Minutes of the Inverness Ridge Association Board Meeting

September 10, 2022

Present: Ron Bennett, Ken Drexler (for discussion of road repaving project), Chris Eckert, Jennifer Howard, Leah Light, Julie Liss, Michael Ongerth, Tim Stanton, Jim Wagner, Patty Wimpfheimer

Absent: Sydne Bortel, Joe Burgess, Julie Merk, David Wilson

Minutes: Leah Light

The minutes of the meetings of July 9 and August 21, 2022 were approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Patty Wimpfheimer

Announcements: Those assembled thanked Jennifer Howard for hosting today’s meeting, the first in-person meeting of the Board since the start of the pandemic!

Road Repaving Project: Ken Drexler

Estimated costs provided by our consulting firm, ILS associates, are significantly higher than the 2021 estimates. Also, the company will be closing down and therefore will be unable to provide supervision of road repaving as it is carried out. Ken is consulting with other firms that might be able to work with us in this capacity. In addition, questions continue to be raised about the interest that the county will charge us, at present estimated at about 6.5%; this increase in interest rate will have a significant impact on the cost of the repaving project.

We are still hoping that the repaving can take place in 2022 but this depends on resolution of the issues noted above as well as on the weather—repaving cannot occur during cold wet weather. On the bright side, Mike Ongerth reported that culvert inspection had revealed that we only need to replace two culverts though some work will be needed on others.

A community meeting will be held about the repaving project when more concrete information is available as to dates and scope of work to be accomplished.

PRERAB: Michael Ongerth

Mike noted that if we cannot do the repaving project this year we will need to do some patching work on lower Drake’s View Drive and other parts of the road system; the cost of such work could be in the neighborhood of $60,000. The top layer of asphalt is degrading in some places, exposing the layer beneath to additional wear and tear. This is the season in which we would normally be seeking bids for annual maintenance work, but we are holding off until the repaving project timeline is clearer. When the repaving project is actually scheduled, residents will be given ample notice of the timing of work, including road closures that will impact traffic up and down Drake’s View Drive.

Emergency Preparedness Committee: Jennifer Howard

At present, the committee is focusing on identifying the numerous sources of information about emergency preparedness and response available in Marin county and on determining what several agencies or groups are doing with respect to these issues. There are several groups involved and it is not clear how they impact us or why we are represented in some but not others (e.g., the West Marin Disaster Council). The committee will meet with Elaine Wilkerson of Ready Marin on September 16; Ready Marin maintains an informative website and has funds available that may help us in various ways. On another front, David Wilson and Mike Ongerth met with state officials about vegetation management on lots that abut state parklands; they will help property owners obtain permits to enter state lands to clear vegetation in areas that border their properties though property owners will be responsible for costs. Also, the way has been cleared for vegetation management along some evacuation routes though that work will not commence immediately. Jennifer noted that grants are available through Measure C to help property owners with fire safety measures; the need to keep the community informed and to help property owners apply for funds was discussed.

Next Meeting

Date: November 12, 2022

Place: Zoom or outside at one of our homes if weather permits