

Glen Ellen Town Forum
Regular Meeting Minutes
Dunbar School Multipurpose Room
April 4, 2017

Chairman Michael Furlong called meeting to order at 7:03.

Committee members gave updates on their activities to date.

BJ Blanchard spoke on behalf of the **Community Projects Committee**:

- Painting the post office and neighboring corner storefronts: Colors have been selected and blend with natural environment. Painting will start in May and be completed in October, hopefully by the time the Village Fair takes place. Paving will happen in that timeframe as well. Leslie Vaughn noted that painting the interior of the post office will begin on the weekend, and encouraged those interested to contact her for details.

- The proposed creek clean-up has been postponed due to high water. Instead, there will be a Town Roads Clean-Up Day, set for April 22nd Earth Day. Participants should meet at the post office at 10 a.m. The organizers will provide garbage bags and gloves; bring your own picker-uppers.

- A cork recycling project had been initiated, with good response from local wineries and restaurants. A company named ReCORK uses old corks to create new things.

Michael Wray spoke on behalf of the **Tourism Committee**:

The Tourism questionnaire was distributed at the meeting; input on content was requested. The questionnaire is also online via Survey Monkey, and will be (was) sent to those on the Forum database. It is also [online](#) on the Forum website, slated for posting on NextDoor.

Alice Horowitz spoke on behalf of the **SDC (Eldridge) Committee**:

- Gregg Montgomery, who works at SDC, provided a report on the most recent Parent Hospital Association meeting, which Alice read. The [report is posted](#) on the Forum website.

- There was discussion about the property's site assessment process. Wallace, Roberts Todd will likely be the contractor for the site assessment process, which will begin this summer. Check out the [blog on the TransformSDC site](#) (link on the Forum website) for more information.

- Alice emphasized that redevelopment on the SDC campus will need to involve revenue generation, and that it will likely be a multiuse site.

- Jim Shere advised that the site should be referred to as Eldridge going forward. SDC is just the most recent name affixed to the property; the name changes, but the underlying property—Eldridge—stays the same.

- Cards were distributed and Alice encouraged the community to submit their ideas for potential uses for the property. Tracy Salcedo noted that ideas generated in the past regarding [SDC redevelopment](#) are posted at on the TransformSDC site.

Stacey Vilas spoke on behalf of the **Traffic & Safety Committee**:

- Results of the traffic survey indicated that the community is most concerned about speed and traffic volume.

- The survey also showed that the community doesn't want to see a lot of change in terms of signage and obstacles.

- The Traffic & Safety Committee is taking an approach called the Three Es: Enforcement, Engineering, and Education.

- With regard to enforcement, Stacey reported that CHP wants to hear about problem cars. People reporting a problem must be specific and include details (time of day, type of infraction, type of car, license plate if possible).

****It's important to call the NAPA CHP [707-253-4906] which oversees the Sonoma Valley.****

- With regard to engineering, Stacey noted that process is slow, and studies are required before signs can be put up. A resident of Madrone Road, who has petitioned to get a stop sign on Madrone Road at its intersection with Marty Drive, described his frustration with the slowness of the process.

- With regard to education, Stacey noted that the committee will be meeting with the county streets department, and will be conducting more surveys.

- Stacey cautioned that the Forum needs to be careful about what it asks for. The solution for one problem might create another problem. Major traffic change proposals should be considered by the committee and Forum as a whole.

- Stacey advised that the community can change traffic behavior by example. Tailgating might ensue, but driving the speed limit will slow traffic through town.

- The committee suggested getting a radar speed sign that flashes when drivers exceed limits and that can be moved to problem spots throughout the community. The signs are also data collectors, which could provide useful information about when traffic flows increase and when cars speed.

- Community members cited problem locations, including donut spinning at Warm Springs Road and Sonoma Mountain Road, and the dangers posed by cyclists on Warm Springs Road and Bennett Valley Road.

The Glen Ellen Historical Society, in conjunction with the Forum, will be hosting [The Roads & Bridges of Glen Ellen](#) at 7p.m. on April 24 at Mayflower Hall in the Glen Ellen Community Church, 5311 O'Donnell Lane, Glen Ellen. Admission is free, but donations are welcome! Arthur Dawson, Stacey Vilas and Nick Brown will discuss the history and the future of travel in the Valley of the Moon.

Forum members in attendance unanimously adopted the action items proposed by the Organizational and Government Committee.

- The Forum will pursue getting nonprofit status for the Forum. Nonprofit status will enable the Forum to pursue grant and other funding sources.

- The Forum will form a type of community advisory council, consisting of three to five individuals, who will serve as the "voice" of Glen Ellen, an official channel of communication at

the county level and at other levels. It was suggested that this council consist of one member from each of the committees. The council will voice the consensus views of the Forum at large. Michael asked that those interested in serving on the council contact him.

Two other action items were proposed for consideration at the next monthly Forum meeting:

- Should the community pursue providing mobile showers for homeless?
- Should Glen Ellen be declared a sanctuary village?

The next meeting scheduled for May 1, at 7 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:03.

Respectfully submitted: Tracy Salcedo

List of Attendees:

Jim Shere	Sean Kelley
Leslie Vaughn	Melissa Dowling
Tracy Salcedo	Brad Surosky
Bev Rodondi	Suzanne Torgeson
Dave Rodondi	Jon Torgeson
Susan Costello	Brooks Bayly
Michael Furlong	Ellen McKnight
Carrie Castro	Cherie Brassett
Janie Soto	Curtis Fromke
BJ Blanchard	Angela Morgan
Marge Everidge	Donna Geiger
Archie Horton	Arthur Dawson
Mare Dickerson	Nick Brown
Suzi Molofsky	Stacey Vilas
Mark Molofsky	Ronnie MacLaird
Mary Kate Carter	Curtis Duff
Anne Teller	Jerry Owens
Maud Hallin	