

TOWN OF COCHITI LAKE  
MINUTES OF TOWN MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2008  
FIRE HALL

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Assembly members in attendance were Ken Kiesling, Mary Ann Closson, Freda Donica. Jan Lackey was excused and Anthony Da Silva absent.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mary Ann Closson moved to approve the agenda as presented.

**It was seconded by Freda Donica and passed with a 3 to 0 vote.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mary Ann Closson moved to approve the minutes of 01/30/2008.

**It was seconded by Ken Kiesling and passed with a 2 to 0 vote with 1 abstention.**

**II. TOWN COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**1. Administrator Reports**

Mary Wheeler stated that the road project is underway. The contract is with CCDC Construction Services. The total cost for the road improvement is \$63,518.50 to blow out and reseal all cracks, to grade Koorani and put a culvert. Bumps in road from tree roots will be flattened out in front of the Fire Hall. 2 items were rejected from the proposal, speed bumps and signage. The project is scheduled to be complete within 45 days of the onset.

Mary explained that George Anson has been very instrumental in suggesting that we get 6-gallon cans as dog stations. They will be strategically placed throughout the Town and painted by the children from Cochiti Elementary School.

The swimming pool next to the C- Store has been leveled or taken out. Copies of the proposed budget is available for 2008 – 2009 year. Budget hearing dates are set and all are welcome to attend. As soon as danger of frost is over, flowers will be planted thanks to the Art Guild for their donation. Fibby is back in the mailroom sitting on her eggs. Please do not startle her. Mary thanked all the people who take the time to come into Town Hall with positive attitudes about the Assembly and the direction they are taking for the Town. There were concerns and suggestions from some residents about speed bumps, speeding and dog stations.

**2. Art Guild**

Mavis Holiday represented the Art Guild and stated that at their last meeting they elected new officers for the coming year. The new officers are Grace Carey, President, Marge Knightly-Vice President, Colleen Jones-Secretary and Helen Kennedy- Treasurer. The Art Guild is looking forward to upcoming events, which include, Art Show, White Elephant Sale and Silent Auction. The Art Guild

encourages anyone who appreciates the arts to become a member. Dues for membership is \$3.00. The Art Guild holds meetings the first Tuesday of each month at 7p.m. and all are welcome to attend.

### **3. Beautification, Memorial Park**

Barb Hinnenkamp spoke on behalf of the committee stating that the Art Guild donated \$300.00 and the Community Fund donated \$100.00 for the planting of an Autumn Ashe in memory of Fritz Kreis. Barb stated that it was a very healing experience. Connie Reynolds will contact Nan Stackhouse, a historical figure in Town who can identify the trees in the park and for whom they have been planted. The committee wants Pecos rock to place at every tree with the name of the person they were planted for. Jenny Pridgen donated a Heron that will be decorated with flowers all around it. The daylily bed will be enlarged and the middle of the park will have a water feature. Lukas Garrett has been pruning, clipping and getting the back of the park open and clean. The committee has organized a clean-up day for Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, and May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Everyone is encouraged to come by and lend a hand.

### **4. Community Fund**

Jacque Cooper represented the committee stating that they have a big fundraiser in July and again in September. The committee elected new members who are Marge Knightly, Helen Kennedy, Willie Ryan, who will replace Jacque Cooper, Betty Kahalekulu and Andy Metal. All the new members were congratulated and wished well. All meetings for the Community Fund are open to the public and will be posted.

### **5. Disaster Response Planning**

No report was given.

### **6. Election Board**

Bill Knightly represented the Election Board stating that the new year has begun with a new member, Willie Ryan who took over Freda Donica's place on the Board. The Board handled the election for the Community Fund and went very smoothly with no problems at all, 75 votes were cast. The Election Board will spend time reviewing the Bylaws.

### **7. Fire Department**

Mike Whyte spoke on behalf of the Fire Department stating that as of Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> the Fire Department has had 137 medical calls, 52 transports, 19 fire calls, 6 automobile fires, 9 structure fires, 3 brush fires, 1 carbon monoxide call. 3-year refresher course for CEVO (Certified Emergency Vehicle Operator). The Fire Department has 3 new EMTs, 1 member in Fire Fighter One training and a new member who is a qualified Fire Fighter Trainer from Illinois. The Assembly thanked the Fire Department for all they do.

## **8. Friends of Cochiti Lake**

Nan Stackhouse spoke for the committee and stated that the Chautauqua programs scheduled for the fall were Houdini and Lena Horne who were great but without enough attendance. Nan worked real hard to get Chuy Martinez who she heard at the Historical Society. Friends of Cochiti Lake decided to get more attendance at the performances they needed to inform everyone in Town. They took the time, effort, and money to buy stamps and mail every resident. It was helpful, however only 43 attended the program. The committee will again send programs to all residents for the upcoming events on Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Labor Day. Nancy Hart spoke and stated that Friends of Cochiti Lake have had 4 quarterly meetings and next meeting to be held in July. To be a member of Friends all is needed is to show up at the meetings. Friends of Cochiti Lake own the platforms and the canopy, which is used for all concerts. A big stage band with 65 members is scheduled for the Fourth of July. Holy Water and Whiskey will be performing in May for Memorial Day and in the fall Raising Cain will be performing. Friends of Cochiti Lake are a 5013-C who can allocate funds, and are always in need of volunteers.

## **9. Hospitality**

Marge Knightly spoke and stated that new residents receive a welcome box filled with information on the Town, safety advice and a Cochiti Lake license plate. Suggestions were needed to inform the Hospitality Committee of new residents.

## **10. Joint Commission**

Jim Hamilton stated that he and Lukas Garrett are honored to be part of the Joint Commission. The Joint Commission meets the last Monday of the month. Governor, Joseph E. Suina, Lt. Governor, Andrew Quintana and Richard Pecos, Pueblo Administrator along with Jim Hamilton and Lukas Garrett have met twice since reconvening. Jim stated that the Zoning and Architectural Committees had some conflicts on who has what responsibility. Major issues that are going to be addressed are the relationships between the Architectural Committee that is part of CCDC and the Board of Zoning Adjustments that is appointed by the Town Assembly. Jim stated that they are working on a procedure with CCDC, Architecture, and Zoning to clarify on where, when and how permits are obtained. The first meeting was very clear on setting priorities and on how issues came to the Joint Commission. Citizens and Citizen groups cannot send information to the Joint Commission to be discussed. The places the informational and discussion points would come from is Town Assembly, Pueblo De Cochiti and the Administrators from CCDC. If a Citizen or a Town Group or Committee wants to discuss matters with the Joint Commission it must go through the Assembly first. Ground rules were set at the first meeting and an agenda was set for the second meeting. The second meeting included Zoning and Architectural discussion. Discussion of the IT Fund and the presentation of a Master Plan. Every five years a master plan is drawn up. The Joint Commission is very interested in the New Mexico Main Street project, specifically the Fire House.

Funding was an issue for the new Fire House. If a new Fire House were put on an acre, funding would then come from State, County sources. So what would happen is the Fire House would be deeded to the Town and the Town would be the funding agency for the County. Details have not been finalized. The Fire Department has had several conversations with the Pueblo De Cochiti Governor regarding the issue. Jim also states that the five members of the Pueblo are very forthcoming and honest about what their concerns are. Lukas Garrett also spoke on behalf of the Joint Commission stating that things are looking much more positive and the Pueblo has been in contact with Qwest on the installation of T1's to the Pueblo the Town and to the Golf Course at no expense to either. Mayor Kiesling and the Assembly thanked Jim and Lukas for all their hard work and effort.

### **11. Library**

Mary Badarak opened by saying that in February the Irene Sweetkind Library was awarded a grant from the State Library in the amount of \$2,530.00 with a matching grant to buy computer equipment to begin working on the Archiving project. Some items bought with the grant were a scanner and printer. Mary has a team of volunteers who help with the Archiving process. On April 11 2008 Mary reported to the State Library and New Mexico Library Association Conference about the Archiving Project and was met with positive response. Irene Sweetkind Public Library continues to grow with more than 1100 registered members. Mary stated that the new drop box is a great success. Lockers are another idea in the works, the web site is up and ready to reserve and check out materials.

### **12. Recycling**

Jim Hamilton represents the Recycling Group and states the recycling is going great with 16 to 20 volunteers. 30% to 35% of the community is recycling. There is revenue of \$220.00 from the sale of aluminum. This money goes to Community Fund for recycling expenses. Jim thanked everyone who participates in recycling. Recycle station is open on Saturday's.

### **13. Rock and Mineral**

Nan Stackhouse represented the Rock and Mineral Club stating that the trip to Ghost Ranch had to be canceled due to the six people who signed up did not show for the trip. Originally each member of the club would be responsible for one trip a year as opposed to having meetings, which worked out great. Since the last scheduled trip there has not been any communication within the club to further discuss or to plan more trips.

### **14. Zoning**

No report was given.

### **15. New Mexico Main Street**

Barb Hinnenkamp explained the New Mexico Main Street is an arm of National Organizations Federally funded in Washington. It is directed towards mentoring

rural communities to recreate themselves. There are 23 programs in the State of New Mexico. All smaller communities that have decaying main streets get the support of Urban Planners, Landscape Architects and the Economic Department of the State to access State money to redevelop the community. The Town of Cochiti Lake applied for and received a 1-year grant. The grant is for a Conceptual Design for a Community Center. There was a sight visit complete with home baked goods for the meeting. On May 8<sup>th</sup> there will be a meeting for the showing of preliminary plans of the conceptual designs. Joseph Suina allowed the committee to have their meeting in the clubhouse at no cost. Things are progressing along just fine from a year ago.

### **III. TOWN HALL REPORTS**

Mary Ann Closson thanked all committees for all their hard work and effort.

Freda Donica reported that there is a coward in our community. Slanderous and libelous, and salacious letters were written about some people in our community. The latest cowardly act is a hold that was put on the mail of the Assembly and two other people. This is a Federal crime and has been turned over to the Federal Authorities and is being investigated by Federal Law Enforcement. Freda suggests if anyone has any information on this matter to come forward now before it's too late.

Mayor Kiesling reported in brief about the letters being circulated. He also reported on the great work and volunteerism from all committees. As a result of the efforts of everyone on the committees makes it easier in terms of what we need to do personally and daily for the Town. Mayor Kiesling thanked all volunteers and committees for all their hard work and commitment. He also welcomed Freda Donica before the Town as a member of the Assembly again. Freda has a lot of experience of working on the Assembly and working on other capacities for the Town, so she brings a lot to the table to assist the Assembly. She has a positive vision that allows the Assembly to incorporate her current insight. Mayor Kiesling suggested potlucks for quarterly Town meetings to make them more friendly, and asked for other suggestions.

### **IV. ADJOURNMENT**

Mary Ann Closson moved to adjourn the meeting.

**It was seconded by Freda Donica and passed with a 3 to 0 vote.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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Kenneth Kiesling, Mayor

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Annette Narvaiz, Town Clerk

