

TOWNS OF FAIRFAX AND SAN ANSELMO
Minutes of the Joint Town Council Meeting of February 28, 1994

8:00 p.m.

Fairfax Mayor Steve Vanni introduced Fairfax Council Members Susan Brandborg, Frank Egger, Sue Peterson and Doug Wilson. San Anselmo Mayor Paul Chignell introduced San Anselmo Council Members Peter Breen, Jeff Kroot and Tim Yarish. San Anselmo Council Member Maria Zaharoff was not present.

Fairfax Mayor Vanni introduced Supervisor Hal Brown, who said the cooperation between the two towns is great.

OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION.

Sandra Selinger, Marin Releaf, stressed the importance of Arbor Day, Monday, March 7. She said it is an opportunity to look at the trees we have and stress pruning on town properties. This gives residents the feeling that the towns are well-cared for. She presented pruning shears to both mayors.

Barbara Schmidt, 59 Austin, San Anselmo, encouraged everyone to take responsibility for their own properties now that spring is here.

Bob Ferroggiaro, 120 Laurel, San Anselmo, is a smoking advocate and said that people are challenging smoking ordinances. There may be some new technology making cigarettes less damaging.

1. PRESENTATION OF GREEN PLANNING PROCESS - PRESENTATION BY PEGGY LAUER OF THE RESOURCE RENEWAL INSTITUTE.

Ms. Lauer said the Institute is looking for ideas to solve environmental problems, save resources and save money. The Green Planning process is a comprehensive and integrated approach to change old ways and use new ways with new technology. Green Planning seeks a long term solution to environmental problems. This is already working in several other countries. The Institute would like to see a Green Plan in each of the 50 states.

Keith Ural, Fairfax/San Anselmo Greens, said that a Seattle mayor took action in this area and developed a similar, long-range plan.

Bob Ferroggiaro, 120 Laurel Ave, San Anselmo, questioned how an energy cut of 20% was made in California by the State government.

John Scott, Ross Town Council, said there is a new regulation in California regarding gasoline components that doesn't really do what it's intended to do.

2. OPEN SPACE ISSUES - PRESENTATION BY OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE, TOWN OF SAN ANSELMO.

Lise Stampfli Torme reported that the Open Space Committee current issues are preservation of Bald Hill and maintaining trail access. They would like to see towns work together to lock in access.

Jonathan Braun presented the Open Space Master Plan map showing joint concerns for both Towns, specifically Bald Hill and the Hawthorn area, on shared boundary lines. San Anselmo is currently in the process of obtaining some property on Bald Hill, in an unprecedented cooperative effort. He said there is an advantage to have desired open space acquisitions planned ahead, so that when they become available no time is lost.

San Anselmo Council Member Tim Yarish elaborated on complex negotiations taking place in San Anselmo with three property owners who have ridge property. They are presently interviewing a consultant to assist.

3. RESTORATION OF CREEKS - PRESENTATION BY PHIL GORNY,
PLANNING DIRECTOR, FAIRFAX.

Fairfax Planning Director Gorny said they have applied for grant money to help with creek problems, including flooding and bank erosion. With the grant money they could rehabilitate the creeks. The grant is for \$200,000 and they will hear the result in two months. If they're not successful, they'll try again next year. He will also look into other funding sources. This project will be sponsored by Volunteers for Fairfax, and it makes sense for both towns to work together. Fairfax and San Anselmo staff should get together to discuss.

Linda Christman, Fairfax Town Administrator, that a data collection study has been done on Corte Madera Creek by the State Water Resources Board and the results can be made available to the towns. There is lots of volunteer interest in the creek, so it is an ideal time to take on the project.

Michael Watkins, 174 Pine Street, said the success of a project like this is based on public support. This is an opportunity for the Ross Valley to work together and accomplish something.

David Sondheim, Drake High Teacher, said there is a lot of interest in this area. He has 100 students ready and able to volunteer to help.

Keith Ural, Fairfax/San Anselmo Greens, said he started to develop a creek project with Sondheim's students, but funding was an obstacle. He would like to stay in touch with this, perhaps sit on a committee.

John Scott, Ross Town Council, said Ross appreciates efforts that have been made to control gravel problems, as it all washes down to their area.

Fairfax Council Member Frank Egger said that fishery restoration should be part of any creek restoration project.

San Anselmo Council Member Tim Yarish proposed San Anselmo put together a citizen's committee to work on this, hopefully with help from Drake and students. It was agreed to put it on the next agenda in San Anselmo.

4. THE ROSS VALLEY FIRE SERVICE BUDGET - PRESENTATION BY
EXECUTIVE LINDA CHRISTMAN, ROSS VALLEY FIRE SERVICE
OFFICER.

Linda Christman, Executive Officer of the Ross Valley Fire Service, presented the 1993-1994 budget. The total budget is \$2,288,901. Personnel costs are a matter of concern as there has been more overtime due to injuries. Christman said the Fire Service will need to look at different financing sources, like development fees, assessment district, etc. The budget is down to bare bones and the revenue problem needs to be enhanced significantly. Several suggestions were made concerning Sleepy Hollow's contribution and participation of Oak Manor. Should Southern Marin decide to consolidate their fire service, we might need to look for alternate ways to fund our paramedics as well.

5. OPPORTUNITIES FOR COOPERATION CONCERNING YOUTH SERVICES
LINDA CHRISTMAN, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, FAIRFAX, AND KATE
HACKER OF "CAMPAIGN FOR A HEALTHIER COMMUNITY FOR
CHILDREN.

Christman reported that she met with local school principals, who were all interested in more after school activities. The middle and high school principals were very interested in having training type job opportunities for their students. They also suggested a skateboard park, which could be a liability problem. She reported that in spite of limited

budgets, both towns are doing a remarkable job in this area, citing especially the artist-in-residence program.

Kate Hacker, Campaign for a Healthier Community for Children, talked about what they are doing with older kids, including a music mentor program and frequent dances. The music mentor program pairs older teens with younger musicians and has been successful. The Campaign will host a Community Talent Show March 18, and youth concerts are ongoing.

Low Tremaine, Fairfax, presented a survey of Drake students done by a college student. The survey shows what kids would like to have in their towns for something to do. He knows there is \$3,000 left from the previous Teen Center effort, and would like to see this money spent for teens in San Anselmo and Fairfax. He would like to see a joint committee formed out of the two town's Park and Recreation Departments to deal with this issue. Tremaine would like to address each Town Council individually and go over the issues.

Dorothy Hughes, Campaign for a Healthier Community for Children, endorsed Tremaine's suggestion and said it is a good time to get something like this started.

Susan Brandborg, Fairfax Town Council, mentioned that Drake is opening their student center on March 3, and the towns should really support this effort

Peter Breen, San Anselmo Town Council, said that kids should be included on any committee. He'd like to see this issue on the San Anselmo agenda.

Hobart Bartshire, previously on Park & Recreation Committee, said the Pavilion is a great place but the sound is terrible.

Jean Jung, Fairfax, said there isn't enough for middle school kids to do. A skateboard park would be great. It would be great if they could get reduced rents on local facilities so they could hold dances more often. She also mentioned that the towns should attempt to schedule community meetings so they don't conflict with other meetings.

Keith Ural, Fairfax/San Anselmo Greens, said he would like to help with soundproofing the Pavilion.

6. IT'S TIME FOR A PARK, PRESENTATION BY MIKE SHEA, CHAIRPERSON.

Mike Shea said his project encompasses all of the above goals, in its effort to get the Marin Town and Country Club back for public use. There is an issue on the June ballot, Proposition 180, and, should it pass, the project could receive \$500,000 in matching funds. At this point the property owners are willing to negotiate a sale. Residents have been polled to see what facilities they'd like at the park: swimming pool, sports court, community center, therapy pool. Both the San Anselmo Town Council and Open Space Committee support this effort. Perhaps the Park and Recreation Commissions could work together. Should Proposition 180 pass, there is a very good chance that a sale can be put together with some creative financing.

Item 7 (Garbage/West Marin Landfill Issues) and Item 8 (Ridgeline Development) on the agenda were put off until the next joint meeting due to time restraints. The meeting was adjourned at 10:35.

Debbie Stutsman