

Audubon Hills Property Owners Association (AHPOA)
37th Annual Meeting June 11, 2005
Meeting called to order 9:10.

Introductions of AHPOA Board Members-Jim McCarthy, Kim McCarthy, Sue Collier, Steve Bates, Don Murray and CSD Board Mike Fennessy, Paul Elmore, and Jim McCarthy.

Elections-Vice Chair, Kim McCarthy and 2nd director, Steve Bates are up for re-election. There were no other nominations; Ernie Woods made a motion to re-election these board members. Motion seconded, all are in favor-passed

Taxes-Federal and CA taxes started talking to each other and CA feels they want some of our money, even though we are non profit. They sent a bill to us for \$1400, plus \$500 in penalties, for taxes. We sent them the non-profit paperwork, they sent us another bill. We had to get a CPA to help us with the paperwork, and we got a bill from him for \$520. We asked for a reduction because we are non-profit, and we're currently waiting for a reply.

Volunteers- If anyone has any tax experience or is an attorney that can help us out in the future, please let us know. That way we won't have to loose our dues in the future, paying for these services.

Financial Report- This period was from June 9, 2004 to June 10, 2005. We started with a balance of \$5, 097.53 and ended with a balance of \$1984.35. Our biggest expense was our signs, but now we have to wait on many other things, until we find out what's going on with the taxes. We may have to pay out another \$1900; at this point we just don't know.

Signs- The posts will be buried 3 feet in the ground, in cement; 7 feet high, and the metal posts will be painted green. If we could get volunteers to help us for their own street, the signs will be installed in the order of volunteer sign up.

Merrills Bench-We can cover costs associated with the installation, we've just been waiting for the rain to stop and the dirt to finish settling. That will also be installed this summer.

Bylaws -Proposed changes to Bylaws were discussed and presented to the attending active members. In the "Amendments" section Mark Stanley asked if we can clarify the amendment portion of the bylaw to read by a majority vote, "of the votes cast by", active members". Everyone liked the change. Amendment to "Amendment" section noted.

Steve Bates asked if the manner of informing the members is by mail only or e-mail too. Since e-mail is a form of mail, we can notify both ways, but since all the members haven't shared their e-mails, we always post the dates in the newsletter, which everyone gets. The vote for approval was delayed till the end of the meeting, so member could review the proposed Bylaw updates. See executive summary for a full list of items presented.

Zoning-There was a question about what the zoning is in this neighborhood? It is R2A-residential two acres, except where parcels are larger, and those are R5A. Don Murray mentioned that we have to be diligent with the county, to make sure we stay R2A or we could get over crowded, they tend to forget.

AHCSD w/Mike Fennessy -Ernie Wood's resigned after many years of service-*applause*. Paul Elmore has agreed to cover the rest of his term. On June 21, contractor will be coming in at 8am to pave 600 feet of Audubon Dr., at the entrance. They will work on one side of the road, then the other. We split the area into five districts and the directors make a list of what needs to be fixed. That list has just went out to fix problems before winter. You'll notice the line started to fade right away, in the center of the road, we didn't have to pay for that, and that will be redone after the new road is put in at the front.

There will be three positions up for re-election in September on the CSD that need to be filled. Jim McCarthy noted that it's a really good group to get involved with. You get cookies and coffee, and you get to help make decisions for our roads! Seriously, they only meet every 2 months, and it's really important, because the CSD gets tax money from the county that has to be spent wisely. The state is always willing to take money from the local CSD's, and if we don't keep our roads up, the county can disband the board, and take the money. We have to stay strong, to keep getting our funds.

We meet every two months; we review all contracts, and clearing, review roads to see if any repairs are needed. Some people have even done phone conference. The meetings are always posted at least ten days before, and the places where they are located.

Sam Cott had a few questions. "Who does the roadside clearing?" "What order will the side roads be paved?" "And before the side roads are improved will they be widened to widths to accommodate two cars or emergency vehicles, before getting a hard paving?" The clearing is done by the CSD. That was changed a couple of years ago. All road issues are covered by CSD, and they are totally separate from AHPOA. They have nothing to do with each other and the new street signs have nothing to do with CSD, because they are just responsible for control signs. As for the side roads, after we finish the mid section of Audubon Drive, we'll start paving the side roads in order of the roads with the most houses on them, first. The roads will be maintained in their current state, chip seal, until they are hard paved. Then, each side road will have the necessary improvements made, to accommodate the larger community and it's needs; which will include widening the roads and building turnarounds where possible. Check your parcel map to find the AHCSO easements on your property, as these will be effected as side road paving proceeds.

Don Murray asked, "Will CSD notify the residents affected, ahead of time, so they could prepare and remove anything within the proposed improvements?" Mike said that of course the CSD would notify the residents, they wouldn't just come bulldoze without care to their property. Kim said that she would include reminders of checking parcel maps for easement boundaries, to the "new residents" letter.

Marge Ryder asked about what AHCSO stands for, it's "Audubon Hills Community Services District" (our road committee)

Neighborhood Watch stickers- They have been designed, but we are waiting to see what's going on for taxes, before we purchase any more.

Website-Take a look at the website, thank you Kim McCarthy, she does the website and all the updates.

Community Garage Sale-Robin Stanley suggested we coordinate a community garage sale with the "Camino Community Garage Sale" on Saturday, July 16, we can have a table on the corner of Barkley/Carson (the tan house) The table rental will be \$5, and the only rule is that you remove all that you bring, or we can't do it again. From a neighborhood watch standpoint, this is safer than bringing all the people in through here. Additionally, there is more visibility; right off the freeway at the other place and hospice is right down the street if you don't sell everything!

Fire Safe Counsel- Vicky Yorty, is the representative for the county chipping program. It started when President Clinton put in a fire plan because of the catastrophic fires in the western states. In March 2002, the El Dorado Fire Safe Counsel started. They bring all the fire agencies, CDF, fire dept, forest service, realtors, etc. together, to figure out how to make the best use of the monies they get, to help neighbors.

The undergrowth is not “natural”. Back during the time of John Muir and Teddy Roosevelt, they use to be able to ride through the forest. We can’t do that anymore. Nature use to have fires that cleaned the forest floor of underbrush, this area hasn’t had a fire in over 70 years! It’s due, and if we’re not careful, we could loose our homes. If the fireman can’t get up your driveway, without risk to their personnel, they won’t defend your home. The simple fact is, they don’t have to.

It’s up to us to make the “defensible space”. The law has changed this year, and homes must have a clearance of 100’ from 30’ previously. Defensible space doesn’t mean you have to clear cut your property; rather, you want to remove brush and low branches so the fire doesn’t go up the trees, and spread through the canopies. Mark Stanley said you need 30’ clearance between crowns, to give the fireman the capability to fight the fire.

The burn days will be ending soon, so we’ll provide a green dumpster for needles, leaves, ect., that won’t go into the chipper. The dumpster can take blackberries and poison oak, but those can’t go in the chipping pile. As soon as that can be delivered, Kim will let you know.

Each person needs to fill out the application, and send it in, for the branches to be chipped. The chips are left behind and you will need to stake where you want them to be piled next to your pile of brush. The chips can go in a pile or can be spread around a ten foot section from where the chipper is parked. Place your branches near your driveway, next to the road. All details are on the application. There is no limit to the length of piles, just make sure the butt end of the branches face out towards the road so they can chip easily. It would be best if you could be there if you can, so you can direct them. They can do the scheduling directly with you, but we are trying to get them to take care of the whole community at once. That’s the point, for us to eliminate the piles before fire season. Mt. Firewood does the work.

Reflective house number signs were strongly suggested, so each house has a clear definable reflective sign at the entrance to their driveway. There is a kit for twelve dollars at Wal-Mart, we can also get them through our fire department in Camino, and we can order them as a group. They help during fires, to find your house, but more importantly, 80% of the calls our fireman get are for medical, and when minutes count, you want them to find you immediately. In the event of an emergency, we need to take care of ourselves. Know who needs help in the event of an emergency, set up a plan for at risk people.

Meeting adjourned -10:45am

Sam Cott won the raffle for refund dues.

Residents in attendance-Washington, Bohn, Wells’, Woods’, Fennessy’s, Hughes, Pintar’s, Cott, Murray, McFaul, Ryder, Khalil, Blair, Clarke, Howard’s, Stanley’s, Zaun, Bernstein, Brozo’s, S. Woods, McCarthy’s, Collier’s, Bates’, Lyles, Blowe, Breckenridge’s, and Anders.

Motions and Important Dates- The chipper will come out starting June 27th, all piles must be ready by June 26th. Turn in your applications right away, with the name Audubon Hills at the top.

- Motion to approve amendment made to proposed-Bylaws by Mike Fennessy; all seconded, passed.
- Mark Stanley made motion made to accept bylaws as amended, seconded, and passed
- Re-Election of Kim McCarthy for Chair and Steve Bates for 2nd director.