

**GLEN ELLEN TOWN MEETING
MAYFLOWER HALL
OCTOBER 21, 2016 3:00PM**

MEETING MINUTES

I. COMMENCING AT 3:10PM

Present at the meeting were Leslie Vaughn, Jim Shere, and Guests Supervisor Susan Gorin and District Director Pat Gilardi. Also in attendance were Rick Snow, Teresa Murphy, BJ Blanchard, Barney Watkins, Dave Stock, George Psaledakis, Leela Hutchison, Angela Morgan, Charles Mikulik, Mary Ann Carr, Nancy Lasseter, Becky Ross, Brad & Dolores Meyer, Stephen Brett, Tracy Salcedo, Mary Kate Carter, Eric Hunt, Arthur Dawson, Anne Teller, Cherie Brasslet, Steven Lee, Elisa Stancil Levine, Pat Stevens, and Alec Peters. Several minutes were set aside beforehand and ten minutes into the hour, to get to know your neighbors.

II. WELCOME

Leslie & Jim welcomed everyone for coming to this first gathering to "meet and greet your neighbors" for the start of a co-creative series, about our hopes and our concerns, our intent, as a voice for the future of Glen Ellen as a community, in the county, and state. Thank you, Pastor Jim Hill and the Glen Ellen Community Church for the use of this hall, and the Glen Ellen Historical Society who is hosting this meeting and has offered to pay the \$50 rental fee. In order to help offset the rental fee, a jar has been placed at the entrance for the collection of donations. Any contribution will be appreciated. We are volunteers and there are no "funds" to speak of to draw from so please consider the opportunity of hosting a future meeting.

III. INITIAL VISION STATEMENT - COMMUNITY BASED CHANGE BEGINS WITH YOU

Jim shared a paragraph of Supervisor Gorin's wonderfully written Board Walk column in the Sonoma Valley Sun, "Community Based Changes Begins with You", inspired our Vision Statement. "We want to send out a call for Community Based Change. Change that begins within ourselves, our neighborhoods, our parks, and on our streets. While it is true we can't change the world, we can positively change our part of it."

IV. COLLABORATION

Leslie asked for everyone to please either mute, set to vibrate, or turn the volume down so as to be respectful of the time and commitment we are all allocating to this task. Index cards were provided to collect contact information from those attending and hopes/concern/intent for this forum. Today's meeting was initially scheduled to be a handful of people meeting with Supervisor Gorin, Leslie, and Jim, however, Leslie opened it up to whoever could attend on short notice. This meeting will be repeated to allow for other to meeting the community and hear what we would like to do. The people

here today are your contemporaries/partners/co-creators, and are as much a part of the community as each of us. The intent of this meeting is to bring us together to identify our issues, concerns, hopes, and ideas. We want to be clear that our approach be collaborative; to honor the past while moving forward into the future. People are passionate about topics that move them, it's important that you have the opportunity to be heard, and to come together as a group to reach a consensus. Those who share the interest of a particular issue can volunteer to work collectively on a committee on that issue and report back to the group at the following meeting. At today's meeting we are interested in connecting together and making a list of the topics for future discussion. We are not attempting to come to any resolutions today. For the future, if we notice that a topic is getting too heated, we will take a break and return to it later. In the end, all decisions are made by ballot.

V. HISTORY

Jim reviewed the history of Glen Ellen. Starting in 1839 Gen. Vallejo built his sawmill in the heart of Jack London Village. In 1858 Col. Charles Stuart established his ranch, Glen Ellen, named after his wife. The Post Office was established in 1872, known as Lebanon at the time, with a population of 200. To avoid confusion, Col. Stuart changed the name of the ranch to Glen Oaks, and the village to Glen Ellen. During the 1880s, two railroads brought tourists and settlers. By 1901, Glen Ellen became a township, established by the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, including the entire valley from Sonoma to Rincon Valley. In 1904, the Glen Ellen Improvement Club (later renamed the Glen Ellen Woman's Club) was established to promote the general welfare. The Glen Ellen Association, formed in 1988, produced the Glen Ellen Town Plan to provide standards for future development. Two years later, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors adopted the "Glen Ellen Development and Design Guidelines" based on the Town Plan. In 2002, over 200 concerned Glen Ellenites braved an unusual spring downpour to come together at Dunbar School for an extraordinary meeting. The Glen Ellen Town Forum was designed to be a catalyst for building community, to air concerns, express dreams and develop a collective vision for our town's future. A 14-page report was drafted from that meeting. We recommend reading these two documents, the 1990 "Glen Ellen Development and Design Guidelines" and the 2002 Glen Ellen Town Forum report, to know what has already been said. The 1990 Guidelines are available online at http://www.sonoma-county.org/prmd/docs/divpages/glen_ellen_ladg.pdf, and the 2002 report is attached.

The villages of the Valley of the Moon—the Springs, Glen Ellen, and Kenwood— remain unincorporated to this day, and the township established a century ago has been forgotten. Wikipedia tells us Glen Ellen is an unincorporated census-designated place with a population of 784 in 2010, down from 992 in 2000. In comparison, Kenwood is an unincorporated census-designated place with a population of 1028 in 2010.

VI. WHO LIVES HERE

Jim spoke about the individuals, families, and different groups that make up the population of Glen Ellen: There are the altruistic workers at SDC who came to care for the most severely disabled people in California; the skilled and visionary artists, writers and musicians that have come to work in the world Jack London found; those who make

up our agricultural industry—our vineyards and our wineries, our orchards and gardens where our celebrated restaurants are sourced, and our horse ranches; those of us in the hospitality industry, who care for our guests; those who have just arrived, drawn to the Valley of the Moon of their dreams— an elegant, tranquil, bucolic rural area; and those who fear they will have to leave the Glen Ellen they remember, or who fear the Glen Ellen they remember is gone.

There are many social and service organizations here, focusing upon different local concerns: Glen Ellen Fire Department, Dunbar School PTO, Glen Ellen Community Church, Glen Ellen Historical Society, Jack London State Historic Park, Lions Club, Rotary Club, and Native Sons (& Daughters) of the Golden West.

VII. COMMUNICATION

And there are a few new places where communication is being promoted: Glen Ellen Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/glenellenCA/?fref=ts>, The Glen Ellen

Journal (Anthony Crowe): <http://glenellenjournal.com/> and the email smartphone app “Nextdoor Glen Ellen & Warm Springs”: glenellenwarmsprings.nextdoor.com.

VIII. CONNECTIVITY

Leslie asked those in attendance what worked for them on attending future meetings, and often should we meet? It was felt that meetings could be alternated on different days and times to give the greatest opportunity for the community to participate. This is our initial meeting, we would like to come together in a similar fashion again to present this opportunity to those who were not able to be here today. Once Principal Melanie Blake returns, Leslie will discuss the possibility of having the next meeting at the school and review the available dates and times and let the community know via the newspapers, KSVY radio and TV, and social media. We have the ability to spread the word and discuss the topics utilizing the local papers, call-in radio shows, online blogs, and social media.

IX. TOPICS

Using a dry erase board the following topics for future discussion were noted:

Benchmark for residents and non-residents/visitors

Who are we (where are the community boundaries). Do we need a bigger district?

Vision Statement (current statement is to inspire us, but what will we decide as a group for our ultimate vision statement)--a work in progress.

Redo/Expand upon the 1990 Guidelines to encompass the community. What is the PRMD Revision?

Sonoma Valley Citizens Advisory Commission (meets 4th Wed each month)

Is there a group that we can model? The Springs Community Alliance

Vacation Rentals

CID: Community Improvement District - Taxes

Events / Noise Limits (Transcendence, Funky Fridays, etc.)

What are the goals?

Impact & Connectivity

How do we enforce the rules?

Creating our own model

Meeting times - different days/times - Live Feed

Drones & Wildlife community separator

Traffic / Speeding

We have to lot of ground to cover and it will be ongoing. It's with your continued involvement that we can stay true to the integrity of this group. We want to point out to you that down the road, and in order to fully address our issues, we will need to discuss funding, and whether or not it may be time to form a local government, such as a community improvement district, to provide greater self-determination and stronger influence over local policy.

X. INDEX CARDS

Leslie called for everyone to hand in their index cards.

XI. GRATITUDE

Thank you all for coming. We appreciate your time and will notify you of the next meeting date and time as soon as we have one. The meeting ended at 5:10pm.