

GLEN ELLEN TOWN FORUM – February 6, 2017 - Dunbar School MPR
(Attendees listed at the end of document.)

Meeting to order at 7pm by Chair Michael Furlong.

***Overview of the agenda**

***Showed website**

Email – forum@glenellenca.org Website - www.glenellenca.org

Q1: What if you don't use a computer?

We will have phone number available and we are publishing meeting announcements in the newspapers - and hopefully a mailer once a year.

***Who should be part of this 'group'?**

Michael showed zip code map – 95442 covers about 4,000 people (which is more inclusive than the 'town of Glen Ellen' which includes ~700 residents)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community Projects (BJ Blanchard) - Members include: Mare Dickerson, Leslie Vaughn, Jon Torgeson, Elisa Stancil, BJ Blanchard, Nick Brown, Lida Morgenstein, Janie Soto, and Michael Furlong. (FYI- Nick Brown and Jon Torgeson have spun off to initiate the Traffic & Safety Committee.)

*Public Bathroom: We are exploring sites, cost, regulation, which county agencies would need to be worked with, etc.

*Upgrading Marty Winter's Properties on the West Side of Arnold (Post Office, grocery, vacant vet office, dentist, Fig Café): Painting, repaving of the parking lot, and better lighting. Improvements to begin in May and to be completed in October prior to the fair.

*Re-Development Plans for Marty Winter's Properties on the East Side of Arnold (3 little blue houses to the corner of Carquinez): Arthur Dawson is working with Marty, recommending buildings that are consistent with the scale and flavor of the town. (See the presentation of plans by Marty later in these minutes.)

*Support for the Homeless: We are looking into the Redwood Gospel Mission mobile shower unit. They can come to town for 2 hours, once a week, as long as there is a dedicated water and electric hook-up. They provide truck showers, privacy, soap, amenities, and towels. We could provide change of clothes via FISH. We can provide visits of a Public Health Nurse. Suggestions on locating this?

*Triangle Issues: Parking, speeding, and signage are the topics. Discussion on this topic is underway between people who live around the "triangle" and Supervisor Gorin and others. It is recommended that there be some manner

of low fence, part planter boxes, and minimum of signage. Issues should be resolved in time for the fair.

*Creek Clean-Up Efforts: Ecology Center has scheduled a Creek Cleanup day for April 22, Earth Day. We will help promote their existing program to maintain healthy creeks and wildlife, and eliminate creek refuse. We will contribute to creek clean-up days, in conjunction with local schools, with posters, publicity, and participation.

*Recycle Efforts (corks): Members are continuing to research uses for wine corks/encouraging local wineries to use Re-CORK, a cork-recycling project.

FUTURE Projects: Bridge care and protections for our four local bridges, a total lowered carbon footprint for our little 'village', bus stop upgrades (esthetic wood and stone), drought-tolerant plantings around the PO, creek-side seating, natural stone wall along the creek, large clock on the Arnold Dr. side of PO.

Organization/Governance (Arthur Dawson) - Members include: Arthur Dawson, Deanna Furlong, Michael Furlong, Shannon Lee, and Elisa Stancil.

We have been exploring ways to organize:

*Glen Ellen Advisory Committee

*Homeowners' Association

*Registered Non-Profit

*Community Improvement District (voted in, parcel tax leveed, associated with a county agency- to whom the \$ would go)

*Incorporation

Michael proposes – that we will have a follow up presentation and then vote on structure at the next general meeting.

Tourism & Vacation Rentals (Michael Wray) – Members include: Michael Wray, Archie Horton, Brad Surosky, Dave Rodondi, Ellen McKnight, Holly Bennett, Nick Brown, and Margie Foster.

This committee also worked on the same problem of 'what is Glen Ellen' – i.e. do we consider the entire zip code?

*Vacation Rentals (174 listed in the census zone, out of 1,600 properties→ possibly smaller fraction than some might suspect, but they are quite concentrated.)

*Commercial Properties

*Wineries, Wine Tastings, Events

*Looking into TOT Funding – Are we seeing any benefit of this?

Action Item: A survey?

SDC (no report)

Community Garden (no report- On Hold)

Environmental (no report)

Traffic & Safety (no report)

Presentation of Development Plans: Marty Winter

Property is located at the corner of Carquinez and Arnold

3 Units: Apartment, cottage and a home, plus two retail businesses

Plan: 8 units of apartments and 4 shops on the Arnold frontage- includes off street parking (34+ spaces) with living space above the commercial buildings

Questions: What about the people living there? What is the style? Are they low income housing? Do you have commercial tenants?

Glen Ellen Historical Society – Jim Shere – Jim introduced the board members present. Jim's comments:

“The Glen Ellen Historical Society has been a sponsor of these town hall meetings, and we will continue to actively participate in developing a local voice regarding our future.

As many of you know, we've given many public presentations about our remarkable local history over the years, so that's how we became who we are today will never be overlooked. Many of these presentations are now available on DVD, as is Bob Glotzbach's book *Childhood Memories of Glen Ellen*, which tells many stories about our colorful past.

The Historical Society began when people rallied to save the Chauvet Hotel, and gathered to protect our cannon from being sold to an East Coast gun collector. Many of them had been members of the Glen Ellen Association, which produced the Glen Ellen Town Plan in 1988 and many were present at the 2002 gathering here in this room, where the original Glen Ellen Town Forum was established.

We're still involved in protecting our past. We are currently administering a grant provided by the Sonoma Land Trust to record and preserve the human history at SDC, and we will continue to be a strong voice in what happens there. We are also overseeing the repair of two of our historic bridges that are now deteriorating: the Hooker Creek Bridge on Highway 12, and the O'Donnell Lane Bridge. Watch for our next program on The Historic Bridges of the Valley of the Moon in March.

To support all this, we are encouraging an increase in membership, not only for financial support but also (and more importantly) to increase active participation in our projects and events. As the Glen Ellen Town Forum continues taking shape, the Glen Ellen Historical Society is changing shape. While we have over a hundred members at this time, we want to reach out to those who have not yet joined to increased local awareness and involvement. Membership forms are available here, and they can be given to any of our board members that are here this evening."

Open for Questions:

Q: Vicki Hill- asking questions as a newcomer regarding process, committees, etc.

Q: for Supervisor Susan Gorin – asking about critical potholes on the bridge and other. Supervisor Gorin encourages us all to call her office or even quicker- use a app on your phone/tablet "socoreportit" to report road problems, trees down, furniture dumping, etc.

Donations: \$7 collected at this meeting (we also have a \$100 that was donated recently).

Meeting adjourned at 8pm

Attendees:

Michael Furlong	Michael Wray
Jim Shere	Kevin Schuh
Shannon Lee	Alec Peters
BJ Blanchard	Mike Brett
Deanna Furlong	Marty Winter
Cathy Fletcher	Barbara Winter
Kathy Pons	Cherie Brassett
Linda Hale	Todd McCue
Gregg Montgomery	John Rippe
Rory Pool	Vicki Hill
Deb Pool	Kathy Lynch
Forrest Deseran	Kim Roche
Margie Foster	Bruce Goldstein
Ritch Foster	Alice Horowitz
Angela Morgan	Sandy Horowitz
Nick Brown	Julie Atwood
Chuck Gillet	Ellen McNight
Dave Rodondi	Arthur Dawson
Bev Rodondi	