

FINAL FORM

MINUTES – BELLAVITA COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE meeting

08JUN2010

This was a regularly-scheduled meeting of the Committee – **SECOND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH, 11:30, CLUBHOUSE.**

MEMBERS PRESENT – Kelley Paterno, Bob Stockinger, Thordean Campbell, Jan Ireland, Chairman Scott Vaughan, Ex-Officio Nancy Triggs.

MEMBERS ABSENT – Sarah Barnett (trip); Board Contact Bill Burdick (illness).

CALL TO ORDER – Chairman Scott Vaughan

MINUTES – from prior meeting 10MAY2010, which Secretary Jan Ireland had electronically circulated for corrections, were officially adopted.

(Member Thordean Campbell should be added to Bill's email list.)

OLD BUSINESS

Advertising Directory

Nancy presented the idea to the Board; approved. Bill has given several business cards to Nancy. The ads will go onto a separate page on the website, which Nancy will build. DISCLAIMERS will be prominently displayed, as advertisers will NOT be restricted to those businesses or individuals BellaVita residents themselves have used and recommend. Several vendors in the past have asked about advertising to our community. Money collected will go to defraying some costs of the Clubhouse. Nancy will complete the page as soon as possible but is dealing right now with several facilities projects that are ongoing.

Gates

650 copies of the Gate information pamphlet will be printed, and Block Captains will be utilized to distribute the packets. Carol Barber of the Community Relations Committee is expected to have a Hurricane pamphlet to add to the distribution. No other items have been identified for distribution at present.

Some discussion of “permanently” closing the gates has occurred in the past. HOWEVER, we are at least one year away from shutting the gates permanently, and the final decision to do so has NOT been made. Concerns include the extensive wear and tear on the gates if they are accessed on a twenty-four hour basis, as well as the substantial inconvenience of having to individually admit all of the normal traffic of visitors, repairmen, delivery men, etc. during the day. The “barrier” arm has been down several times.

Kelley will be available until July 2nd, and hopes to have the Block Captain dispersal complete before then. Block Captains will be asked to come to a BRIEF meeting at the Clubhouse on June 22 at 11:00, at which they will pick up the packets for distribution and be able to ask any questions they need to at the time. (The Clubhouse is needed, as the maximum occupancy of the Arts and Crafts Room is 40.) Setup should be for 7 at two tables in the front, and approximately 50 chairs in the audience. No refreshments are planned at this BRIEF meeting. Plans will be finalized among members for preparing the packets, but at this time plans are to have members meet at the Clubhouse at 10:00 to assemble the packets. (Some preparatory work will be done beforehand by individual members to minimize the time needed to

assemble the packets.) (Nancy is not available that particular day.) Scott will call Carol to finalize the hurricane info to be distributed.

New Residents

Carol Barber Uran spoke with Scott. The Community Relations Committee is working on a new homeowner welcoming packet which they will distribute, possibly along “Welcome Wagon” lines. They would like to be kept updated on the current list of Block Captains, and will include Block Captain information in the packets they distribute. Kelley will certainly do this, and also will give any new resident info she becomes aware of to the Community Relations Committee. Kelley gets her new resident info from Nancy, as well as any other sources she can access through personal contacts – and scrupulously maintains an updated roster. Kelley, our Database Lady, sees the effort as cooperative. At any rate, “welcoming” is now off our Communications Committee radar.

NEW BUSINESS

Strategic Planning Workshop – Scott will attend the Workshop this Saturday. He shared Kelley’s list of important issues. Included were:

mentoring of younger residents so that they are aware of how much work long-term volunteers are doing, and so that they will be ready to step in when those who have worked so long need to step down

investigating ways a cell phone can be utilized to open the gate remotely (not possible at this time, though the device/technology exists to do so – Scott will investigate by checking Radio Shack, Centurion Alarm, Fry’s for a workaround)

lightning strikes, which to Kelley seem excessive in our area (Scott has in the past been part of an investigation into exactly that subject and reports that no evidence exists to say that one area can be more prone than another; the answer is certainly installation of lightning rods, dispersal units if needed)

computer training for those unfamiliar with computers, focusing on new residents but not forgetting those who have here a while – Nancy reports that interest wanes at times; two computers are not currently functioning (that info has been turned into the Clubhouse Committee, but Nancy does not know when they will be replaced), small group training, even one on one, might be best; Scott will discuss that issue with Carol also. Nancy suggested developing a sign-up form to let those who are interested indicate that they want to take a class, and forming a class on that basis. Kelley always had anyone she was training write down what she taught them in their own handwriting, so that later they could refer to and interpret their own notes.

Transportation to local shopping, pharmacies for those no longer able to drive. Nancy pointed out the extreme liability that can attach if BellaVita sponsors such activity officially. Interfaith Caring Ministries (there is a Bay Area Chapter in Clear Lake) does a great deal in this area. Bill has the business card of someone you can pay to shop for you. Getaways – Harris County bus – is a pay as you go system. (Nancy urges that we keep in mind we are an Active Adult community, not an assisted living community.)