

Green Circle Service Corporation
Regular Meeting
Monday, July 14, 2008, 7PM Gazebo

Present were all board members (following recent resignations): Anne Shrage, Ralph Edwards, Matt Neuburg (Treasurer), Linda Lambert (Vice-President and Acting President, presiding).

Announcements. The Acting President announced the existence of the lawsuit against the GCSC by Susan Williamson: property owners can apply for a copy, but on advice of counsel, directors may not comment on the lawsuit. The Acting President also announced the resignation of Trina Grantham, and the willingness of Larry Yuva to serve. Moved that Larry Yuva be appointed to the board of directors; passed unanimously.

The minutes for the meeting of December 22, 2007 were distributed and accepted. The minutes for the meeting of February 18, 2008 were inadvertently not brought to this meeting and will be considered at a later date.

Treasurer's report and old business. With regard to the resolution of the meeting of December 22, 2007, that J&H should be paid \$5000 immediately and an attempt should be made to borrow the remainder: The initial payment was made, but our bank (Washington Mutual) refused to lend the remainder owing to the credit crunch; Ojai Community Bank expressed willingness to consider the loan, but it would have been expensive (\$2000 to borrow \$6000). Accordingly, the Treasurer, on March 10, 2008, appealed to the property owners for advances, promising immunity from future fee increases for the duration of the advance, and in this way collected \$12,850 from 13 property owners. This enabled the corporation to pay all outstanding bills and remain solvent. Moved that the arrangement made by the Treasurer with those property owners who provided advances in response to his appeal of March 10, 2008 be ratified; passed unanimously.

The Treasurer reported the current situation: \$12,320 in the bank, from which, if the advances be subtracted along with accounts payable now and in the coming month, there is a zero remainder.

With regard to the resolution of the meeting of February 18, 2008, that the Treasurer should pursue appropriate means to collect delinquent fees that had accumulated since the establishment of, and owed to, the GCSC: On February 29, a special letter was sent to owners of nine properties in arrears, followed by the regular billing on April 1; funds not being forthcoming, on May 21, small claims court proceedings were instituted against owners of eight properties. On June 8, full payment for seven properties was received and the suit against these was dismissed. On July 2 there was a small claims court hearing on the remaining property, 109 Taormina, but adjudication was postponed by the court when Susan Williamson therein announced the existence of her lawsuit against the GCSC.

New business. The Treasurer reported the discovery (by walking around) of a property, 95 Taormina, absent from the books back to 2002. He started billing this property on January 1, 2008; the owner, Ethel Willard, has expressed an unwillingness to pay on the grounds that she arranges her own trash removal. The Treasurer expressed doubt about the legality of withdrawal from the fee obligation, which accompanies the property in accordance with the CC&Rs, but recommended that the corporation continue for the present to bill with no further immediate action.

The Treasurer raised the matter of a bill from Ralph Edwards for \$119.35 for materials in connection with the road signs and speed bumps. Since only \$13 remain earmarked for signage, this is an overage and requires board approval. Moved to pay the bill; passed unanimously.

Moved to “write off” the original “open balance” of \$2042.75 attached by the TTCI to the Bill Painter account when the books were passed on to the GCSC. Passed: 3 yea, 1 nay.

Moved that the Treasurer be authorized to move the corporation's banking business to the Ojai Community Bank. Passed unanimously.

Moved that the fees be raised to \$35 per month for a house and \$25 per month for a duplex, starting January 1, 2009; that advances per account on hand as of April 1, 2008, be exempt from fee increase(s) as long as they remain, as agreed; that appropriate notice, explanation, and request for approval be given to the community; and that all annual surplus arising be placed in a certificate of deposit and treated as a locked box earmarked for road maintenance. The Treasurer pointed out that this increase is less than cost of living increases over the past 20 years, and reminded the board that, he has repeatedly, since September, 2007, warned that the difference between fees income and regular expenditures is insufficient to allow savings to accumulate. Such a situation is contrary to the mandate that the corporation must maintain the road; he estimated that under the suggested fee structure it might be possible to accumulate as much as \$80,000 for road repair by the end of 2020. Passed unanimously.

An election committee was formed, with Elaine Needham and Linda Lambert as initial members, to handle the nominations and elections pursuant to the approaching termination of the current board's term of office.

The question arose of renewal of the lease for the gazebo area. Linda Lambert was directed to obtain a new lease from Ruth Matthews (TTCI).

In the matter of damage recently caused to the road by heavy sewage trucks: Linda Lambert announced that she had written announced and read into the record a letter to the Ojai Valley Sanitary District describing the damage and its cause and asking for information on their intention to repair it.

Ralph Edwards undertook to contact the company that paved the road, and pointed out that in some places the Sanitary District trucks had pulled out both the REAS and the underlying chipseal.

Report on corporate status: It was reported that the state has accepted the revised articles of incorporation, describing the corporation as a mutual benefit corporation, and that the state tax board has shown that it regards the corporation as tax-exempt, refunding, with interest, all tax payments for the fiscal year 2006-7. The books are currently in the hands of the accountant and tax filings for the fiscal year 2007-8 will be made, at which point there may be clarification of the corporation's status in the eyes of the federal tax agency.

Report from the Standard Operating Procedures Committee: The committee's report was finished, but no copies being provided, the matter of acceptance was tabled.

The meeting was opened to comments from community members, and shortly afterwards was adjourned.