duties. Mr. Van Bueren noted with 81 WVS validated members, with over 18 members in attendance at this Annual meeting the required ten percent quorum requirement had been achieved to move forward with self-nominations and process for election to two directors. Mr. Knapp stated the roster for the current WVS Board of Directors and noted that Mr. Gary Quinton was current WVS Treasurer, but was interested in deferring to a new WVS Treasurer, preferable at the upcoming October 23, 2024 Regular Board of Directors Meeting. Mr. Van Bueren spoke to the value and importance of the WVS Board of Directors manual published several years ago as a good on-boarding resource. (7:49). Mr. Van Bueren spoke generally to the key need to have a WVS Treasurer, Corporate Secretary and WVS Communications Liaison, as well as a process for a future successor to the Westport Wave editor (Steve Brigham). Mr. Van Bueren noted that the Westport Wave mailing list is approximately 140 people. Mr. Van Bueren noted that the overall management of the Westport Village Society, as a 501 (c)(3) is important for continuity. (7:54 pm) Mr. Whitehouse noted that the original key interest of WVS formation was the land preservation for the Westport Headlands. Director Van Bueren provided an overview of the WVS organization and mission statement.

(8:00 p.m.). Upon summary on the current Board of Director the two open Director positions and the volunteering at this Meeting by Ms. Sheila Winslow (self-nominating) for the seventh WVS Director position, upon motion duly made (Wilcox) and seconded (Director Real), the Membership voted by acclamation and voice vote to appoint Mr. Sebastian Beck Regalia to a new full Director term and Ms. Sheila Winslow now appointed to fill the seventh Board of Director's seat for the period expiring on the end of the remaining term of former director/treasurer, Ms. Kayla Cooper. A concise and updated Director roster statement is expected be included for review and publication in such minutes of the upcoming WVS Regular Board Meeting scheduled for October 23, 2024.

5. Member Input and Open Forum (8:06 pm)

Mr. Whitehouse inquired about recent possible interest by WVS in a portion of the Siamex property currently for sale on the market. Mr. Knapp then opened up the floor to Member input and commentary. Discussion ensued regarding the favorable plan to re-institute the WVS Annual Ducky Race in springtime 2025. Members are in favor. Discussion regarding various possible community brunch events. Director Dorine Real expressed favor to move to monthly WVS meetings for Members and the public and continue with the quarterly Board of Directors business meetings. Mr. Jeffrey (Homer) Whitehouse expressed a view to have a Ducky Race, but not with a keen focus as a WVS fundraising activity and he provided past history

of the genesis of the Ducky Race. Director Real noted that the first person to organize and operate the Ducky Race was Darwin Thompson. Questions were asked and answered on various future WVS projects and events. (8:26 pm). Mr. Whitehouse suggested an update and discussion the status of Cahto Road and the role WVS in communicating the issues. Mr. Knapp provided a statement on the belief that WVS' Mission Statement included providing information to the WVS Area public and Members, but would not take a particular position or stand on the Cahto Road process. Additional information on Cahto Road processes was undertaken with questions asked and answered.

Adjournment.

The Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Robert D. Finnell, WVS Secretary

Westport Village Society a (501 (c)(3) organization.

Mission Statement: Supporting local charitable and educational projects and fostering the preservation and interpretation of the environment since 1992.