

Glen Ellen Forum Meeting Minutes

Garden Court Café

August 8, 2018

- WELCOME TO THE GLEN ELLEN FORUM – Opening - Founded on October 21, 2016, and designated as a 501c(3) nonprofit corporation on March 19, 2018, per our bylaws with the specific purposes of:
 - Relief of the poor, distressed, or the underprivileged;
 - Advancement of education and science;
 - To provide resources and assistance to permanent, transient, and occasional members of the community of Glen Ellen, CA
- We hold our general meetings on the 1st Monday of each month, unless otherwise mentioned.
- We have six active committees:
 - Steering Committee
 - Advisory Council Exploration Committee
 - Community Engagement Committee
 - Projects Committee
 - SDC/Eldridge Transition Committee
 - Traffic & Safety Committee
- We have three non-active committees that need your support:
 - Commerce & Tourism Committee, Environmental Committee, Garden Committee
- If you are interested in/like to participate/or get further information on any of these committees, please see us after the meeting tonight.

❖ POINTS TO MENTION

- Our website is glenforumca.org
- Our email address is forum@glenellenca.org
- Our Facebook address is Glen Ellen Forum
- We are funded solely by your generous donations that can be directed to a specific committee if desired. Any amount is appreciated, and there is a donation jar here by the door as you leave.

We will remind you of these last four points again at the end of our meeting.

❖ COMMITTEE UPDATES

- Nancy Padian – Steering Committee update
 - Michael Furlong’s Resignation Letter to the Board (see Attachment below)
 - Steering Committee Leaders (& Chair Alternate Backup)
 - ◆ Nancy Padian, President
 - ◆ Leslie Vaughn, Vice President/Communications
 - ◆ Margie Foster, Vice President/Treasurer
 - ◆ Poppy Darby, Vice President/Secretary (backup Treasurer)
 - Board of Directors
 - ◆ Jim Shere
 - ◆ Leslie Vaughn
 - ◆ Angela Morgan
 - ◆ Janie Soto
 - ◆ Rob Barnum
 - ◆ Melissa Dowling
 - ◆ Graham Hommel
 - ◆ George Merrick
 - ◆ Tracy Salcedo

- Looking for website support & or donations to cover fees
- Margie Foster – Financial Report \$1000 specific donation to the Traffic & Safety has already been put to good use. Looking for donation of \$56 to Traffic & Safety to complete that purchase. \$200 for SDC specific donation has not yet been spent. Donations can be done on the website or sent to PO Box 490, Glen Ellen, CA 95442
- BJ Blanchard – Projects Committee / Guerilla Do Gooders is at it again, small white picket fence on the east side of the Calabazas Creek Bridge has been power washed and will be painted this weekend. The two new teak benches were installed earlier this year. The County has said that if they are not vandalized by end of September they will install the rest of the benches requested by the Projects Committee. The small ground box (next to Corkboard kiosk at the NW foot of the Calabazas Bridge) near the Post Office was painted to resemble a dog house (and a real dog bowl) is a whimsical installation as well. Next project will probably be a free library.
- Alice Horowitz – SDC committee has submitted application for a Fair booth. They are currently exploring the idea of short 1-½ min videos to share ideas with the community about possible interim uses for the SDC campus and surrounding land. This was inspired at the suggestion of a San Francisco leader who was involved in the Presidio project and transition. Interim uses could avoid vandalism, reduce fire hazard and keep the open spaces open by preventing the need for fencing to go up. SVHS video program was mentioned as a possible integration for the video project. Planning of a fall workshop for the community regarding interim uses is in the works, date to be announced. On 08/07/18 the Board of Supervisors will meet in closed session on the SDC issue with State reps and negotiator to discuss terms and conditions of potential county acquisition. Sonoma Land Trust, Sonoma Ecology Center and the SDC Committee have drafted a letter to Board of Supervisors, which was delivered today and will be in attendance tomorrow to give public comment at the beginning of their meeting. Sonoma Land Trust's petition is forthcoming. A letter writing campaign is planned. We need to lobby for the financial support of the State to the County if there is to be a successful transfer. Leslie mentioned that Kathleen Miller had been able to change the date of the proposed SDC 130 Year Celebration to the first Saturday in November 11/3.
- Shannon Lee – ACE Committee. A MAC's general format is to provide a designated group for the County to ask if they have concerns for Glen Ellen. It is also a group the community can bring concerns to that the County will have to recognize and respond to. ACE Committee has been busy meeting with other similar groups in the area. They have also met with Kenwood to discuss the possibility of a North Valley MAC. The current focus of both areas would be recovery at this time. ACE is still gathering information. If you want to attend their next meeting they have docs on Google Drive to get you up to speed and then the meeting Wed 8/15 at 6pm at Shannon house (14326 Arnold Drive) is open. They are hoping to draft a written report for the Forum by the next meeting. They are looking at applying at the same time as some local communities to ease the process and focus on the County's ability to pass of some responsibilities to us and relax their own community responsibility. Will the Sonoma Valley Citizen's Advisory Council drop off or will they have concurrent representation at the County level?

❖ SPEAKERS

- Leslie Vaughn on behalf of the GEHS to announce 08/18 Presentation at Mayflower 2pm, and to introduce the Jim Berkland Bridge Petition.

- Nick Brown, Ron Smalley, Bev Rodondi Traffic & Safety Committee – Neighborhood Safety Preparedness. Meeting held yesterday 08/05/18 downtown at Laurel Glen parking lot for the 7 east side downtown streets was successful and had approx. 35 attendees. Community members it is time to organize and we need you! In your neighborhood we need 2-3 volunteers to pick a date and time, make a flyer and then go door to door to let your neighbors know when you will be meeting. Get tables, chairs, shade, water and maybe some snacks and invite your neighbors for a little social. Traffic and safety will provide part of the presentation and bring literature, go bag and provide answers to questions. Meeting packets for those who will lead a neighborhood meeting can be downloaded from the website or get one by contacting Stacy or Nick. Next one coming up will be 08/26/18 at 6pm at Laurel Glen for Yell, Horn, Carmel and that section of Arnold. Anyone from any neighborhood is welcome. Hill road shared their successful meeting as well. Parsons is still offering \$15 for green and reflective address signs for your property.

- Board of Directors Closed Meeting: Thursday, August 9th at Garden Court 7pm
- THANK YOU FOR COMING - Our Next Meeting is Tuesday, September 4th at 6:30pm due to Labor Day being the 3rd.
- ATTACHMENT – Michael Furlong’s Resignation Letter

Date: July 25, 2018 at 4:43:33 PM PDT

Hello Everyone

The Glen Ellen Forum has made great strides since it's start:

- *we're an official 501(c)(3) non-profit, and can apply for county tax dollars via grants*
- *We have a number of active committees*
- *We have increased visibility and communication with county and local representatives*
- *Our website (WordPress based) has plenty of content and is growing*
- *Our Facebook page has 500 + followers*
- *And our email list has 600+ subscribers*

While I'm extremely proud of the Forum's accomplishments, after much consideration I have decided it is time for me to step down as chair. I believe I have brought it as far as I can after over one and half years as chair. The ideal person, with a positive attitude and full support, will be able to continue to bring the Forum forward and create a stronger community for everyone in the area.

I apologize if anyone feels let down by my decision, but I would be happy to share my personal reasons one-on-one with any of you.

Thank you

Michael

➤ ATTENDEES

Leslie Vaughn	BJ Blanchard	Alice Horowitz
Diana Sanson	Lucie Levine	Stacey Vilas
Anne O'Brien	Dave Rodondi	Bev Rodondi
Judy Smalley	Ron Smalley	Nick Brown
Michael McClure	Shannon Lee	Marge Everidge
Janie Soto	Steve Raffini	Margie Foster
Archie Horton	Nancy Padian	Poppy Darby