

## **San Marcos Association**

Minutes From The Meeting Of October 19, 2000

The meeting was called to order at 7:10pm by President Donna Herring. Also in attendance were Hugh, Linda, Walt, Alexis, and new board member Bill Rodriguez, who was unanimously voted in. Donna and Hugh mentioned new donations to the SMA, and Donna informed everyone that she had written a letter of thanks to a particularly generous donor who had sent \$100.

In order to bring Linda, Hugh, and Bill up to date on what had been previously discussed at the September 20th meeting, the following topics were discussed:

Discussion about SMA representation at the next RAC meeting; Alexis agreed to attend since she had been unable to attend meeting for the month of October. Members were informed that Fritz Ireland is in fact not representing himself as a SMA member.

Discussion about possible installation of a radio tower in Cerrillos. Hugh agreed to investigate further.

Walt described the meeting he and Helen attended for the Route 14 Corridor Study held in Cedar Crest regarding connecting I-25 to Highway 14. Helen and Walter had suggested using 22, which would benefit our local tourism, since residents beyond Golden are vehemently opposed to a connection route through their neighborhood. Those residents are not at all interested in becoming a "bedroom community" for Intel or any other industry. It was commented upon that the Highway Department, however, is not interested in using 22 as the possible connecting route.

Linda asked about possible medians installed on Hwy. 14, which seem inappropriate for the area. A roundabout had been suggested as an alternative. Alexis and Archie had written a letter to Parsons Brinkerhoff, Inc., cc: Ted Garcia at the State Highway Department, and Donald Simpson the Environmental Expert in Dallas with SMA's suggestions for a roundabout as well as voicing our concern that the Highway Department take into account all the old growth trees and vegetation when they expand the road.

Walt read a letter he wrote to Pete Domenici voicing the SMA's disapproval of his quashing Tom Udall's bill HR 1970 to protect local archeological sites. The letter will be included in the upcoming SMA newsletter, with room for response from Mr. Domenici, should he decide to reply.

The ATV trespassing incident from a few months ago was discussed. Still only one response so far, a letter in July from Mr. Powell, Public Land Commissioner. No communication from them, nor from the Sheriff's Department, the Governor's office, or the Attorney General.

There was a lengthy discussion about WAP, with the group deciding to focus the majority of its energy on stopping the mine. Hugh stated that he wrote an article about WAP for the upcoming newsletter, and he also mentioned that any newsletter recipient who accesses the SMA web page could click onto a link that would give them direct notification of any upcoming meetings, as well as any other pertinent information related to WAP. The newsletter's primary focus will be on WAP. Donna will write a letter to the CDRC voicing SMA's vehement disapproval of the mine. It was commented upon that the journalist who covers topics in our area, Elena Vereda or Vasquez, was interested in writing an article about WAP but apparently the New Mexican was not interested. It was mentioned that The Reporter is better suited to tackle challenging and controversial subjects.

Hugh mentioned the possibility of sending out newsletters 4 times a year, which would cost approximately \$400-500 per mailing. He suggested that the best way to help the RCA in its fight against WAP is to encourage readers to make their donations directly to the RCA, thus taking advantage of their tax-deductible status. The SMA agreed to donate \$250 to them. The SMA's bank balance is about \$2548.

Walt brought up the noise and traffic from the parties being held at Eaves Ranch. Suggestions were made to research their license and permits, the noise ordinance, safety issues, etc. Helen has not at this time called the Land Use Department to find out what they are permitted to do, but Hugh will check into it.

Other topics discussed:

- Continued conversation about WAP, and the question from Linda on how best to proceed. Possible combative measures and other comments regarding WAP included:
- Attending CDRC and BCC meetings and all that involves; details on meeting procedures and behaviors of our illustrious County Commissioners.
- Encouraging Realtors who show property out here to attend BCC meetings and oppose WAP because of the potential loss of taxes should properties devalue.
- Destruction of the park's appeal and loss of tourism dollars.
- Comments that Dickie Montoya has 40+ lots available for sale on Gold Mine Road, as well as another 1000+ which would all have an unpleasantly clear view of the mine.
- It was mentioned that Richard the Realtor said he had called the county who told him that making 20,000 gallons of effluent water available to WAP would be no problem for them.
- Turquoise Trail Association should attend BCC and CDRC meetings to represent local businesses; Helen, who is a member, was mentioned in absentia as a possible attendee.
- Hugh suggested asking newsletter readers to submit mine opposition letters to the SMA if they are unable to attend any CDRC or BCC meetings.
- SMA President Donna Herring will represent the SMA at any meetings.
- Minimal gain in gross receipts vs. substantial loss in property taxes if properties devalued

Walt discussed revised trail plan by Leslie Ellis for COLPAC which would break possible trails into 5 acre sections. Individuals or organizations who find owners interested in selling could receive 10% of the appraised value. He offered the idea to SMA for consideration.

The collision of a propane tanker with an automobile on CR 44, and the blocking off of the road for 10 hours to local residents, brought up the flaws in the county's road plans. After the WAP battle is finished, SMA needs to focus on the lack of county planning.

Hugh discussed local radio station which offers road advisories and emergency information which lets motorists know what's going on. Who is responsible? The County? The city of Santa Fe? Chamber of Commerce?

Another bond is coming up making more money available for open space. Walt suggested considering smaller area possibilities, such as 5 acre parcels, for our neighborhood. Linda mentioned the owners of 400+ acres (including Mt. Chalchihuidl) is for sale.

Motion to adjourn was made by Walt at 8:35PM and seconded by Hugh.