# **FORMAT for Community Meetings**

- 1. Time for "centering" led by the facilitator (volunteered in previous meeting)
- 2. Volunteers for 3 positions
  - a. Time keeper (give warning a few minutes before time is up and help group wrap it up)
  - Vibes watcher (keep group on track with issues; look for "white knuckles" and have group pause to "cool down"; bring silent member into discussion)
  - Minute taker, if possible, for 3 consecutive meetings (take notes, transcribe to computer, and email or get copies to all members)
- 3. Do a Vibes Watch if anyone wishes a short sharing
- 4. Read minutes
- 5. List agenda items with projected number of minutes needed
- 6. Special Interest Group reports (Sheeba report included)
  - a. Social
  - b. Special projects
  - c. Fire prevention & utilities
  - d. Welcome committee
  - e. Roads
  - f. Communications
  - g. Spirituality
  - h. sheeba
- 7. Discussion of agenda items
- 8. List agenda items for next meeting & arranging place
- 9. Get a volunteer for facilitating next meeting
- 10. Vibes check-in and "Centering"

g & arranging place

sheeton 10 Son landstyle To our newest resident of Alapine,

Welcome to our community. We hope this letter and the information packet will be helpful to you. The following guidelines have been established by the neighborhood Association of resident landowners:

GATE USE: The gate is kept closed at all times. There is both a padlock and a combination lock for you to use. Enclosed is your key to the small padlock. The combination lock is 13-13. (In order for this lock to be relocked, the tumblers must be turned away from 13-13.) Each lock is looped through an end link of the chain and the other lock. Attached is a diagram of the sequence of locks. Please review carefully because if the locks are not attached in this way, you can be locked out or in. The other two locks belong to utility companies. The following is the proceedure to be followed when it is necessary to leave the gate unlocked for workers or visitors. Please "mock lock" the gate and inform your workers or visitors to do the same (see diagram). Also place a bandana labeled with your name onto the gate. You are then responsible for removing the bandana and locking up again in a timely fashion. If for some reason you must leave the gate unlocked after dark, attach a note about the reason or the gate will automatically be locked by anyone entering after dark. This is of course to assure our privacy. If you find our gate unlocked with no bandana, please lock it. If it is after dark, and there is a bandana but no note, please lock up and call the person whose name is on the bandana.

ROADS: We have an agreed upon speed limit of 15 m.p.h. unless it's dusty or muddy and then it is 5m.p.h.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY: We suggest that you have at least one wheelchair accessible ramp to your home.

The following information concerns our activities and organization at Alapine:

SOCIAL GATHERINGS: We have regularly scheduled Pot Luck dinners which occur on the second and fourth Tuesdays starting at 7:00. The 2nd Tuesday's dinner is not necessarily vegetarian and is open to friends of Alapine residents. The 4th Tuesday's dinner is vegetarian. We also occasionally have other social events such as dances and video nights.

The ALAPINE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION meeting is the first Tuesday of every month. Meetings are from 7:00-9:15 and are only open to Alapine lot owners. Alapine has a notebook with all newsletters, meeting notes and guidelines. It also lists Alapine's neighborhood committees with contact persons should you be interested. This is brought to each Alapine Community Association meeting and can be borrowed in between. Although no one is required to participate in any of the community meetings or gatherings, we encourage you to share your talents and suggestions with the community.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION MEETINGS are on the third Tuesday of every month. Alapine's process for dealing with interpersonal issues begins with the expectation that each lot owner will speak directly to any neighbor with whom she has a problem. If attempts to find a solution are unsuccesful, however, then the community can become involved in one of two ways. Several Alapine residents are available to act as mediators to help when asked. And when it becomes necessary, the problem can then be brought to the conflict resolution meeting. Our process in this meeting is explained in the information packet.

SPIRITUAL GATHERINGS: Many of us celebrate the seasonal equinoxes, solstices and midpoints in between. Our circles are open to Alapine lot owners and their guests and often to the outside womyn's community. If you are interested in helping to plan these celebrations, contact Ellen or Morgana.

HOT FLASHES: This is our e-mail system of notifying residents of events, notices or agenda items. Contact Winnie for details or if you wish to be notified in another manner.

We hope the information in your packet will be helpful and answer most of your questions. Included is a copy of Alapine's Covenants and Restrictions which you signed upon purchasing your lot and which are recorded with the County. Please read them thoroughly before readying your lot for your homesite or RV camping. Also please review the lesbian Covenant that we each signed in order to assure lesbian owned property and the honoring of our womynspace. Any suggestions for improving this welcome letter and packet are always appreciated. Our goal is to be as helpful as possible.

(Suggestions for inclusion in this packet: resident's e-mail addresses, summary of the process at Alapine, often-asked questions, list of recommended workers for hire, info on utility costs.....)

# Dear Alapine Community Members,

This letter is to inform you that ARIG and Sheeba have successfully moved forward with the road construction project. In the interest of time and getting the job done before the fall rains begin, we have chosen to notify you by letter that road construction may begin before the September 5<sup>th</sup> business meeting, at which time we will give you a full update. Another reason for going ahead with construction is that Betsy, who has volunteered to oversee the project, will be leaving September 20<sup>th</sup> for at least one month and it would be too late to begin construction after she returns.

The process, estimate and financing:

At the last community meeting it was decided that Betsy would create documents and diagrams to help facilitate getting estimates from potential contractors to construct the ¼ mile stretch of Diana Drive. Betsy also worked to get the estimates. Of the 29 contractors contacted only one was willing to do the job. Most contractors were out of our area, did not have the proper equipment or were too busy to meet our time frame (i.e. before the fall rains begin). The total estimate for the job by Chuck Hughes (of Hughes Construction) was \$8,500 for the construction and \$5000 for gravel. The estimate did not include broad based dips and narrow based water breaks, which Chuck would be happy to do with some instruction from Phillip (from the Natural Resources Conservation Service). Chuck did not think the dips and water breaks would add much to the cost.

The gravel estimate was for 2 inches of gravel, however based on information gathered, ARIG is of the opinion that 1 inch of gravel would be best. This is because one inch of gravel will embed and stabilize in the chert but an extra inch has the potential to wash and tumble in a very hard and fast rain or become displaced with traffic. So the gravel cost would be cut in half making the total estimate approximately \$11,000 (broad based dips and narrow based water breaks not included). Sheeba and ARIG feel confident that between the money in the Alapine Road Fund and what Sheeba could contribute there will be enough funds to pay for the job.

### Time frame for construction:

We think it will be one to two weeks before construction begins. Chuck thinks the job will take 4 to 5 days. We are asking Chuck to come out

#### ALAPINE COMMUNITY MEETING

Sept. 5, 2000

The meeting was facilitated by Ellen. Also present were Barbara, Mary Alice, Jae, Betsy, Jes, Fayann, Morgana, Pat, and Ann. Ellen led the group in grounding and centering.

Volunteers for this meeting: Timekeeping--Betsy Vibes watch--Morgana Minutes--Ann

Vibes watch: Everyone was OK.

The minutes of the August 1, 2000, meeting were read. There was one correction: Morgana was also present at the meeting but was not listed; she had come in late.

Barbara added the newsletter to the agenda.

Morgana said that the Alapine/Sheeba roles, as well as the animals issue, should be moved to a feelings meeting.

Jes agreed and added that she would like to see a set number of meetings for each topic.

Morgana proposed that we set the third Tuesday of the month as feelings meeting night if one is needed.

Pat said creativity night shouldn't be lost.

Jes suggested it could be combined with the fourth Tuesday potluck. The Alapine/Sheeba discussion was moved to October 24, as a feelings meeting, to be held at the screen house. The potluck will be Oct. 17. Jae said that for a feelings meeting the assumptions, questions, and underlying issues are important; if she's unable to attend she would like an idea of what's behind the discussion. It was suggested that we tape the meetings, but most thought women would not speak freely if they were being taped. Ellen suggested that at the end of the meeting participants could summarize what went on. There was general agreement with this idea.

Morgana mentioned that many people will be away for the September feelings meeting; most thought it should be held anyway, with as many as are able to come. It will be on Sept. 19 in the screen house, if Martha agrees.

# Special Interest Group reports

Social: Barbara and Jae asked if there would be a dance again this year at Samhain. Everyone agreed there should be one and that we should invite the larger Lookout Mt. community again. Jes said she would help clean up before the dance and Ellen said she would help with other preparations.

I would like to share with you my thoughts and feelings about the cats and other pets. Because I sometimes have difficulty expressing myself effectively, I am giving this to each of you to read.

I have been giving a lot of thought recently to all the discussion and concerns around the cats and what this means to me. I know that one of the reasons I came to Alapine was to be free: free to be a dyke, free to live my life the way I wanted to, away from all the rules and restrictions of life in the patriarchy. My guess is that all the womyn who come here are also seeking freedom in some form. Personally I would like for all the womyn here, and all the pets here to be free. If Ann wants to have 20 cats, so be it. If Morgana wants to add to her household of cats and dogs, so be it. If Sudi wants to be roam all night, so be it. I would also like to see the dogs running free on the land. It gives me great delight to see them run and feel their freedom. I love watching the dogs playing together, or racing through the woods. And it delights me when a cat stops by to visit me.

I do not want to see us start restricting our own selves by adding rules. Rather I would like to assume that we are willing to be cooperative and to dialog should there be a problem. And if one animal creates some sort of problem, I would rather try to work out a creative solution around that one pet, than to restrict every woman and every pet.

I want every womyn and every pet here at Alapine to be free. And I would like to come up with some ways to make that happen.

Just as we can plant bushes and flowers that attract the birds and the butterflies, there are also probably plants that have the same effect on cats.

It is my belief that we each have the power to attract to us what we want and can do it by focusing on what we do want rather than by focusing on what we don't want. By this I mean putting out to the universe that it is safe for the lizards and the owls, rather than putting out that we need to confine the cats.

In my own life I truly try to practice what I call the Laws of Attraction. I used to live in a neighborhood in St. Pete that was full of cats and dogs. Naturally, the cats roamed freely day and night. Frequently, during the nights, I would awaken to loud cat fights. I also discovered a litter of kittens under my back steps one morning. Deciding that I wanted peace and quiet in my yard, I created an energy dome over my house. From that night on, my yard was quiet and calm. Without restricting any of the cats or confronting any of my neighbors.

Most recently, I was eating in a restaurant when a young child began acting out and crying. My first reaction was: why don't they remove him from the restaurant, why don't his parents do something, etc. Then I paused and said to myself, what I really want for him (the child) is to be happy. So I shut my eyes for a moment and asked the universe to bring this child happiness. Within moments he quieted down, and I was never-aware of his presence again for the rest of the evening.

As far as impacting the environment goes, everything we do impacts the environment: living here, driving cars, what we eat. I believe that nature balances itself out and that we do not need to be too concerned. Yes, we will lose a bird or two here, a mouse or two there. And some species will move away, or die out, or become extinct. And that is all right with me. To be honest, aren't you glad the dinosaurs aren't here anymore?

So, what I would like to have is freedom for every womyn and every pet, and for us to each create the environment we want on our own land in creative and positive ways.

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Winnie 9/21/00

# ALAPINE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

#### Oct. 3, 2000

15

The meeting was held at Pat's. Present were Fayann, Barbara, Pat, Winnie, Morgana, and Ann.

Fayann facilitated.

Vibes watch: Morgana

Timekeeper: Minutes: Ann

The minutes of the previous meeting were read.

Pat suggested a topic for a future feelings meeting: what a woman does on her own lot and how it affects others and the environment.

#### **Special Interest Group Reports**

Fire: Barbara said we've received notification in writing that the caps for the blowouts have been ordered.

Water: Winnie talked to Janice Galloway about the cap she can't get off. Janice said to hit the caps with a hammer. Winnie suggested leaving a hammer and screwdriver there to use.

Barbara said the blowouts are for refilling tanker trucks; there's not enough pressure to use them as hydrants.

Roads: Barbara reported that Chuck did not come after all, and no agreement has been signed. The road work has been postponed until Betsy is back. Winnie raised a question about her road, which had been scheduled for scraping back in May. Barbara said we had had a contract with Pete but he decided not to do the work. She plans to talk to Chuck.

Welcome letter: Morgana said there are two originals, of which one is for lot owners. Everyone needs a copy for herself and her guests. She needs feedback. Pat made copies.

Spirituality: The next circle will be Samhain, Friday, Oct. 27, at 7:30 PM. It will be held outdoors, weather permitting. Morgana will check with Mary Alice and Ellen, and also with Dore and Martha. It was agreed the circle should be open to nonresidents as well.

Social: The dance will be held on Saturday, Oct. 28, from 7:00 to 11:00 PM, in the screen house if Dore is here and at Winnie's if she's not. Barbara will bring the tapes we used at the last dance, and Winnie will bring her tape player. Pat suggested the fifth Tuesday in October be creativity night; all agreed. Pat invited everyone to meet her at Mi Casita in Summerville on Oct. 25 at 5 PM to celebrate her birthday. Winnie said Jae's birthday is Oct. 21.

Newsletter and calendar: The solstice circle will be Thursday, Dec. 21, at Winnie's. The circle will be at 5:30, followed by a potluck.

Landdyke conference: Winnie, Jae, Cybilla, and Linnea are going. Barbara will give them material relating to Alapine and SHELL/Crone's Nest.

Naming the community: This still needs more thought. SHELL should be included with Alapine. Pat would like a name to refer to and suggested Sam Bible.

Funding letter: The letter was read to the group and corrections were made. Pat observed that designating funds can bankrupt an organization because the money is used for that purpose alone and can't be used for anything else. Winnie said people should be able to designate if they want to but we don't want to ask them to do it.

Morgana wanted to start by asking for small amounts, since this is the first request for contributions.

Barbara will print out the address labels; she has a logo stamp.

Barbara said we should add the portion of the welcome letter on how to use the gate.

Letter to the neighbors: There's a deer stand on the farm land, fairly close to our border. Winnie drafted a letter to the owner asking that hunters on the farm land not shoot in our direction and that they be reminded there are people and pets living here.

Barbara said there are hunting hours in Chattooga Co., Georgia. No one was sure about Cherokee Co., Alabama, but all agreed it was something we need to know. In Alabama there are no limits on how close to residences a hunter can shoot.

Fayann said we have metal posts. We decided to form a work party to set the posts in along the property line on Sunday, Oct. 8, from 10:00 to 12:00 am. We'll meet at Rose's; Morgana will make lunch.

Winnie will add in the letter that we plan to delineate the boundary.

Food buying coop: Pat asked if there was any interest in joining the food coop Ozark. Everyone said yes. A coop organizing meeting was set for Oct. 18 at Pat's at 7:00 pm.

Since the feelings meeting and the second potluck were switched for this month, the Oct. 10 potluck was canceled.

The next meeting will be Nov. 7. Facilitator: Pat. Place: Jes and Betsy's?

Agenda: SIG reports Newsletter and calendar Landdyke conference

20 min. 10 min. Naming the community Boundary work

10 min.

10 min.

Thanksgiving potluck 10 min.

Process of letters (do they always have to come back to the business meeting?)

Respectfully submitted, an mareris

**Ann Marevis** 

From: Jes Ryn <egherbs@juno.com>

To: blieu@roman.net <bli>blieu@roman.net>; pottery@wavegate.com

<pottery@wavegate.com>

Date: Tuesday, October 24, 2000 3:34 PM

Subject: From Jes and Betsy 10/24

Hi Barbara, Morgana and Fayann,

Betsy and I are writing to thank your for the note from Sheeba in regard to the subject of shifting roles. It was very clarifying to hear Sheeba speak to the issues at hand. We realize now that we had a misunderstanding of the potential changes that could be created. We understand clearly that Sheeba has a specific intent and that the formation of a Community Association would not be the kind of association that either of us would be interested in being active participants in. Last November at the first meeting and even before that informally, we got the mistaken impression that Sheeba wanted to one day relinquish (or step down) its role in the running of the community. It was our mistaken understanding that even though Sheeba would still own the sanctuaries, roads etc., that the Community Association would take over the management of these aspects of community functions. This is why we thought it was important to be a part of the group that would set up a structure for the process of eventually taking over some of the responsibilities that Sheeba wanted to let go of. But we see from your notes that this is not the case, nor do you intend for it to ever be the case as you say in the last paragraph when you talk about Sheeba's role continuing after your deaths. Our interest in participating in any discussion of shifting roles was more from the prospective of adding our energy to formation of an association that would eventually have the responsibility and power to make policy. Since the policies are very clearly in place and since we would not have signed the covenant if we didn't think we could live with the rules, there seems to be no further need to process this topic. Neither of us were ever thrilled about going to meetings anyway. We wanted to let you know why we will not be attending meetings from now on unless the subject matter is of particular interest to us. Not having to go to meetings was a big plus in moving here to begin with. Thank you for putting out the effort to clarify Sheeba's position.

Jes and Betsy

# Alapine Community Association November 7, 2000

Attending: Ellen (facilitating), Pat (minutes), Morgana (timekeeper), Fayann, Winnie, and Mary Alice. The meeting was held at Pat's and everyone agreed to be vibes watchers.

Correction to minutes of 10/3/2000: In "Naming the Community", it should read that Morgana requested a name of someone to refer to about the origin of the name Batten Hollow. Pat and Winnie suggested Sam Bible.

**Special Interest Group Reports:** 

Social: Dance went very well, and the decorations and snacks were great. Fire: Fayann reported that UPS delivered the caps to a garage some where, and they have not been located. Mary Alice reported that Tri County Fire Rescue has made a spot for a deputy to be officed at the building. This means they will have a phone again. Welcome: Barbara sent written suggestions for further corrections to the gate use instructions. Winnie has the directions to the gate written out and in her computer. We found other corrections needed to the gate instructions, so Morgana suggested that we review it again and bring back final corrections to the next meeting. Roads: Betsy coordinated this project and did an excellent job. She spent time doing drawings and spent 5 days with the road guys. The community thanked her with money to buy bulbs for her garden. Barbara also helped. Thanks again for the great work. Ellen says that this is the best that the roads have looked since she has been here. Reminders: stay off roads as much as possible when it is raining or drive very slowly, and drive on one side or the other of the crown of the road making sure dashboard is at a tilt. Betsy would like to have half a day work party for handwork that needs to be finished up. If we do it soon, the roads will need less maintenance. Ellen will coordinate with Betsy and email everyone with the date. Pat will make lunch if on a weekend. Water board is unofficially agreeing to repair waterlines that were improperly installed. They have to call a special meeting. Problems came to light when roadwork was done and waterline was broken. Also culverts have been a problem to install with existing pipes. Fayann reported that the road guys did a good job and were nice to work with. They will do the work for water to road 2 once the water board makes the decision and the engineer's report is in.

Communications: Newsletter on the agenda.

Spirituality: Winnie's house is not available for Solstice, as she will be out of town. Pat recalled that Barbara offered her house as back up.

Sheeba Trust Update: This has been in the works for 3 years. Barbara has more info on it. Tabled until next meeting. Winnie requested that insurance policy be in a place where it could easily be found. Morgana reported that it is on Barbara's bulletin board. The name of the attorney is Gillis in Fort Payne. His name is on documents we all signed when we purchased lots. Several meeting attendees feel it should be a priority to get the trust finished and set up in order to protect the investments we are all making on our

properties. The obstacle to getting this in place is time for the Sheeba women to review the legal documents and make decisions on whom to name as trustees.

Newsletter: Morgana would like someone else to write something about the 2 circles we have had since last newsletter. Another idea is to have a poem about the owl and a few lines of introduction. Ellen has an owl poem, and Morgana will find one for the Samhain circle. Other ideas for articles to include in the newsletter are:

Susan Cherones' new bed and breakfast. Winnie has the web page address.

An article on the roadwork which Ellen will ask Betsy to write.

Calendar for next year.

An article about SHELL which Ellen will email Cybillah and Linnea about writing. Morgana will write about the TGM, Inc. meetings and Dore's progress on the topo map.

Naming the Community: Eloise and Buck reported Batten Spring feeds Ted and Irene's property. Batten Hollow was the family name of the owners in the early 1900's. Few clean springs that didn't stain clothing were in the area, so it was a popular laundry spot. Name could still be considered, but it isn't as appealing to some. Fayann feels we do not know enough about our community yet to name it. Ellen is concerned that if we don't decide soon the outside community will name it for us.

Thanksgiving Potluck: Pat will coordinate. We would like to have it at Jes and Betsy's or Barbara's if possible. About 11 women could be here. Ellen's son will be here. Would anyone object to his attendance? Turkey eaters want to be able to have turkey.

Coop: Pat reports that there is no requirement on how often we have to order. Catalogs were handed out to those who had not seen them. We will keep it on the agenda until we decide if there is enough interest. Barbara has pledged \$5 toward membership fee if we do join.

Farm: Morgana and Fayann reported that the father, Mr. Howard, and the young couple who are building, Amy and Chris, responded favorably to the letter we sent. The son, Kenny who hunts did not, but the father will handle that. They assured us they understand our concern. Kenny will be the only hunter, and he will only be there evenings and weekends. He also eats all that he kills. Amy requests we remove the orange surveyor tape as it ruins her view. The group approved this. The father owns 60% of land and does not plan to develop it. The children own 20% each on one end of the lake, so it is still possible that we could buy a good part of the farm land one day.

Funding Letter: Ellen feels we so changed the intent of the letter last meeting that it no longer makes sense and needs to be rewritten. Pat disagreed, but offered to work with Ellen on it and bring it back to the next meeting.

Feelings Meeting: Recap reports of last 2 meetings were done at the last meeting and are in the process of being typed up. Ellen has feelings about the changing role of Sheeba document, but wasn't able to attend the last meeting.

#### Calendar:

11/10 Rummy Cube resumes at Ellen and Mary Alice's at 7:30pm. Bring your own drink and volunteers for snacks are appreciated.

11/14 Potluck at Winnie's. It's her birthday, and she wants easy recipes for her Y2K ingredients. Ellen will bring a chocolate cake.

11/23 Potluck Thursday instead of Tuesday due to the holiday which some celebrate as Thanksgiving.

11/28 Feelings Meeting moved from usual date due to Thanksgiving week.

Next Meeting: Pat will facilitate, and it will be at Pat's house. Bring a chair if you are not comfortable in the ones that are there.

Agenda
SIG Reports
Coop
Naming the Community
Fundraising Letter
Sheeba Status Report on Trust
Welcoming Packet

Submitted by Pat Nolan who missed Ann being at the meeting and really appreciates the gift of her taking minutes at the meetings.

# Recap of Feelings Meetings

# September Meeting re: cats

Attending: Ellen, Martha, Pat, Mary Alice, Morgana, Ann and Linnea

- Cat owners summarized physical, emotional, spiritual and psychic methods they have been trying to use to contain their cats.
- Some still have problems with wandering cats.
- One woman let go of the issue since it became an issue of control
  of others and karmically she doesn't want to control or be
  controlled.
- Live traps are now available for anyone who wants to capture the wanderers, so they can be identified for focused training on where not to go.
- 3 stray dogs being kept on property caused some to have concerns that Alapine was becoming an animal rescue site, and their barking is disturbing sleep for some.
- Dogs will be relocated, so as not to cause a sleep disturbance.
- Morgana assured all that it wouldn't become an animal rescue. A
  pen was purchased and options are being explored for what to do
  with these strays since they could not be taken to LMAR. One idea
  is to work with Cherokee County in their effort to get an animal
  shelter.

# October Feelings Meeting re: Changing Roles of Sheeba and Alapine

Attending: Morgana, Fayann, Pat, Winnie, Ann, Barbara and Linnea

- Pat raised a concern from last feelings meeting about things done on one lot owner's property that impacts another lot owner, eco system or environment.
- This raised a question about what can be discussed at a feelings meeting. Does it have to be on the agenda ahead of time or can any feelings be brought up?
- Feelings meetings will deal with issues delegated from the Alapine Community Association meeting or from an individual's feelings on an issue. These will be determined at check in or as they arise in the meeting.
- Roles sometimes are issue specific and flexibility is important.
- Probably some areas will not be clear-cut and will be defined over time. Sheeba will try to have a representative at each association meeting.

- Some projects may be jointly defined by Sheeba and the association.
- In discussing the feelings and emotions about the roles, these points were made:
  - Sheeba's jurisdiction is the recorded covenants and restrictions
  - Association decisions are voluntary guidelines in areas not covered by covenants and restrictions

November 2000

## **Recap of November Feelings Meeting**

Attending: Ellen, Fayann, Ann, Winnie, Morgana, Barbara, Pat and Mary Alice

- Concerned expressed about holes in the gravel at the gate that appear to be caused from driving too fast in approach to the gate, stopping too hard and causing a skid-like pile up of gravel. A request was made to honor 15 MPH speed limit and make slow stops at the gate from both sides.
- 2. There were further reactions to the statement put out by Sheeba about their role.
- 3. We are not done on this topic. We are continuing the discussion of clarifying the Association and Sheeba's roles.
- 4. Everyone wants unity and agreements. No one wants to be or means to be divisive.
- 5. Process for letters that go out to the community from Association still needs further clarification.
- 6. Harder emotional issues arose, and Barbara requests that if a woman talks to you about issues she has with Barbara or Sheeba challenge her to speak directly to them or don't listen to her if she won't.
- 7. Semantical differences among the terms rules, guidelines, community norms and what can be done to encourage cooperation arose and need further clarification.
- 8. Again it was affirmed that Sheeba's role is the covenants and restrictions. Barbara feels her role is the roads and keeping the neighborhood lesbian.
- 9. We acknowledged that this is hard work, but we are willing to do it in the spirit of cooperation and growth.

#### ALAPINE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

December 5, 2000

The meeting was held at Pat's. Present were: Barbara, Pat, Morgana, Mary Alice, Fayann, Winnie, and Ann.

Volunteers for this meeting:

Facilitator-Pat

Timekeeper—Barbara

Vibes watcher—Fayann

Minutes—Ann

Pat called the meeting to order at 7:15 and led the group in centering.

Barbara made some additions to the agenda and made some announcements.

Barbara gave Ann the insurance numbers for the book, as well as directions to get here from Atlanta and Chattanooga.

Special interest group reports

Water: Barbara reported that the Cloudland Improvement Association met on Monday, Dec. 4, and agreed to replace up to 1,000 feet of water pipe on Diana Drive if they could get the job done for under \$5,000. If it would be over that amount, they would have to meet again to see if they could allocate more money.

Barbara gave Fayann a copy of the installer plans.

Janice priced out the pipe and is going ahead with the job. She and Rick Green, who will be doing the work, were going to come out to Alapine to look over the job. If he hits rock, that will be a problem.

Barbara said she told Janice Sheeba would pay the difference if the work went over \$5,000.

Welcome letter: Morgana passed out the latest version of the welcome letter.

Barbara said Jae had found a lock for SHELL at Lavender Mt. Hardware on Rt. 27. Barbara will buy one for Alapine and change the diagram in the welcome letter.

Spirituality: The solstice ritual will be on Dec. 20 at Ellen and Mary Alice's, if Ellen is willing. The Huntsville Feminist Chorus will be performing on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Fire: The caps have disappeared, Barbara said. UPS delivered them to a garage somewhere, but they haven't been found.

Janice said they were the wrong caps and suggested a supply place in Chattanooga.

Coop: Cybilla said a letter in the new catalog indicated the coop may go under.

Naming the community: Morgana said she's still considering Batten Hollow; it's a man's name, but it's oriented to the area and heritage. She wants to continue to leave the question open.

Fund-raising letter: Because of Ellen's illness, she and Pat couldn't get together. Since Ellen and Mary Alice will be traveling for six weeks, Ellen and Pat will have to meet in February. Pat would like to see a clip coupon in every issue of the newsletter. She said Ellen seems to have a problem with that, and Barbara suggested taking it to a feelings meeting.

Policy on letters: Barbara said the question had come up of whether it was OK to sign the name of a woman who wasn't at the meeting. If there are women who worked on the letter but weren't at the meeting, could the group approve the letter without their seeing it?

Morgana said an important letter needs to come back to the business meeting for final approval. It should be made clear that business is conducted at the business meeting.

A time-sensitive letter, such as Winnie's hunter letter, can be an exception.

A woman who took action can sign a letter but not sign for the community.

Pat suggested calling an emergency business meeting for a letter that needs immediate attention.

Sheeba status report on the trust: Barbara said she had no report.

The questions were tabled at the last meeting. The trust is in draft form only, Barbara said. Winnie asked what was stopping its completion, as it's been in process since 1998.

The trust would administer the sales of these lots to make sure the lots are kept in lesbian hands. If the trust is in effect and Sheeba is not here, the trust could buy a lot if there were no waiting list and hold the title until a lesbian wanted to buy it. The trust could administer roads, but that could pass to anyone.

Winnie said that if the trust doesn't exist and the members of Sheeba die, the shares would go to their heirs. She wanted assurance that that wouldn't happen.

Barbara agreed that the matter should be a priority.

Barbara said the insurance would pay off the debt to the Mercy Hospital Foundation. Individual lot owners would continue to pay off their lots to the corporation or the trust.

Morgana said a lawyer could draw up a provisional document to make sure the shares don't go to Sheeba members' heirs. She added that the stock certificate could name a beneficiary.

For those who paid in full, the lease would convert to a deed if Mercy Hospital were paid off. Winnie said it would be ideal if the trust were the beneficiary of the stock. She said those who had paid in full should record their deeds at the courthouse.

It was agreed to keep this issue on the agenda and get status reports.

#### Welcome packet:

The welcome letter and gate use instructions should be done as soon as possible. The complete package will take more than a year to finish.

Changing the meeting day: No other day was good for everyone. Winnie wasn't sure of the days she'll have class starting in January.

The vegetarian potluck will be at Barbara's on Dec. 26. The feelings meeting will be at Pat's on Dec. 19. Mary Alice's birthday is Dec. 15; she'll decide where she wants to go for dinner and let everyone know.

The next meeting will be Jan. 9, 2001, at Pat's. Morgana will be the facilitator. The meeting adjourned at 8:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marevis

#### Recap of 12/19/00 Feelings Meeting

Attending: Morgana, Mary Alice, Ellen, Ann, Barbara, Pat and Winnie

- 1. Sheeba reviewing the newsletter should be an agenda item for next business meeting.
- 2. In the discussion of clarifying Sheeba and the association role's, looking for a mechanism to solve problems before they fester sounds the same as a rule making body to some.
- 3. We clarified that feelings meetings are closed meetings for residents and lot owners of Alapine.
- 4. Agreed that coming together as a resident community is valuable.
- 5. Essence of community is whose needs are honored, the process for learning about those needs and honoring that everyone's needs are deserving of respect.
- 6. Because things change, Association should be flexible to respond to need for change.
- 7. Continue this discussion as a feelings topic until we clarify enough to put in writing roles of association and Sheeba.

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