**Redlands Mesa Grange #487**

* **Minutes for May 18, 2022**

Present: Andy Pilkington Grange Master, Jeri MacTaggart Secretary, Tammy Marty Treasurer, Janet Quinn, Michelle Meyers, Beverlee Michaelson, Christine Haak, and Joan Hollins. The meeting was called to order by Andy Pilkington at 6:30.

Minutes from the April 20 meeting were reviewed. Tammy moved the minutes be approved and Michelle seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Tammy presented the treasurer’s report. Janet moved the treasurer’s report be accepted and Joan seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

**Committee Reports:**

**The membership report:** The only thing on the membership report was from the treasurer’s report. The quarterly dues were sent to the State Grange.

**Promotion:** Andy will check the email list to make sure the State Grange is receiving notifications from RMG #487. If not, they will be added to the list.

**Old Business:**

**Payne Siding Cleanup:**

After visually inspecting the road from the railroad tracks to the top of Payne Siding, it was determined the road does not need our attention at this time. We will continue to monitor that section as well as other roads on Redlands Mesa and recommend cleanup projects as necessary.

We tabled discussion for the Kids Pasta Project until a representative from the project or the RMG liaison can be in attendance to answer questions. Discussion of the Directory of Redlands Mesa Businesses was also tabled.

**New Business:**

Andy noticed a large number of vehicles at the Grange Hall a couple of weeks ago and wasn’t aware of any activities planned. Jeri will compile a list of regular Hall users with contacts and who in those organizations have access either with a key or the combination to the door. Michelle will contact someone from the Overland Ditch Company to see if they were the ones using the Hall when Andy noticed the group. We discussed whether we should change the key to the front door but decided at this time it would cause more disruptions than positive outcome.

**Monthly Activities:**

We discussed monthly sponsored activities at the Grange Hall and will start with a Craft/Needle work night. Anyone will be welcome to bring their own projects to work on. We decided to have this activity in the evening as there are some sponsored activities like this in various locations during the day and some people would prefer an evening as daytime isn’t possible for them. Our first night will be June 23rd from 5-8 pm. Joan will advertise this as well as other activities on Facebook and Next Door Neighbor and Andy will advertise through our email list. We will ask Gloria about advertising on the website.

Michelle will write a survey asking what kinds of activities our community want us to sponsor. She will send it out through email for review and we will approve it next meeting. We will try to send the survey through email and regular mail and explore other venues to get information out to the public. We will have surveys available at the BBQ for people to fill out there.

We will also go forward with the Music Night. Joan will contact Paul for input and Beverlee will continue work already started on research for improving acoustics.

**Barbecue:**

We discussed ideas for the Summer Barbecue we are planning in conjunction with the Redlands Mesa Fire Department. We tentatively set July 16th for the date as we have several activities planned in conjunction with the BBQ. We also thought a late day (4 pm) might be best to avoid the heat. Michelle will contact Doug to see if that date works *(Michelle did contact Doug later that night and he ok’d the date.*) Sue Whittlesee of the High Wire Ranch talked to Andy about donating Bison meat for the BBQ. Michelle will talk to Sue and determine what that will be. We will then determine whether we will cook hamburgers and hot dogs or go with various smoked or slow cooked meats. The BBQ will be potluck so the Grange will provide the meat and beverages *(tea and lemonade*) and everyone will bring a dish to share. The Fire Department will provide an Ice Cream Social for the event. Janet talked to the Hotchkiss Bank of Colorado and they do have a grill they will loan to organizations. We will have a Silent Auction as an associated fund raiser for the BBQ. We will not charge people to come as we are promoting a community event through potluck. Games will be available such as Horsehoes, CornHole, and Frisbee and others as we get suggestions. We will clean up the Grange property in preparation for the BBQ. Cleanup will be May 28th beginning at 8 am. We will send an email to members asking for volunteers. Volunteers will need gloves and yard tools. Garbage bags are to be determined. If we still have some from the last road cleanup we can use those.

A committee was formed for the BBQ. Jeri, Tammy, Joan, and Christine will work on that committee. Everyone’s input will be greatly appreciated!

As part of the cleanup, we discussed repair of the merry-go-round. Several suggestions were made including wood planks, Trex, and Marine Grade plywood. Andy will research options. *(Jeri contacted a general contractor for input and he said wood is not as expensive right now as Trex. He said the plywood would cause splinters. He recommended wood and to treat with penetrating sealant then sand and coat with polyurethane. The sealant would be a one-time application and the polyurethane would need to be reapplied periodically every few years.)*

With no further business Andy adjourned the meeting at 8:05 pm. The next meeting will be June 22, 2022 at 6:30 at the Grange Hall.