



**SEMCU Foundation
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, March 19th, 2024, at 6:00PM
In-Person at Madera County Library
and Virtual Meeting**

Call to Order – 6:08 pm

Roll Call:

Igal Treibatch – in-person
Dov Adler – in-person
Verlaine Elinburg – in-person
Summer Skov – in-person
Ben Rocca – online
Robin Konegni – online
Sarbjit Johal - online
Anthony Forestiere – online
Scott Silva – online
Al Solis – by phone
Mike - online

Previous Meeting Minutes – Robin confirmed she is ok with extending her membership to 2026.

- o Motion: Igal motioned to approve previous meeting’s minutes
- o 2nd – Anthony seconded the motion
- o Vote – All in favor

Public Comments – No public comments

Officer Reports

- o Dov Adler, President – Nothing new
- o Verlaine Elinburg, Treasurer
 - \$6,247.86 – Starting balance
 - \$600 – Independence bill (newspaper)
 - \$5,647.86 – Ending balance
- o RWMG Report from Al Solis - 2/20/2024 Meeting:
 - 26 participants
 - Financial report: \$24,560 balance – starting & ending balance
 - Still working out who will monitor checks
 - Discussion about RCDs being part of the group; motion approved to allow w/o dues.
 - Accounting – How to be handled? MID did not like a suggestion (no specifics)

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- Igal spoke to someone there to get estimate on Accounting
- Previous accountant asked if SEMCU would take on responsibility of their Accounting; SEMCU had said no and is still no
- Wondering if he RWMG meetings are covered by the Brown Act; Bobby will research with the County Council
- Chowchilla Nitrate Control Program – Suggested to give \$50 gift cards to each of first 50 people who becomes applicants
- Indian Lakes / Parkwood – 38% installation complete; projected April completion; project under construction in Madera – 2 projects in design stage; City of Chowchilla starting soon
- SGMA projects implementation – 4 projects in process, being delivered to DWR
- Discussed drought working group; application of \$125,000 grant approved by DWR to monitor wells in Madera Ranchos area; reviewing draft agreement with DWR
- Al will check on when \$\$ will next be available for grants
- Igal wants to contribute to the \$1M recharge well planning & SEMCU to support
- RWMG projects – Being called & need to be submitted for review before 4/10
- In-person meetings? Not in May but maybe in June
- Discussed Columbia RCD possibly joining RWMG
- Next meeting (online) on 3/20
- Summer Skov’s Website – SEMCU was posted as non-profit & posted flyers as Events

□ New Business Discussion Items

- Igal got double-side flyers emailed to all parents of GVSD for donating items
 - Newspaper Ad – Putting donation flyer in paper for March or April (5,000 printing) Suggesting now having high school clubs distribute 300 flyers to businesses printed on a thicker paper. Summer can distribute some to the Golden Valley Baptist Craft Fair Saturday
 - Motion: Igal: Print flyers & distribute
 - 2nd – Summer Skov
 - Vote – All in favor
- Margaritas and Lunch at the Mahils’ – Sunday, May 5th – Madera Farm Bureau
 - Motion: Igal: Sponsor by donating \$500, which allows one SEMCU person to attend
 - 2nd – Al Solis
 - Vote – All in favor
- Madera Farm Bureau – Sent out an article stating an almost 68% loss of family farming operations in 6 years due to lowered college education enrollment on agriculture. Igal read how Madera County is working with the GSA & Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) regarding water recharge and credits. The State wants to take control of water use and limit to 6 inches of water only. Igal will keep supporting farm use by speaking to people in the County and sent a letter on his ideas (to Matt Draper Head of Staff in Madera County and Stephanie Anagnoson, County Director of Water and Natural Resources and Darren, Educational Economic Development).

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- Upcoming Flatlander’s Parade
 - Parade Route – Igal will speak to supervisor (Jordan) on route. Verlaine has information that the City will discuss this month. They want to “walk the route” and Igal wants to participate. Verlaine said Mika (Chief of Staff) is coordinator. Grand Marshal chosen, possibly Ralph Pistoreshy. Igal would like to ask for an ambulance available for kids to look at for learning, as well as Sherrif and Fire Department vehicles.
- Flatlander’s Fair – Follow-Up Regarding volunteers to run the booths – Flatlander’s Fair
 - Verlaine will get information about booth placement. Igal wants to attend meetings.
 - SEMCU is donating \$1,000 from SEMCU to sponsor fair operations – Donating to Chamber of Commerce – Chamber will give Verlaine what they need and then Verlaine will write the check.
 - Pick up items by coordinating with Verlaine & Scott: providing truck & trailer, storing until the day of the fair. Verlaine, Igal, and Scott discussed picking up items.
 - Raffle at the fair – Tickets being given out as they donate items for sale. Prizes can be the bigger donated items or \$100 gift cards.
 - Motion: Donated items & gift cards will be given as prizes.
 - 2nd – Verlaine
 - Vote – All in favor
 - Some donated items being dropped at Verlaine’s is garbage & Scott will pick up and toss as garbage. Good items will be stored at shop. Scott will need to make an invoice that shows his time spent on SEMCU and SEMCU can pay it with a check from Pegasus. Greenleaf will donate to SEMCU for that check
 - Donation of time – Worker needs to create an invoice & Verlaine pay w/ check
- Monthly Article in Ranchos Independent – SEMCU Speaks
 - March article – Anthony drafted - Federal and State of CA Tax Law Changes – Igal to approve & send to Anthony for final approval
 - April articles – Volunteers: Article that Igal read on water recharge
 - May article – Should be about upcoming Parade & Fair
 - June article – Should follow up about success of Parade & Fair
 - Dov suggested he do a follow-up for one month
- Fair Booth – 3 (\$20 each) – one for SEMCU, two for donations to sell
 - Need volunteers – Maybe the high-school students, as a volunteer for credits task. No seniors, as they are cancelling their own events due to lack of volunteers.
 - Set up early morning; take down at about 2 pm
 - Ben & Igal have items to donate & Igal suggested renting a truck to share
- 4-page SEMCU Donor Flyer
 - Status of Potential Donor List – Mike working with Igal – Igal wants to change the donation amounts. Igal will contact veterans again regarding donations. Igal is doing an edit:
 - Silver sponsorship: \$25,000

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- Platinum: \$15,000
- Gold: \$10,000
- Silver: \$1,500
- Supporting: \$500
- Dov knows of some vendors that donor each time SEMCU asks
- Motion: Igal to increase amounts
- 2nd – Dov Adler
- Vote – All in favor

- Social Media
 - Suzane Skov, Ranchos resident, helping with Social media – Her website: “Madera Ranchos Business Directory” – She monitors many social sites daily
 - Monitoring the community channels on social media and collect profiles of individuals that contribute to daily/weekly posts in the community at The Ranchos, such as “What’s Up In the Ranchos” on Facebook and “NextDoor”
 - Igal suggests putting positive comment posts “from SEMCU” to get our name out there – Sarbjit supported and Summer and Igal had suggestions

Next Foundation Meeting – Tuesday, April 16th, at 6:00pm

Adjournments – 7:19 pm