



MONTE NIDO VALLEY



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



A Dark Sky Community

E-NEWSLETTER

Dec 2016/Jan 2017

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE

MNVCA Board seats voted on at Dec. 13, 2016 meeting

MNVCA Board officers elected at the Jan. 10 2017 meeting

Neighborhood road cleanup along Piuma and for Dec. 10 removed loads of trash just before the rains

A recommended gadget for keeping deer out of gardens

Minutes from Dec 2016 and Jan 2017 MNVCA Board meetings

MNVCA Board Elections at the Dec. 13, 2016 Meeting

As you will read in the Minutes from the Dec meeting, four current Board members were reelected. These include Carrie Baltin, Judy Goldin, Jill Reiss, and Mary Helen Young.

Gary Wooller, a stalwart Board member for several terms, requested he be replaced. Gary Bardovi was elected to replace Gary Wooller.

Many thanks to Gary Wooller for his service and his invaluable advice and efforts during the recent legal battles with a developer who was about to encroach on the backbone trail. Also a welcome and thanks to Gary Bardovi for stepping up to the task and his many years of past community service and leadership.

MNVCA Board Officers elected at the Jan. 10, 2017 Meeting

At the first meeting of the year, the members of the Board of MNVCA elect the officers of the Association. This year, Carrie Baltin was reelected president. Joan Slimocosky was reelected vice- president and Jill Reiss reelected secretary. Thanks to all of these for their continuing excellent service. Judy Goldin chose to step down from the treasurer position after many years of fulfilling that responsibility. Thanks to Judy for all her contributions and for agreeing to stay on the Board as a non-officer. Gary Bardovi was elected treasurer for 2017.

Thanks Gary for taking on that position.

Great Turn out for the Road Trash Pickup Saturday Dec. 10, 2016

Thanks to all the volunteers that came out on the last dry Saturday for a while on Dec. 10 to pick up trash along Piuma to Malibu Canyon Rd. The event was organized by Joan Slimocosky and she sends this report to the neighborhood:

“Some nineteen neighbors came out Saturday morning, December 10 to help clean our “mountain nest”. Old timers and young families alike donned florescent safety vests, grabbed trash bags and fanned out from the intersection of Piuma and Malibu Canyon. Approximately one and a half hours later, a mound of trash gave testimony to some hard work and community spirit. Thanks to: Bill and Susan Bischoff, John and Jane Cudworth, David and Tina Payne and their two young helpers, the Jacobsen family, Lisa Lehman, Heidi Stompe, Carol Ann, Steve and Beckett Braun, and Jo Powe. After the recent rain , it feels good to know all that trash didn’t end up in the ocean. Joan Slimocosky (organizer)”

If you are hiking along the roadways where trash are sometimes discarded, consider taking along a plastic bag and do some picking up as you stroll. This helps keeps our streets clean between neighborhood cleanup days.

A recommended Gadget for keeping deer out of gardens

See the addendum to this Newsletter for some details on a light device recommended by several in Monte Nido to scare away deer from their gardens. It is reported to work quite well.

MNVCA Membership Drive in Progress

You are welcome to join or renew membership (if lapsed) in Monte Nido Valley Community Association. The annual fee is only \$75 and it all goes to supporting Monte Nido neighborhood events and causes that keep

our community special. The address to send your membership form to is

**MNVCA at P.O. Box 8054, Calabasas
91372.**

Gary Bardovi, Treasurer

**When you join you can get a free
Monte Nido Community Directory put
together recently thanks to Cathy
Sieling. Email Carrie Baltin to arrange
to pick up your copy at
carrie@baltinassociates.com**

MNVCA Board Meeting Minutes – December 13, 2016

President Carrie Baltin called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM, at the home of Mary Helen Young.

Present from the Board: Carrie Baltin, Jane Cudworth, Judy Goldin, Joan Slimocosky, Sally Livingston, Mary Helen Young, Kara Kuipers, Tod Stobie, Ilda Jacobsen, Jill Reiss, Maria Ioan, Kim Creswick.

Present from the Community: Brent Baltin, Rodger Reiss, Gary Bardovi, Suze Randall.

Agenda: No changes

Treasurer: Judy Goldin reported.

The new Board liability insurance policy is in effect. The premium was less expensive than ever before. We carry a one million dollar policy with \$5000 retainer.

Both the July 4 and Square Dance events were profitable this year.

Old Business:

July 4 update – The Board went into Executive Session to discuss the situation.

Correspondence – none

Federation report – Joan Slimocosky reported.

She did not attend the last meeting in October.

The Parks Service 100th anniversary celebration was held on Nov 19. It was a very nice party at Malibu Lake with 152 people in attendance. The format was very relaxed with no formal speeches. The event was held mostly for grass roots activists.

The November election changed the composition of the Malibu City Council, which is now more pro-environment. Kim Lamorie is optimistic because of this new balance in the Council.

A big tree on Lot 7 has been trimmed. Kim Lamorie investigated. The Department of Pubic Works claims this is routine tree maintenance and they want to trim 1629 trees over next 2 months. Trimming will be done by West Coast Arborists, (certified arborists). The oaks are to be minimally treated for the health of the tree. But due to the drought, trees are in heavy distress. To insure it complies with the Oak Tree Ordinance in LCP, Kim wants to know what the exemptions and restrictions might be. Kim will be setting up a community meeting to address the concerns about doing this maintenance while the trees are under such stress.

Lot 7 development: No news except the builder told the owner of lot 6 that he would sell Lot 7 for \$300,000. He will have to comply with LCP. If anyone sees any suspicious activity, they should report it.

P-45: There was an amazing event for the community in support of P45. Sheila Kuehl says the bounty to shoot him and the kill permit have been cancelled and he will not be relocated. The aggrieved party now has an enclosure that was built and paid for by wildlife protection organizations. LA County is going to try to issue some ruling(s) to make it more difficult to get a kill permit.

Wildlife deterrence: Carrie has an ad for a light that will keep critters away. Foxlights.com
ian@foxlights.com

**MNVCA Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes
January 10, 2017 at the home of Carrie
Baltin**

Osgood update: Carrie called Nicole Englund, Sheila Kuehl's deputy. Vintage Development has removed Osgood as spokesperson and they are trying to find out what they need to do to comply with the LCP. They are trying to finish that investigation by end of 2016.

Trash pickup event: About 20 people showed up including 3 families with children. They cleaned along Piuma and Las Virgenes Roads. Lots of trash was collected.

Trash dumping that Tod Stobie reported on Next Door: No one has stepped up to claim or clean. We should put in newsletter that homeowners should not pay anyone to take their trash to the dump until they produce a receipt from the dump. Also everyone should be aware that you can get bulk pickup from our trash collectors (Universal Waste) 4x/year.

Human Waste along Mulholland: Defer discussion to next meeting pending new information.

New Business:

Board Elections: Gary Wooller has new work assignments taking too much of his time. He would like to be replaced. Gary Bardovi has volunteered to rejoin the Board as Treasurer. Gary has lived here since 1992, has been on the Board before and has served as President. Carrie Baltin, Judy Goldin, Jill Reiss, and Mary Helen Young are up for re-election. A motion to accept Carrie, Judy, Jill, Mary Helen, and Gary Bardovi as Board members from 2016 -2018 passed. Gary Wooller has been replaced.

Next meeting:

Jan 10, 2017 at Carrie Baltin's house. Officers of the Board will be elected at that time. There was unresolved discussion about some kind of installation dinner, possibly at The Old Place?

The meeting was adjourned 8:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Reiss
Secretary

Present from the Board: Carrie Baltin, Joan Slimocosky, Maria Ioan, Jane Cudworth, Alicia Gonzales, Jill Reiss, Ann Monahan, Ilda Jacobsen, Gary Bardovi, Tod Stobie, Kara Kuipers

Present from the Community: Suze Randall, Stephanie Abronson, and Jo Powe

Old Business:

Minutes from December 2016 Meeting: Approved as revised

Treasurer's Report: Judy Goldin reported – A motion was passed to make our annual donation of \$200 to Save Open Space (SEE).

Correspondence: none

Federation Report: Joan Slimocosky reported – The last gathering/meeting was the banquet at Malibou Lake. A report was received from Kim Lamorie that 95 acres (near Mulholland Hwy/Dry Canyon Cold Creek Road and Viewpoint School) that the Federation worked to save have been designated as public space. Sheila Kuehl and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy worked together to make this happen. Carrie Baltin will send an official letter of appreciation from MNVCA to Sheila Kuehl, cc: Nicole Englund. The letter will specifically thank Nicole for all her efforts on our behalf.

Officer Elections: Gary Bardovi and Jane Cudworth were nominated for Treasurer. Jane declined the nomination. Alicia will consider an officer position for next year. Gary was accepted as Treasurer by acclamation. All other Board Officers will retain their positions for another year (President: Carrie Baltin, Vice President: Joan Slimocosky, Secretary: Jill Reiss)

Lot 7: The Board went into Executive Session for discussion.

Vintage Development: The developer is engaged in due diligence. The project must comply with LCP. The Board went into Executive Session for further discussion.

New Business:

Winter Banquet: We need a committee to identify a location. Jane Cudworth and Tod Stobie will work together on this. A suggestion was to approach the new owner of Saddle Peak Lodge with a budget of \$35/person and consider a mid-week supper with a No-Host bar. The intention is to find some way to keep it local and affordable to encourage attendance.

Rondell Hotel: - Stephanie Abronson reported. Rondell is once again in planning stages. There are still no official plans for the property. It could become a hotel or storage facility. Stephanie found some Federal mandates about parking at trail heads. The National Park Service notified Calabasas on December 4, 2015 about the mandates but the City Council is ignoring it. Stephanie wants to attend a City of Calabasas meeting tomorrow night with backing from MNVCA to insist that they uphold the Federal mandates. Jo Powe suggests it would be better if someone from the US Federal Government makes this case to the City of Calabasas. Joan Slimocosky will call Kim Lamorie to see if she can reach out to Federal Government personnel. A motion was passed for MNVCA to supply Stephanie with a letter from the Board to the City of Calabasas stating that the community, representing 437 households, supports keeping the trailhead available for horses and trailers, and requesting that the developer be required to comply with the Federal Mandates.

Next Meeting: March 14, 2017 at Maria Ioan's home.

Adjourned: 8:45PM

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Reiss
Secretary

**The Next MNVCA Board Meeting will be on March 14, 2017 at the home of
Maria Ioan 25659 Whitemore Dr.
Members of the Community are invited and encouraged to attend the Board
meetings**

How to reach us:

**Send your email address to Jill Reiss, the MNVCA secretary, at
mnavcanewsletter@gmail.com, to receive announcements of meetings, community
activities, and the time and location of our Board meetings.**

**President: Carrie Baltin 818-224-4696
Vice Pres: Joan Slimocosky 818-591-1082
Treasurer: Gary Bardovi 818-222-0313
Secretary: Jill Reiss 818-222-1995**

**Contributions to the newsletter can be sent to the editor Mary Helen Young
at
youngsmh@earthlink.net**

Addendum to Newsletter follow below

**Light gadget recommended by some Monte Nido folks especially for keeping
deer out of the gardens:**

IMPROVING PROFITS\$

PROTECTING

LAMBS, KIDS, POULTRY
& VULNERABLE ANIMALS

AGAINST COYOTES WOLVES

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A NEW WAY TO PROTECT YOUR LIVESTOCK FROM NIGHT PREDATORS

Foxlights™ is an innovative and highly effective way to protect lambs, kids, poultry and other vulnerable animals from foxes and other night predators. Over 15,000 lights have been sold to satisfied customers across Australia in just 3 years. Foxlights™ are also now sold in Canada, the U.K., Europe, the U.S.A., South Africa and Argentina.

HOW IT WORKS ?

Developed by Ian Whelan, an Australian farmer to keep foxes from taking his lambs at night, "Foxlights" gives the perception of someone walking around the area with a flash light, thus keeping predators at bay. A computer chip on a power board with 9 LED bulbs creates a varying flash of blue and white with different time sequences. This will deter animals that are smart enough to know that a standard flashing light is just that.

FOXLIGHTS MAY NOT SUGGEST IN PREVENTING ALL ATTACKS.

KEY BENEFITS

- ★ The light is projected at 360 degrees and can be seen for a distance of 1 mile or 1.3 Kilometers.
- ★ Operates with a 5 volt battery, giving up to 12 months non-stop protection in all conditions.
- ★ A light sensor automatically turns the unit on at night and off at dawn.
- ★ Made using the highest grade materials.
- ★ Winner of the prestigious People's Choice award on the "New Inventors" show in Australia.
- ★ Easily mounted on 3 sided steel post, hung on a wire fence or on an overhanging tree branch.
- ★ Warranty of 12 months when used in conjunction with instructions.



COMMENTS FROM CUSTOMERS

THEY ARE FANTASTIC!!!! We were losing lamb after lamb to foxes. Since using the lights we haven't lost a lamb. And the ewes love them to as they sleep under the lights where they know they are safe. Thank you for a great invention. **Donna Haygath, Australia**

We believe that the Foxlights stopped the predator problem overnight. We installed them prior to lambing and they have been in operation ever since. We have found them to be an excellent night time deterrent. To date, we have not had a single predation loss in any of the fields which have had the Foxlights operating. We have had some serious losses in other fields that have had both electric fences and guardian dogs.

John and Eadie Steel, Norwood, Canada

I bought 2 Foxlights last year and put them in a 30 acre field with 200 lambing ewes. I don't think I lost any lambs to foxes and later in the year I lent the lights to a gamekeeper friend who used them around his pheasant pen. He agrees with me that the lights work well and I shall be ordering some more lights shortly.

Nick Rowe, Gloucestershire, UK

I have had the pleasure of using Foxlights first hand for our lambing, and we have experienced incredible results. Compared to other years this is a miraculous improvement. The property is alongside the local up so foxes are a constant problem, but thankfully with the foxlights in the tool kit we are confident that we can minimise the losses from foxes. A client at West Wyalong split a mob of ewes and measured 14% more favourable survival from using Foxlights compared to using Apicus.

**Marty Moses, Managing Director
Moses & Son, Westbankers, Australia**

For more information & testimonials visit : www.foxlights.com