

Glen Ellen Forum



Many Voices - One Community
forum@glenellenca.org glenellenca.org

Monthly Email Update – July 31, 2018

Hello Everyone,

The Forum wishes to share with you that, after 18 months of tireless dedication, **Michael Furlong** decided to step down from his leadership position as Chair in order to pursue further interests. He is extremely proud of the Forum's accomplishments and will be back to work with those committees he is most passionate about. See his Letter of Resignation (below). Michael looks forward to keeping connected with you and welcomes your email (michaelfurlong@hotmail.com) We wish him continued success. Our gratitude for everything he and his wife, Deanna, have done for us is immeasurable!

The Forum wishes to announce that **Nancy Padian** has stepped up from the Vice Chair position to lead the Forum as the new Chair. She is eager to meet each of you. We know that your support, both individually and collectively, has been instrumental in getting us where we are today. We are pleased to be able to move forward seamlessly with Nancy's leadership and look forward to the future of the Glen Ellen Forum and our community. Please join us in welcoming her to the helm! You can reach out to her by emailing forum@glenellenca.org.

Glen Ellen Forum Monthly Meeting

- August meeting - Monday 6th at 6.30 p.m. at [Garden Court Café](#)
- Donation via the site – in test mode but should be active in September.
- Board of Directors

Rob Barnum	George Merrick	Jim Shere
Graham Hommel	Angela Morgan	Janie Soto
Melissa Dowling	Tracy Salcedo	Leslie Vaughn

- Agenda Items - If you would like to submit an agenda item for the next Forum meeting, please let us know. You can also email your ideas or questions or raise them at the monthly meeting.
- Storage Space - We are actively looking for a storage space. If you can help please let us know.
- Canopy Tent – We are working to buy a marquee canopy tent that can be available as a community resource.
- Glen Ellen Business Association - Hosted by Kivelstadt Cellars on August 9th at 6:30pm, this is the GEBA's first meeting to unite local businesses and build goodwill. Non-fee based. This would then link to businesses in Kenwood, Boyes Hot Springs and Sonoma. It can become part of the Forum or remain as an independent group.

- Monthly Podcasts/Recordings of Meetings - We have started test recording of our monthly meetings and making them available on YouTube and via an email link, on our website and Facebook page for those who cannot attend or are not mobile. However, we need someone who would be willing to attend each meeting and direct the camera to the speakers. Please contact us if you are interested in volunteering.
- Forum Social Event – We have a host for our next social event that is tentatively set for mid-to-late September. Details to follow ASAP. If you or your business are interested in financially donating to a future community meal, or you'd like to volunteer, please let us know. Would you like to host a future social event at your home? The idea is to host it at your house and we will send out the invitations. Guests are to bring an hors d'oeuvre and/or beverages to share. Email us at forum@glenellenca.org.
- Committees/Volunteering – The following committees would welcome ideas, input and more members: Traffic & Safety - Joint Chairs Nick Brown & Stacey Vilas nickbrown12800@gmail.com / stacey.vilas@yahoo.com; SDC/Eldridge - Chair Alice Horowitz oneallicat@yahoo.com; Projects – Chair BJ Blanchard bj@mabco.com; Community Engagement – Chair Leslie Vaughn leslie_vaughn@att.net; Advisory Council Exploration – Chair Arthur Dawson baseline@vom.com; Steering – Chair Nancy Padian forum@glenellenca.org. We still need/are looking for more people to get involved in: the Commerce & Tourism Committee, which will support our small local businesses and have a balanced approach in this area; the Environmental Committee, which will be looking into recycling and sustainable projects; and the Community Garden Committee to help locate a plot to grow vegetables, fruit and flowers.
- Website/Email/Facebook Page - We encourage you to have a look at the items below that you will find also on our website: **Draft 5-year Strategic Plan for the Future of the Glen Ellen Forum**, located on the homepage of our website, will be updated. Let us know if you have any ideas or comments about it. **Local Business Directory** We are working on adding local businesses big or small to promote them. If you have or know of a business in the area please send us on the details including a logo or picture so we can add them to our site.

Help for Those In Need due to the fires - Do You Need Help/Can You Offer Help Options on the [Homepage](#) Recover/Rebuild Section (Volunteer/Request Help/Fire Recovery/Donations).

Temporary Housing Units - Brand new temporary leased housing, with furnished units, are available. www.intermodalstructures.com Call Holly Bennett (707) 484-4747 for details. Also [Whisper Creek Developers & Grizzly Log Builders](#) offers a number of housing solutions. Contact Norm Clover (530) 386-6225.

Ready Glen Ellen - Check out the Ready Glen Ellen website at www.readyglenellen.com. The Emergency Plan is also on our site as well as easy access to nine important forms.

- Our site is www.glenellenca.org -- it is a work in progress and will have regular updates.
- The Facebook Page is: [Glen Ellen Forum – Glen Ellen, CA](#).
- Contact us via email at forum@glenellenca.org.

We are a community, so please reach out to your neighbors. Many live alone, have special needs, are elderly, simply going through a difficult time or still affected by the fires. If there are people who need help let us know. Let them know we are all in this together and we're there for them, whatever they need.

Finally, encourage others to attend our meetings, sign up for our email or visit our website and Facebook pages. We need your ideas and input.

Thank you,

Glen Ellen Forum
PO Box 490
Glen Ellen CA 95442-0490

Website: www.glenellenca.org

Email: forum@glenellenca.org

Facebook: [Glen Ellen Forum – Glen Ellen, CA](#)

Michael Furlong's letter announcing his resignation:

Subject: Thank you - Forum Board

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*