

Subject: ACA minutes

From: Ann Marevis <catpurrson@windstream.net>

Date: Fri, 30 Jul 2010 14:34:57 -0500

To: bmoore2u2@hotmail.com, solights@bellsouth.net, gem1000@live.net, catpurrson@windstream.net

ALAPINE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

Activities Committee

July 29, 2010

The meeting was held at Mary Alice and Ellen's. Ellen facilitated. Present were: Jean, Barbara M., Winnie, Mary Alice, Ellen, and Ann.

Check-in began at 7:30.

Coops: The sale catalog for the Letting Go coop is going around.

Recycling: Bins are filling up, but there's no need yet for a trip to Fort Payne. Barbara M. and Mary Alice take some paper and plastic to Summerville occasionally.

Gate: The gate sometimes gets stuck in the open position. It may be that women click to close it before it has completely opened. Please watch so see that it's opened before clicking, or let it close automatically after a minute.

If you are purposely leaving the gate open, don't forget to tie a scarf on it so everyone knows it should be open.

Roads: The roads need some finishing work. At Rose's the new chert needs smoothing down—Barbara M. says there's a one-foot drop in one area. New chert and stone at the Community Center and the emergency exit need packing down too.

Fire: Ellen has requested a 60-day extension of the deadline for using the grant money. She'll ask about using grant money to pay for the survey of the easement.

A photo on the website shows our FireWise group with the sign reading Alabama Forestry Service.

NVC: The next meeting will be Aug. 19 at 7:30 at the Center.

Aging in Place: We'll discuss resuming meetings at the September meeting.

Discussion meeting: Barbara M. is typing up the final draft of benefits and concerns in dealing with the media and will distribute copies.

Sustainability/gardening: no report. The next meeting will be Aug. 26 at 7:30 at the Center.

Spirituality: There will be no Lammas circle. We'll plan a Fall Equinox circle at the September meeting.

Social: We'll have game nights on Fridays at the Center, starting Aug. 13.

We'll celebrate July-August birthdays with a potluck on Aug. 27, followed by games.

Workdays: We'll work on setting up the library on Monday, Aug. 2, at 9:30 am.

Community Center: The electricity should be operational soon.

Finances: two loads of chert and one load of stone cost \$650; we paid \$340 for closing costs on the easement and \$300 for the survey. We need to do major fundraising to move the propane tank, among other things. Some fundraising ideas are: a dance, an auction, a dinner, Bingo. We'll discuss fund-raising further in September.

The students at the University of Alabama-Birmingham may do some fund-raising for us, in addition to sending a work detail.

We could use some large, good-quality pots and pans, as well as a floor lamp.

Calendar: Monday, Aug. 2—workday, community library, 9:30
Aug. 5-8—World's Longest Yard Sale
Friday, Aug. 13—games, Center, 7:30
Thursday, Aug. 19—NVC, Center, 7:30
Friday, Aug. 20—games, Center, 7:30
Thursday, Aug. 26—sustainability/gardening, Center, 7:30
Friday, Aug. 27—birthday potluck, games; Center, 6:00
Thursday, Sept. 2—ACA Activities Committee, Center, 7:30
Wednesday, Sept. 8, 22—Fire Wise meeting, Center, 10:00 am

The meeting adjourned at 9:10.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marevis

15 AUG 10

NATIONAL MEDIA

After several discussion meetings, members of the community formulated the following list of concerns and benefits for consideration when being approached by the national media to publicize Alapine and women living in community.

CONCERN that:

Raising awareness about us could attract inquires from individuals who are not compatible with our community.

The tendency of CNN to search for or create a sensational aspect for a story might lead them to focus on our interpersonal conflicts or other negative community aspects, or to portray a positive aspect in a negative way or to take quotes out of context in a negative way.

Beyond CNN's promise to not reveal the name of our community or our exact location in the south, they denied us any review or control over final presentation.

National exposure increases the risk of being sued for discrimination under the Federal Fair Housing Laws.

Repetitious, 24 hour national coverage might hurt community members:

- A. To neighbors, work relationships , and/or family and friends locally/nationally/globally and negatively impact those relationships
- B. Local bigots will now know who and where we are and feel justified in taking action against us or our property.

National coverage is contrary to some members choosing Alapine because it is a low profile community.

National coverage exposes family members who have no say in the exposure and might be harassed.

With right-wing bigots feeling so empowered, the timing is a concern.

Other concerns:

We have no control over what any community member says or does so there is a concern that someone might speak to CNN or other national media.

15 AUG 10

BENEFITS

National recognition and validation which:

- * highlight our courage and pride in creating a unique community
- * generate positive interest and support both financial and otherwise
- * attract potential compatible community members
- * increase awareness of the existence of lesbian Intentional Communities
- * contribute to a more accurate portrayal of Lesbian and Lesbian communities
- * provide material we could incorporate into a self-produced video to share with other women-only communities and women's studies program and to use as promotional material
- * provide an opportunity to explain why women-only space is important and valuable

ALAPINE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

Board of Directors

August 24, 2010

The meeting was held at the Community Center at 2:00. Present were: Ellen, Emily, and Ann.

We discussed what needs to be done at the Center property.

1. Paint the roof of the storage building. ✓
2. Paint the exterior of the storage building. ✓
3. Wash the exterior of the Center. ✓
4. Mow the grass! ✓
5. Plant grass seed around the Center. ✓
6. Move the blue picnic table. Maybe Phil with his backhoe or other workers with a dump truck. We'll set it next to the Center. ✓
7. Clean up the leftover skirting and other material and put it under the storage building. ✓
8. Gutters on the storage building. ✓
9. Put pictures on the wall; rearrange library furniture. ✓
10. Put the beds together. ✓
11. Spread the rock in the driveway. ✓

*Can use a
pick up truck*

We have three

visitors coming in September. We decided for this one time to charge a sliding scale fee of \$10-\$20, including linen, if needed.

We'll have a work party on Saturday at 9:00 to clean up the outside.

On Monday, Aug. 30, at 11:00 there will be a green-light planning meeting to set out our vision for the layout of the property.

Priorities for using any money we get: rainwater collection and skirting on the Center (a must before cold weather).

The meeting adjourned at 4:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marevis

*Compost pile
can dust pile or bucket storage
plant bulbs*

Call Becky re: horse manure

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We discussed what needs to be done at the Center property.

1. Paint the roof of the storage building.
2. Paint the exterior of the storage building.
3. ~~Wash the exterior of the Center.~~
4. Mow the grass
5. Plant grass seed around the Center.
6. ~~Move the blue picnic table. Maybe Phil with his backhoe or other workers with a dump truck. We'll set it next to the Center.~~
7. ~~Clean up the leftover skirting and other material and put it under the storage building.~~
8. Gutters on the storage building.
9. ~~Put pictures on the wall;~~ rearrange library furniture.
10. ~~Put the beds together.~~
11. ~~Spread the rock in the driveway.~~ - Phil
plant grass seed

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visitors coming in September. We decided for this one time to charge a sliding scale fee of \$10-\$20, including linen, if needed.

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The meeting adjourned at 4:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marevis

ALAPINE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

Activities Committee

Sept. 2, 2010

The meeting was held at the Community Center. Present were: Ellen, Emily, Barbara M., Winnie, Mary Alice, Jean, and Ann.

Check-in began at 7:30.

Recycling: The bins are getting full. Mary Alice and Ellen said they were planning to take glass and cans to Fort Payne tomorrow.

To distinguish among the containers, it was suggested that we stand signs behind them. The signs can be made when someone can get to it.

Gate: A reminder: if the gate is still open after dark, close it and take off the scarf.

Roads: Barbara M. explained again that where the road was expanded at her driveway for a turnaround, there's a sharp drop in the gravel. She added that the rain we had recently washed out the new gravel Mike had put down, and that only part had been graveled—the rest was chert.

Emily noted that the blue stone comes in both chips and crush-and-run. The latter is much better, and they're the same price.

It was agreed that Ellen, Emily, and Barbara M. would meet with Barbara Lieu.

Fire: Ellen hasn't received any word on our requested extension of time to use the grant.

A survey of the emergency easement is already included in the grant.

Winnie noted that nothing—chairs, tables, etc.—should be set in front of the living room door; it's a fire hazard.

Emily said that the wood cut by the electric company will be marked with surveyor tape and everyone will be notified when it's available for pickup.

NVC: The next meeting will be Thursday, Sept. 16, at 7:30 at the Center.

Aging in Place: The next meeting will be Thursday, Oct. 14, at 7:30 at the Center.

Car pooling: We'll try to set up a regular schedule for shopping, etc. For a start, we'll meet at Jean's on Tuesday, Sept. 14, at 9:30 to go to Trade Day and do other Summerville errands. We may do lunch at the Chinese restaurant. Let Jean know if you're coming.

On Monday, Sept. 20, we'll try a bike/hike/picnic day in Rome. Meet at Jean's at 9:30. Contact: Mary Alice; let her know if you're coming.

Community discussion: This will be Thursday, Sept. 30, at 7:30 at the Center.

Sustainability/gardening: We're starting to prepare a garden site at the Center. Blueberries will be our first crop. We're starting an Adopt-a-Blueberry program: If you'd like to sponsor a blueberry bush, call Ellen. We'll be planting them along the back of the property nearest the trees.

We picked up four and a half truckloads of horse manure from the Beckys, which will sit and "season" for at least a year. We also need any organic matter—leaves, grass, etc.—you may have.

Mary Alice reported that this is Emergency Preparedness Month.

Our sustainability meeting will be Thursday, Sept. 23, at 10:00 am at the Center.

There will be an Eco Fair in Atlanta Station on Sept. 25-26. If you'd like to go, call Emily.

Spirituality We'll celebrate the Fall Equinox on Sept. 21 at 7:30 at the Center. Bring anything you want to share.

Social: Four women are stopping in to visit on their way to New Orleans on Friday, Sept. 10. We'll have a potluck that night—and celebrate September birthdays—at 6:30, and Emily will lead a hike the next morning. The women—Cheryl, Annie, Sarah, and Alice—will be staying at the Center. We decided on a onetime fee of \$10-\$20 per woman, including linens. We need everyone to bring water—unopened gallons of spring water for drinking, and gallons of water to use for washing.

For information on a nighttime kayak trip in Rome on Sept. 23, call Emily.

We discussed varying the games we play on Friday nights; we can even have two different games going on at once.

Workdays: On Monday, Sept. 6, at 10:00 am, we'll finish getting the inside of the Center ready for visitors.

We'll also get the compost bins built. Tomorrow, Ellen will clean the gutters so we can collect rainwater for washing in a temporary tank.

A library workday will be scheduled.

Community Center: See workdays above.

Barbara M. said the paperwork for installing the propane never went through. She's submitting a new application. We're on the list for the next available space. The company will call.

Barbara also said the electricity's total cost was \$2,015 and the bills are paid till next July.

The metal skirting (recommended by Firewise) will cost about \$1,200. Ellen will check Casey's Pest Control in fort Payne,

Calendar: Friday, Sept. 2—game night, Center, 7:30

Monday, Sept. 6—workday at the Center, 10:00 am

Friday, Sept. 10—potluck with visitors plus Sept. birthdays, Center, 6:30

Tuesday, Sept. 14—carpooling to Trade Day and Summerville stops; meet at Jean's, 9:30

Thursday, Sept. 16—NVC, Center, 7:30

Friday, Sept. 17—game night, Center, 7:30

Monday, Sept. 20—carpool to Rome for bike/hike/picnic; meet at Jean's 9:30; contact

Mary Alice

Thursday, Sept. 23—sustainability/gardening, Center, 10:00 am
kayaking in Rome; call Emily

Friday, Sept. 24—game night, Center, 7:30

Saturday, Sept. 25—Eco Fair, Atlanta Station; call Emily

Thursday, Sept. 30—community discussion, Center, 7:30

Thursday, Oct. 7—ACA AC, Center, 7:30

Thursday, Oct. 14—Aging in Place, Center, 7:30

The meeting adjourned at 9:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marevis

ALAPINE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC., Activities Committee--October 7, 2010

The meeting was held at the Community Center. Ellen facilitated. Present were: Ellen, Mary Alice, Emily, Barbara M., and Ann. Check-in began at 7:30.

Recycling: Mary Alice and Ellen have taken some, and so has Barbara M. It seems under control.

Reminder to everyone: In plastics, only Nos. 1 and 2 are accepted, and they must be bottles with necks.

Gate: The latch still needs to be fixed. We still need to get Phil to do some greasing and leveling. We will decorate the gate on Friday, Oct. 15, at 11:00 am. Mary Alice will get a bale of hay.

Roads: Barbara L. will deal with the roads when she gets back.

FireWise: The survey of the emergency exit has been done. Sean is not available to work. Emily will coordinate with Jay.

NVC: The next meeting will be Oct. 21 at the Center at 7:30.

Aging in Place: The next meeting will be Oct. 14 at the Center at 7:30.

Community discussion: The next discussion will take place on Oct. 28 at the Center at 7:30. Sarah, a young woman from Vermont with a major in Gender Studies, would like to spend three weeks here in January to further her studies. Concerns about exposure of Alapine need to be addressed, maybe at the Community Discussion meeting. We also need to discuss the Sheeba Power Point presentation. With an eye to the National Media work we've already done, we need to look at all the ways we are exposed.

Sustainability: There will be a workday on Oct. 12 at 2:00.

We brought 12 loads of horse manure from Becky & Becky's; most of it went to the community garden area. Mary Alice, Ellen, Emily, and Ann spread some of it in the trench Phil had dug for the blueberry bushes, while Phil brought scoops of topsoil and clay to mix in. Ellen and Mary Alice obtained a trailer from Muscles and a water tank from Pat. They filled the tank at Jean's and have it at the blueberry trench.

Spirituality: We'll hold a Samhain/Hallowmas circle on Saturday, Oct. 30, at 7:30 at the Center. Planning will be on Oct. 22 at 10:30 at the Center.

Social: We'll have a double feature DVD night on Oct. 18. Come at 6:00; Mary Alice will make soup for everyone. The movies are: "Letters to Juliet" and "Who Does She Think She Is?", the latter about woman artists.

We've scheduled another bike hike for Oct. 25, at the same park in Rome. Meet at Jean's at 9:30. Anyone interested in going should let Mary Alice and Ellen know by Saturday, Oct. 23, so they can get tires pumped at Canada's. Bring your own picnic lunch.

Community Center: The maintenance committees:

Kitchen—Barbara M., Jean; *Bathrooms*—Ellen, Ann; *Reservations/cleaning*—Emily, Mary Alice

Anyone who has a guest staying at the Center is responsible for clearing the dates with Emily, and for taking care of linens and cleaning.

Emily said Myriam will be staying at the Center from Oct. 28-Nov. 1.

Ellen and Emily are listing donations and donor information on the computer.

Ellen worked with the air conditioning/heater repairman. Everything's fixed, and we owe \$135.

Emily and Ellen will work on an information sheet regarding the University of Alabama involvement.

We may apply for a Tillotson grant for our rainwater collection.

Announcements: On Nov. 10, AARP will present a Driver Safety Program, sponsored by the Menlo Housing Authority. The cost will be \$12 for AARP members, \$14 for nonmembers; some car insurance will give you a discount--check with your insurance company. The program will be presented at the Lawrence Center from 9:00-4:00. Call the Housing Authority office to reserve a spot, 706-862-2240.

Mary Alice will coordinate an order to VitaCost. Get orders to her by Oct. 15.

Qigong: Wednesdays (for now) at 11:00. We need a DVD player on loan or as a gift.

Calendar: Friday, Oct. 8—games, Center, 7:30

Tuesday, Oct. 12—garden work party, Center, 2:00

Thursday, Oct. 14—Aging in Place, Center, 7:30

Friday, Oct. 15—gate decoration, 11:00

games, Center, 7:30

Monday, Oct. 18—DVD double feature, with supper, Owlsong, 6:00

Thursday, Oct. 21—NVC, Center, 7:30

Friday, Oct. 22—planning for Samhain/Hallowmas circle, Center, 10:30
games, Center, 7:30

Monday, Oct. 25—bike hike, meet at Jean's, 9:30

Thursday, Oct. 28—Community Discussion, Center, 7:30

Friday, Oct. 29—games, Center, 7:30

Saturday, Oct. 30--Samhain/Hallowmas circle, Center, 7:30

Thursday, Nov. 4—ACA AC meeting, Center, 7:30

Wednesday, Nov. 10—AARP driver safety program

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marevis

ALAPINE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.-- Activities Committee-- Nov. 4, 2010

The meeting was held at the Community Center. Present were: Mary Alice, Jean, Ellen, Emily, and Ann. Check-in began at 7:35.

Recycling: Community members have pitched in and taken recycling when they can.

Gate: The latch still needs fixing. We need to get Phil to do the greasing and leveling at the same time.

Roads: We'll ask Barbara L. to put off working with Mike until the Firewise work is completed. Barbara L. and Fayann have put a cone and sawhorses around the end of a culvert on Diana Dr. near Cerridwen that's a potential hazard for cars.

Firewise: The notes are attached to the main set of minutes.

NVC: The next meeting will be Nov. 18 at the Center at 7:30.

Aging in Place: Suspended for this month.

Community discussion: The next session will be Nov. 11 at the Center at 7:30. We'll discuss prioritizing the overall plans for the community. Last month we discussed research projects and Sheeba's Power Point presentation. There was general agreement that research projects and lesbian media differ from the popular media, that we would ask for the intention of the writer or researcher—what she intended to do with the material she gathered. The consensus was that we would reject projects having the intended result that information about Alapine Community would "appear on our local neighbors' doorsteps" without their having asked for it—i.e., popular media. We have

a college senior, Sarah, coming Jan. 2-22 as a work exchange. More about her next month.

Sustainability/garden: We'll be planting 14 blueberry bushes—donated by individuals—in the community garden this weekend.

Spirituality: We held a Samhain/Hallowmas circle on Oct. 30. A guest from Mentone joined us.

Social: Emily will show her Netflix DVD, "A Woman Called Golda," at Mary Alice and Ellen's on Wednesday, Nov. 10, at 7:30.

We'll carpool to Trade Day and any other errands in Summerville on Tuesday, Nov. 16. We'll leave at 9:30 and eat lunch out if everyone wants to. Call Mary Alice and Ellen. On Saturday, Nov. 20, we'll have a get-together with Martha and Dore at the Center at 7:30. Bring snacks. Since so many will be away over Thanksgiving, any celebration will be impromptu. Ann will coordinate if anyone's interested.

Community Center: A reminder: Anyone who wants to have a guest staying at the Center should make arrangements with Emily. If Emily's away, call Mary Alice.

Alapine Community Association – monthly planning—Dec. 9, 2010

Due to severe cold the meeting was held at Owlsong. Present were Emily, Mary Alice and Ellen. Mary Alice took notes for Ann, who, due to her respiratory illness, is still in NY with her daughter.

Annual Meeting—rescheduled for Monday December 20, 2010, at 1:00 pm, at the Center.

Gate—Holiday decorations were done by Emily, Mary Alice, Jade & Rand, lights from Barbara M. After the holidays we will work on the lock.

Response to inquiry—we composed a response to an inquiry about Alapine's policy regarding children—basically that no boy children could live here. They can visit for short periods.

Firewise—The project is completed! Barbara L sent the final lengthy report to the Al. Forestry Commission. This project could never have been done without the tireless work of Barbara L doing all the "paper work" required by the grant. A detailed report will be given at the Annual Meeting. And, thanks to the rest of the Firewise committee for seeing this project to the end—Emily, Mary Alice, Ellen, Fayann, & Jean.

Community Discussion—next meeting January 13, 7:30. We will continue on the overall planning for the total use of the community property.

Spirituality—Alapine's Women's Winter Solstice Circle—Monday, December 20, 2010, 7:30 at the Center. Planning will be Friday Dec 17, 4pm, at the Center.

Social—New Year's Eve Annual party—at the Center—details will follow.

Fundraising—No word yet on the Tillotson-Menlo Grant.

Calendar:

Friday, Dec. 17, planning Solstice Circle, Center, 4 pm
Monday Dec. 20, **Annual Meeting** at the Center, 1:00 pm
Monday Dec. 20, **Solstice Circle**, Center, 7:30pm
Wednesday Dec. 22, Dec. Birthdays lunch, Olive Garden, Rome, 1 pm
Thursday Dec 23, caroling at Oak View Assist. Living, meet there at 2pm
Friday Dec 31, Annual New Year's Eve celebration—details will follow
Sunday Jan 2, Sarah, a work-exchange student, arrives
Tuesday Jan 4, carpool to Trade Day, lunch & errands, meet 9am Jeans
Thursday Jan 6, Monthly planning mtg, Center, 7:30
Friday Jan 7, Potluck with games following, Center 6 pm

Alapine Community Association, Inc.—BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES—Special Meeting December 18, 2010

Minute 1:

The Board of Directors authorizes the RAINWATER COLLECTION COMMITTEE to open a new checking account at Regions Bank for GRANT financial business. The first Grant to use this account will be the Rainwater Collection Grant from Tillitson-Menlo Foundation.

Minute 2:

The Board of Directors authorizes all three members of this Committee to be check signers on the Grant Account: Emily Greene, Ellen Spangler, and Mary Alice Stout.

Minute 3:

The Board of Directors authorizes adding the Vice-Chair's name, Emily Greene, to ACA's original checking account.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marevis, Secretary

Notice of Annual Meeting Date--

Monday December 20, 1:00 pm, at the Community Center

The theme of this year's gathering: *Celebrating the accomplishment of COMPLETING two major projects!* (This would be a major feat for a much larger community, so it's a remarkable, maybe magical, accomplishment for our small community!!!)

- 1) Getting the land prepared, moving the donated doublewide to the Community lot, and with minimal expense, creating functional access to the building. Actually, we did more than the group decided to take on last march—it is minimally functional with utilities, not a year or two later. MUCH more details will be presented at the Annual Meeting.
- 2) Completing the extensive work for community Fire Protection that the Firewise Grant afforded us. Details of the 100's of hours of volunteer work that made this possible will be presented Monday.

We will also honor the 2 women who gave the gift of the doublewide; the 2 women who donated the lot; the 4 women who willingly worked tirelessly, putting in 100's of hours to make all this possible, plus donating money to help cover costs; the 2 community members with limited energy who frequently asked "what can I do to help?" and gave it their all; the other 4 community members who put in time to help raise money, do physical labor, or help meet the terms of the grant; and the non-residents who have helped out with donations at crucial times.

Alapine Community is a volunteer organization. All accomplishments are because some members volunteered to join with others and do the work. We learned in the Women's Movement that those actively involved want the best research and the best outcome, and make the best decisions. If there is a need of yours you believe is not being met, get involved, offer to do the needed work with the group, help do the research to know the choices, find the funding, and respect others limitations.

ACA monthly Activities meeting: (to be used by volunteer facilitator)

Check-in

Reports:

1. Co-op
2. Recycling
3. Gate
4. Roads
5. Fire prevention
6. NVC
7. Aging in Place
8. Discussion meeting
9. Sustainability—garden/food storage
10. Spirituality
11. Social
12. Work days
 - a) Center
 - b) Gate & roads
 - c) Individual homes
13. Community Center
 - a) Finances
 - b) Preparing land for moving the building
 - c) Inside—items needed, cleaning, etc.
 - d) Library
14. Fund raising
15. Grant writing

Other Old Business

New Business

Calendar