



SUDDEN VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
SUDDEN VALLEY VIEWS

June 2023

WWW.SUDDENVALLEY.COM

Golf course irrigation system, road improvements coming

Irrigation system, marina dock replacement, just two examples of ongoing improvements

By Sarah McCauley
 Staff Reporter

SUDDEN VALLEY — During

the May Sudden Valley community association board of directors meetings, more projects, and funding for projects, were approved as improvements continue in the Sudden Valley Community. Projects approved range from a new irrigation system for the golf course, to ongoing road repairs and replacing the marina boat launch.

During the May 11 meeting, Brian Kruhlak, director of golf at Sudden Valley Golf Course, and Greg Wadden, turf care superintendent at Sudden Valley Golf Course, presented the capital request for the purchase and in-

stallation of a new programmable logic controller (PLC) for the pump station at hole 17 and a soft start motor controller at the Lake Louise pump station.

The golf course was almost entirely renovated in 1994, then in both 2019 and 2020 several of the components of the golf course irrigation system reached the end of their life cycle and were replaced, according to a summary of the proposal.

However, the PLC for hole 17 was not replaced and is now in need of replacement. Kruhlak and Wadden said they also re-

commend installing the soft start motor controller at the Lake Louise pump station as the “device will protect the underground pipes that run from the Lake Louise pump station to the [hole 17] pump station,” according to the summary.

After some discussion about the system, the board approved \$44,981.46 from CRRF funds, previously allocated for the maintenance of the turf care building, for the purchase and installation of a new PLC for the golf course irrigation system.

In the same meeting, the

board approved funding for the 2023 Roads Project. This project encompasses three scopes of work, which include street signs, pavement marking, and asphalt repairs. All the proposed work is intended to improve the safety and quality of SVCA’s roads, according to a summary of the plan.

The plan includes replacing 191 street signs, repainting centerlines on SVCA roads, and repairing as much asphalt delamination as possible. Delamination is when the top layer of asphalt

See **Irrigation** on 12

IN THE DAYS OF YORE ...



From the Sudden Valley Gazette



Aromatic barbecued salmon, buttered and hot from the coals, is checked by a leading Seattle chef as he caters to prospective Sudden Valley property owners. A huge, gaily decorated dining tent provides seating for a chuckwagon-style meal, including baked beans, hot dogs, cole slaw, French rolls, coffee and soft drinks.
 (Courtesy SVCA)

SVCA board does not form parks, communications committees

By Sarah McCauley
 Staff Reporter

SUDDEN VALLEY — Two resolutions to establish committees did not move forward during the May 11 Sudden Valley Community Association Board of Directors regular meeting.

The board voted to not move forward with establishing a parks and trails committee.

Sonia Voldt, treasurer of the board, was one of the main voices against establishing the committees. She, along with Board President Andrew Tischleder, cited concerns about previous iterations of the parks committee. According to Voldt, in

past years trail committees had been established that performed unpermitted work trail work and moved forward with projects that were not properly planned and budgeted.

“I am strongly opposed to a committee that organizes volunteers to perform work on our parks, playground, and trails for the reasons I’ve already stated,” Voldt said. “As well as the fact that unpermitted trail work has been performed throughout Sudden Valley creating potential liability for the association.”

Tischleder expressed similar concerns about the committee mobilizing volun-

See **Committees** on 8

AGM candidate application period begins on July 5

By Gail Chiarello
 Chair, Nomination and Elections Committee

Interested in running for the board? Nominations and Elections? Architectural Control Committee?

Applications will be accepted from July 5 through the end of business on Sept. 5.

Packets will be available online at suddenvalley.com or in person at the Welcome Center from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday-Friday (during regular business hours).

Applications must be returned in person to the Welcome Center, 1850 Lake Whatcom Blvd., Bellingham, or mailed to 4 Clubhouse Cir., Bellingham, WA 98229 in a sealed envelope, addressed to the N&E Chair. Applications must be received and date-stamped at the association’s principal office on Sept. 5.

The time and date the submission is received will be stamped on the sealed envelope.

Each candidate must be listed on the deed to the property. Candidates are required to be members in good standing from the time of application and, if elected, through the conclusion of their term of office. Applications will be reviewed to insure candidates meet these requirements

at a special meeting of the Nominations & Elections Committee the evening of Sept. 5. A lottery will be held to determine the order in which candidates’ names appear on the ballot.

Candidates may submit a 100-word biography and photo. Board candidates may additionally submit a maximum 500-word vision statement.

Photos and bios will appear in the AGM election booklet. All documents will be submitted for publication in the October Views.

Candidates are encouraged to submit these as part of their application packets; they can also be submitted electronically to BODChiarello@suddenvalley.com no later than Sept. 7.

Verify the accuracy of your application before submission. No corrections or grammatical errors will be edited. No changes may be initiated by the candidates. The N&E Chair may contact applicants if the application appears incomplete.

Once applications have been processed and confirmed, vetted candidates will receive a notice from N&E containing further instructions. Questions may be addressed to the N&E Chair at BODChiarello@suddenvalley.com.

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MEMBER FEATURE

Member submitted article

Valley Arts Group plans July exhibit

draising for our scholarship program, field trips, our website and other topics needed to sustain the Valley Arts Group, which has been meeting quarterly for about 20 years.

Then each attendee shares at least one piece of current art. Then we focus on the Featured Artists and his or her work. You are welcome to stop in and see us at work, especially after 11 a.m.

when we hang the new quarter's art. The exhibit will be up until October, so make a date. Or come to the reception for the featured artists in the Community Center/Barn on July 15 from 2-4 p.m.

Never attended an Art Gallery Opening? This is your chance.

Heard the rumor? Valley Arts Group is clique-y. Well, don't you believe it. The featured artist for the summer quarter joined the group in April, and his exhibit begins in July. Last quarter's Michael Davolio was also a new member. We are open to members and delighted to have you whether you want an exhibit or not.

Featured Artist 1: In the Barn/Community Center: Aaron Craven

Aaron Craven is a talented and passionate photographer who has been capturing the beauty of the world around him for many years.

Originally from the Maryland/DC metro area, Craven moved to Sudden Valley in late 2022 from Seattle and is eager to become part of Bellingham's vibrant arts community. Craven's journey into photography began before the advent of digital photography. He has spent countless hours in the darkroom, developing film and processing negatives taken with his father's old Pentax camera.

This experience gave Craven a deep appreciation for the art of photography and a keen eye for detail.

Craven's love of the arts began early through experimentation, sculpture, watercolor, oil,



'Owl,' by Aaron Craven, above, and 'Curious Deer at Play' by Virginia Heaven, below, will be on display July 15 through October. (Courtesy photos)



acrylic, and mixed media. In the past, much of his more traditional work could be seen at different galleries and restaurants in DC and Baltimore.

His traditional training in art combined with his love for photography has allowed him to develop a unique style that blends the technical aspects of photography with artistic expression.

Craven's photographs capture the beauty and intricacy of his subjects, whether it be the softness of a pet's fur, the ruggedness of a mountain range, or the emotion of a family gathering.

If Craven had his way, he would spend his days photographing the breathtaking beauty of nature and

See **Valley Arts** on 9



RECORDED INFO ON SUDDEN VALLEY
weather events . road conditions .
closures . other timely announcements

www.SuddenValley.com



summer to-do list



Camping at Larrabee State Park



Grab a burger from the Sudden Valley Market



Bioluminescence spotting at Teddy Bear Cove



Bike ride or hike at Lookout Mountain



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AROUND THE VALLEY

Unseasonably warm weather made it feel like summer had arrived. All staff are focused on completing preparations for the pool and marina openings, and on keeping up with the quickly growing grass and other vegetation.

It has been rewarding to see the planning we did over the winter come to fruition in clean, well-equipped facilities and amenities.

Administration

Activity summary

- Onboarded new Administrative staff member.
- Continued work on new SVCA website.
- Actively interviewing to fill current open staff positions.
- Onboarded seasonal recreation and lifeguard staff.

Successes

- Developed annual review format and process.

Planned work

- Testing of new website and transfer of content.
- Kickoff implementation of new phone system.
- Continue screening and interviewing applicants for open staff positions.

Accounting

Activity summary

- Continued routine work to maintain monthly financial schedule; delivered March financials on schedule.
- Sent out new payment coupons to reflect the end of the Recreation Special Assessment.
- Prepared for 2022 financial audit.

Successes

- Finalized insurance policy renewals for 2023.

Planned work

- Begin work on reserve study.

- Prepare materials for 2024 budgeting process.

Maintenance

Activity summary

- Firewise – all gates have been completed.
- Opened bathrooms at AM/PM Park.
- Painted parking space lines at Marina and AM/PM park.
- Opened overflow parking at the Marina & AM/PM Park.
- Mowed Rec-Corridor, Marina, AM/PM Park, Adult Center, and other areas.
- Mowed shoulder on Barn View Drive.
- Started shoulder mowing in Gate 5.
- Changed door lock configuration at Rec Center locker rooms.
- Changed door lock at Marina office.
- Installed new ignition relay on SP-5.
- Repaired stop sign post at exit to Gate 5.
- Repaired window facing main pool at Rec Center.
- Opened both pools for the season.
- Removed lawn furniture from storage and transferred furniture between Main Pool, Adult Pool, and the Welcome Center.
- Repaired taillight on SP-6; Serviced OP-25.
- Repaired front door lock at Rec Center.
- Repaired pole for volleyball net in front of the Rec Center.
- Removed hazard tree on SVCA greenbelt.
- Removed a picnic table from the lake at the Marina that someone had placed there.
- Mowed Rec-Corridor, Marina, AM/PM Park, Adult Center, Northpoint Park, Gate 5 Park, Gate entrances and other areas.
- Seasonal road shoulder mowing in Gate 3 and Gate 5.
- Repaired door closing mechanism at Adult Center.
- Repaired door locks at Adult

Pool storage areas.

- Repaired fencing at Adult Center.
- Replaced rock barrier at Marina boat launch and cleaned gravel from roadway.
- Made signs for administrative staff at Welcome Center.
- Opened emergency access road between Gate 28 and Gate 5.

Successes

- Pool maintenance and start-up went well and were on target for Memorial Day opening.
- Firewise Program 2023 is complete. The final project cost allocation has not been updated, but the maintenance crew has spent more than 540 labor hours on this project.

Planned work

- Plan installation of new AM/PM gate, gate should be ready for pickup Friday.
- Mow area parks and facilities.
- Repair two pool access doors at Adult Center.
- Install swim line boundary at Marina.
- Change door lock at Marina storage area
- Road shoulder mowing
- Installation of new gate at AM/PM park
- Mow area parks and facilities
- Install swim line boundary at Marina
- Install buoys in front of Marina
- Purchase supplies and plan repairs on Marina docks
- Road sign cleaning, this season will be a targeted approach with a sign replacement project upcoming
- Work with Turfcare to supply water for lawn renovation project at Barn 8
- Clean exterior of Marina office and Marina Pavilion
- Provide cost estimate to fill potholes at lower golf course parking area

Recreation

Activity summary

- Working through waiting list for open Marina moorage.
- Held training for lifeguards and seasonal recreation staff.
- Prepared pools for Memorial Day opening.
- Cleaned and opened Marina office.

Successes

- Achieved hiring goals for lifeguards and seasonal rec staff.

Planned work

- Continue to onboard seasonal staff.
- Finalize plan for water lily mitigation.
- Keep pools running smoothly.

Golf

Activity summary

- Ensured that promotional emails were set for the remainder of the Golf Club tournament schedule.
- Successfully hosted the second Golf Club event of the season.
- Met with a contractor to discuss possible golf course drainage project.

- Presented with Greg Wadden, a request to SVCA Board for purchase of an irrigation pump panel for the 17th hole pump house.

- Met with Jo Anne to outline golf department processes and reporting in more detail.

- Updated several golf revenue tracking spreadsheets.

- Worked on online registration configuration for upcoming events.

- Successfully hosted 120 player Golf Club event on May 20th.

- Successfully hosted 161 player Junior event on May 21st.

- Finalized F&B plan with WWU event coordinator.

- Confirmed final Junior Camp instructors and began to set up the groupings.

- Finalized Ladies & Men's Invitational entry forms and sent out e-blast.

- Proofed and edited June Golf Club newsletter and distributed it to golf members.

- Wrote and submitted a Junior Golf grant request for our Junior Golf Camp.

- Wrote an article for June SV Views.

- Created an ad for Views re-

See **Around the Valley** on 7

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Dr. Chaddock is a western Washington native. He attended WWU and is a 2003 doctoral Graduate of the University of Washington School of Dentistry.



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POLICY

The Sudden Valley Views welcomes letters to the editor submitted by members of the Association. Topical submissions of current news interest may be accepted up to six times per calendar year. Letters of up to 550 words are allowed. The editor may edit for style and libel.

DEADLINES

The deadline for editorial submissions (including letters to the editor) for the upcoming issue is the 23rd of each month. Editorial items may be submitted to: bill@lyndentribune.com. For advertising information and deadlines, please contact Mitze Kester at mitze@lyndentribune.com or call 360.354.4444.

LETTERS

Changing of the guard

Editor,

Some wondered why, as the sole person elected to Nominations and Elections at the 2022 AGM, I did not serve as Chair.

January through April I work as a master tax preparer and am stretched for time. We elected Michael Wadsworth as chair.

I became secretary, with the thought that come June, when Michael's seasonal food cart activity kicked in, he would have time constraints, and we might revisit these roles.

On May 24, Michael stepped down, and the committee unanimously elected me chair with Michael as the new secretary.

I have a huge debt of gratitude to Michael for his leadership of the committee these past five months. He has been a fearless and tireless spokesperson for N&E issues, both at the board and in the larger community.

Thank you, Michael — I hope I do as well.

Gail Chiarello

Chair, Nominations & Elections

Want to see bike lanes constructed along Lake Louise Road?

Editor,

Bike use is significantly increasing on Lake Louise Road and Lake Whatcom Boulevard.

With the advent of e-bikes, and rising popularity of mountain biking, this is likely to continue. In places pedestrians must also walk on the roadway.

Unfortunately, the roads pose many safety hazards for bicyclists/pedestrians, and frustrations for motor vehicle operators, as there are blind turns, few/no shoulders or bike lanes, and limited opportunities for vehicles to safely pass bicyclists or pedestrians.

A citizen group appointed by the county executive called the Bike-Ped Committee advises county government on needs and priorities for needed bicycling safety road improvements. The Committee is developing a priority list of needs for multimodal trail development which will be forwarded to the executive in four months.

One of the emphases in this priority is development of trunk lines which will safely carry bicyclists to neighboring towns — especially Ferndale and Lynden.

Little consideration has been given to developing a trunk line along Lake Louise Road which could be done without impacting privately owned lands by using the public right of way.

It is also feasible to improve bike safety along additional portions of Lake Whatcom Boulevard without impacting private lands.

A trunk line along Lake Louise Road would connect into Lakeway Drive (where bicycle improvements are continuing to be made) providing a safe bicycle way for Sudden Valley residents into Bellingham.

This would not be simply marking the existing roadway. It would involve the construction of wide road shoulders or a separate multimodal trail.

It is very timely for interested citizens to express their interests in construction of these bike lanes.

The most effective way for communities to be placed on this priority list is to develop a petition to be presented to the Bike Ped Committee and the county executive.

Petitioning the Committee and the Public Works Department is typically done to get highway safety enhancements (like appropriate signage) put on the priority list.

Usually, these petitions involve a small

number of signatures as they focus on a very local need.

If Sudden Valley residents were to put together a petition with many signatures it would attract significant attention.

We are also approaching elections in November and a petition with many signatures would attract the interests of candidates.

There are competitive state and federal grants available to support the development of bike lanes.

To access this capital, it helps if community members show a demonstrated need via a formal signed petition.

Several Sudden Valley residents are working together to circulate a petition calling for the construction of wide road shoulders (or ideally a separate multimodal trail) which will be presented to the Bike-Ped Committee and the county executive. Included among them are Whatcom County Park Commissioner Frank Boteler (fboteler51@gmail.com), Sudden Valley Board Member Brian Cope, Kurt Keller, Janet Salo and Jennifer Boteler.

If you are interested in supporting the effort, consider signing their petition..

Franklin E. Boteler
Bellingham

A separation of church and HOA

Editor,

I'm not anti-Christian or full of hate as I've been accused. I am, however, entirely against a penny of my dues in any way promoting a church that engages in discriminatory hiring practices. Christ the King Church (CTK) does not hire those who are openly part of the LGBTQ community.

June is LGBTQ Pride Month and a perfect time for a conversation about the

relationship between SVCA and CTK.

There were some complaints about CTK's recent rent increase and an inaccurate narrative that CTK was being treated unfairly.

CTK enjoyed the benefit of low rent for years, \$650 a month/no utility costs.

There is also a history of free articles in the Views, announcements on the SV website, access to staff.

While CTK may have a legal right to discriminate, I don't believe it's something that most residents approve of.

At his CTK service on Sunday, Feb. 26, Pastor Manning said that his vision is to transform this community and that the "Valley needs Jesus." No thank you.

Most anti-LGBTQ+ sentiment has its roots in churches. CTK will say that they accept all to attend their services in a pretense that they don't discriminate. Refusing to employ someone based on their sexual orientation is absolutely discrimination.

CTK also uses the phrase *belong, believe, behave*.

A theory that inviting someone to belong to the church will be followed by biblical belief and the right behavior will result.

It may not be conversion therapy but it certainly isn't acceptance.

The Bellingham community rallied in 2019 when a young man was fired from The Firs camp because of his sexual orientation.

It's beyond me why the Sudden Valley community has turned a blind eye to CTK's hiring practices and allowed them to use our HOA as a recruiting ground.

It's time for SVCA to take back our events, including the yearly Easter egg hunt. It was run by Sudden Valley for years before it was handed to CTK as promotional tool.

CTK is a tenant of SVCA and if that is to continue, that should be the extent of the relationship.

Anything else is condoning discrimination.

Anne Cope
Sudden Valley

Submitting letters to the editor

The *Sudden Valley Views* encourages letters to the editor.

However, submissions must refrain from attacking individuals without providing supporting documentation or a rational and legally defensible justification.

Letters should be emailed to bill@lyndentribune.com and should not exceed 550 words.

Your letter must include your full name, complete address and telephone number.

Your address and telephone number will not be printed in the newspaper, but will be used for verification by newspaper staff.

Neither unsigned letters nor letters containing personal attacks of a libelous nature will be published.

The *Sudden Valley Views* reserves the right to edit or refuse any letter. All columns and letters on the opinion page are the views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the *Sudden Valley Views* newspaper.



SUDDEN VALLEY VIEWS
Sudden Valley Community Association
4 Clubhouse Circle, Bellingham, WA 98229
www.suddenvalley.com

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WILD THINKS

Hey kids, do you have an interesting or funny Sudden Valley pic or artwork you'd like to share?

Submitted by: Cole, 4 & Scarlett, 18 mo

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9:30 AM			9:30 AM
10:00 AM			10:00 AM
10:30 AM			10:30 AM
11:00 AM			11:00 AM
11:30 AM	Open Swim W/ a Lap Lane (when requested) 12:15PM - 7PM	Open Swim The pool is open to individuals of all ages during open swim. During open swim there is a maximum of 1 adult per 6 children. All minors 13 years of age or younger must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Pool games are allowed throughout the pool during this time. Lap swimmers may have the occasional swimmer cross their lane to get to the deep end, which is permitted during open swim.	11:30 AM
12:00 PM			12:00 PM
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7:00 PM	Pool Closed	Enjoy Your Swim!	7:00 PM
7:00 PM			7:00 PM

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1973: A summer of fun

At right, photographs from 1973 in Sudden Valley, undoubtedly a summer of fun. (Photos courtesy Sudden Valley Community Association)



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- Help **preserve retirement** assets you already have
- Have **available cash flow reserves** for emergencies
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- At least one borrower must be age 62 or older

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Ages Kindergarten to Adult

Sampling Austin Creek



On May 23, Fisheries and Aquaculture Sciences students from Bellingham Technical College surveyed Austin Creek -- and they found fish. Students sampled Austin Creek for what kind of fish, how many fish and the size of the fish. Stay tuned to the July Views issue for their survey results and pictures. (Nancy Alyanak/Sudden Valley Views)

South Whatcom Library friends group looks for board members

The Friends of South Whatcom Library are looking for folks who love books and enjoy engaging with others for a good cause to serve on our Board of Directors.

The Friends of South Whatcom Library is a non-profit organization composed of volunteers from across the Geneva, Glenhaven and Sudden Valley communities.

We love the South Whatcom Library and all it has to offer our communities. We support the library by raising awareness of library services, providing volunteer support for library events and activities, and by raising funds to support some of the library's special needs.

Friends of South Whatcom Library have a nine-member board who oversees the group's mission and vision. Board members may



also choose to serve on various committees or sub-committees to support our ongoing work. Members of the board are elected to a two-year term.

Board elections take place in September. If you have an interest, please contact us via our website at swlfriends.org, or by submitting a written note to Friends of South Whatcom Library at 8 Barn View Drive, Bellingham, WA 98229. We'd love to hear from you.

Around the Valley

Continued from 3

garding golf course walking times.

- Finalized content and scheduled a KJR radio ad.
- Ordered supplies needed to refresh our footgolf course.

Successes

- Gained approval from SVCA Board for pump panel capital purchase.
- New 100 player outing booked in September.
- Good weather pattern continues to lead to strong revenue. YTD revenue now ahead of budget and 2022.

Planned work

- Host 100-plus player Golf Club event on May 20.
- Host 120-plus player Junior Golf outing on May 21.
- Coordinate and host WWU outing on June 1- 2.
- Finalize camp groupings and send out informational email to parents of junior campers.
- Coordinate and host Golf Club event on June 10.

Turf Care

Activity summary

- Golf course conditioning/mowing continues at a frantic but scheduled pace, to keep up with turf growth.
- Sand trap edging weeding continues.
- Sod repairs to #2 green substantially complete. Waiting for a cool down in the weather to finish.
- All the water cooler "huts" have been put into service.
- An aggressive verti-cut and sand top-dress was completed on the putting greens.
- Broken bridge deck board on #9 hole replaced.
- Repaired irrigation valve leak on #9 fairway.
- Verti-cut front and back 9

greens.

- Began fairway slicing. A cultural practice to open the turf canopy to allow water and air movement through the profile.

Successes

- Favorable weather is helping us keep up on mowing and maintenance operations.
- New gold tee boxes plan to have them open and in play first week of June.
- Really proud of the existing crew we have on site that go out of their way to get the jobs done on time, and in the most efficient way possible.

Planned work

- Two bridge timbers require replacement. Cracked one on #9 bridge and one on Bridge behind driving range tee.
- Reviewed landscape around clubhouse with GM and planned for a seasonal refresh of plant material.
- Improve renovated lawn area between the barns with overseed, fertilizer, and roll.
- Library gardens mulch ordered for June 1 delivery to parking lot stall(s) behind #9 tee box.
- Overseeding of barn lawn area.

Golf Course Walking Times Begin June 11th!

Non-Golfers are permitted to walk the front (lower) nine holes every Sunday evening after 6:00pm.

Please begin your walk at the first hole as there may still be some golf play on the last few front nine holes until 7:00pm.

Call the golf shop at 360-734-6435 with any questions.

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Two Sudden Valley pools, two sets of pool rules



more relaxed area where people swim at their own risk.

There are some shared rules for the use of the pools, and each of these amenities has some rules of its own to ensure safety and enjoyment in the two different environments.

The following rules are in force at both pools:

- All swimmers must shower with soap and water before swimming.
- People with seizure, heart or circulatory problems should not swim alone.
- Enter the pool from the wet step feet first or use ladders or stairs.
- Use of facility is prohibited if under the influence of alcohol or

drugs.

• No food or drinks in the pool. Food and drinks may be consumed a minimum of four feet away from the pool edge.

- No glass within the facility.
- Persons with a communicable disease or who have been ill with vomiting or incontinence within the last two weeks cannot use the pool; this includes open sores or lesions.
- No diving.
- No breath-holding or prolonged underwater lap swimming.
- No inflatable devices are allowed except Coast Guard-approved personal flotation devices (PFDs).

Those requiring use of PFDs must remain within arm's reach of an adult.

- Swim-specific attire required. Long hair must be pulled back and no shoes are allowed within the pool.
- Violation of pool rules shall be \$25 for the first offense plus suspension of pool privileges for 30 days, with doubling of the monetary fine, and 30 days suspension, for each subsequent violation.

Main pool

The following rules are in force at the main pool:

- No swimming unless a Lifeguard is on duty.
- Lifeguards are always in charge. Lifeguards have final authority to enforce all pool rules.
- Pool use will be limited to a safe number as determined by the lifeguard on duty.

• Maximum occupancy of 150 persons within the pool facility.

• Lifeguards may request individuals to prove their swimming ability. Lifeguards may restrict use of the pool by non-swimmers. All minors are subject to a swim test.

• Use of fins, snorkels, or any toys must be authorized by the lifeguard on duty.

• Alcohol, drugs and pets are prohibited in facility.

• Adults or children who use diapers must use swim-specific diapers and wear a protective covering to prevent contamination. Diaper changing in the pool facility is prohibited.

• No horseplay, running, playing on ladders, throwing objects/swimmers or riding on shoulders. No water or squirt gun toys are allowed.

• Spitting, spouting, or swallowing water from mouth or blowing nose in the pool is prohibited.

• No hanging on or swimming across occupied lap lanes during lap swimming specific swim times.

Lap lanes in the pool during open swim are not exclusive and may need to be shared.

Quiet pool

The following rules are in force at the quiet pool:

- No lifeguards on duty. Swim at your own risk.
- This is a limited use pool for use by SVCA members, renters, and guests only. The quiet pool is for the quiet enjoyment of all SVCA members.

• No activities shall be conducted at the quiet pool as to put the pool into the classification of a general use pool.

• Alcohol may be consumed at this pool by persons of legal age.

• Maximum occupancy of the quiet pool is 30. Pool occupancy is set at 25 adults and 5 children.

• If you don't follow the rules, you may be removed from the premises.

• In an emergency, call 9-1-1. Emergency phone is located within the designated pool area.

The following are child safety requirements at the quiet pool:

• Due to lack of lifeguards, all children under the age of 18 (minor) shall be accompanied by an authorized adult to ensure the safety of the minor around water hazards.

• All children under 18 must have passed a swim test given by a SVCA lifeguard and be wearing a bracelet issued that day.

• When a child 12 years of age or less is using the pool, an authorized adult must always accompany the child and be at the pool or pool deck when the child uses the facility.

• If an individual between 13 and 17 is using the pool, at least two other people must be at the pool facility.

• There is a maximum of two children that one adult may bring to the pool.

• Children who are not potty-trained may not use the quiet pool.

• All children 7 and under must have an adult in the water supervising them at all times.

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- Google Review

Committees: SVCA board says no to parks/communications

Continued from 1

teers to perform work on parks and trails. He and Voldt both said committee members might not have the proper knowledge base nor background to ensure the work is done correctly.

"I don't support the committee the way it's written," Tischleder said. "I think recruiting and organizing volunteers is all well and good. I think a formal volunteer program needs to be developed, and I don't think the parks and trails committee is the appropriate place for that to happen."

After a vote against establishing a parks and trails committee, the board then discussed and then rejected a communications committee.

Tischleder explained that SVCA General Manager Jo Anne Jensen and other association staff were already handling most of what the communications committee would do. He said it could be useful, but that more specificity was needed regarding the function it would serve.

"Personally, I think there's some merit in the communications committee," Tischleder said. "But I do think it needs to

be a lot better, more well thought out. And really determine what that committee is being used for."

Voldt talked about the lack of clarity on what purpose the committee would serve, while also acknowledging it may be useful down the road if they specify what is needed from the group.

"Just because I'm opposing these committees, that's not to say we are not going to identify there are some committees we still need to form as we move along," said Voldt. "It's just the way these are structured, currently, I don't feel that we need them."

Tischleder proposed that the board either vote on the committee or agree to revisit it after looking further into SVCA's communications strategy. Jensen explained that at this moment the website is taking her focus away from communications, but she would be able to look into it later on in the summer.

"At this time, all of the parts of my schedule that could be focused on communications are focused on that website," Jensen said. "So, I would not turn to the communications strategy until we have a properly functioning website, but I anticipate that that will happen during the summer and then we can bring that strategy back."

The board did not take a vote and agreed to revisit the matter later, after there was time to review the communications strategy.

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-- Contact Sarah McCauley at sarah@lyndentribune.com.

SVCA security vehicles a ‘familiar sight’

By Jo Anne Jensen
SVCA General Manager

SVCA’s white security vehicles are a familiar sight as they drive through the neighborhoods in each gate on their daily rounds. Most residents, however, have not had an opportunity to interact with security and may not know the role they play in our community.

The requirement to provide security services to the community is mentioned in Sudden Valley’s original articles of incorporation, so it is a fundamental role of the Association.

The SVCA Bylaws define this responsibility further, noting that a security guard must be on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

While on duty, guards patrol SVCA property, driving varied routes through all gates and checking high traffic areas several times per shift.

When not on the road, guards monitor security cameras, respond to email, and write their reports.

SVCA’s guards are provided through Pacific Security’s Bellingham office, a respected firm with many years of experience in

the greater Bellingham area and throughout Washington State.

By working with a third-party provider, SVCA is able to take advantage of Pacific Security’s infrastructure, including regular guard trainings and inspections, a centrally-located dispatch facility, automated reporting and communications, and back-up guards when one of the regularly scheduled guards is absent.

SVCA’s security guards’ standing orders are to observe and report.

They do not have the legal right nor the training to take action against the perpetrator of a

crime. They document what they observe and they alert the sheriff and other agencies as appropriate.

Security guards act as the eyes and ears of Administration, alerting us to possible violations of SVCA’s Rules & Regulations and to situations or issues that may affect safety.

Guards also support the Sheriff’s Office and Fire Department when they respond to a call in Sudden Valley, and manage traffic and crowd control during large events.

If you are aware of a rule violation (for example, loud music,

construction after hours, illegal parking) or safety concern (such as fallen trees, debris in the roadway, trespassing, or vandalism), please report it to security.

You can reach them at (360) 319-8200.

If you feel threatened or wish to report a crime, SVCA strongly advises you to call the Whatcom County Sheriff’s Office by dialing 911 in an emergency or calling 360-676-6911 for non-emergency dispatch.

You can also report a crime online at the following link: <https://apps1.whatcomcounty.us/reportcrime>.

ValleyArts: Group makes plans for July exhibit

Continued from 2

the captivating personalities of animals. His unwavering passion for the natural world is evident in his work; he strives to capture his subjects’ every detail to showcase their unique qualities.

In addition to his photography work, Craven is a skilled digital artist who uses his photographs as a canvas to create imaginative and unique designs. He is constantly exploring new techniques and methods to bring his artistic vision to life, and his creativity knows no bounds.

Craven’s desire to spend his time immersed in the natural world is a driving force behind his work, and he is constantly seeking out new opportunities to explore and capture the world around him.

If you would like to see more of his creations, check out Aaron CravenPhoto.com.

Featured Artist 2: Near El Agave: Virginia Heaven
Virginia Heaven is a long-term

member of the Valley Arts Group, which she says offers acceptance and support from members. It doesn’t hurt to have a quarterly goal of having new work either.

While her family has lived in the Pacific NW for several generations, Heaven moved from Seattle to Sudden Valley 30 years ago. Her childhood was spent on a farm in the Skagit Valley, during which she developed an interest in critters of all shapes and sizes.

The arts have been Heaven’s interest and career throughout her life. After obtaining a mas-

ter’s degree in fine arts (MFA) in Ceramics from the University of Washington, she spent her career teaching the visual arts in a Jesuit High School. Imagine the challenge: Teaching required art classes to teenagers.

More challenging was moving those who were completely turned off art by a previous teacher’s commenting that their art was inferior. Heaven piqued their interest by presenting art as problem solving. For example, she asked: How could they visually express the word *joy*? When,

in any given year she could not tell the difference between those who had previous art experience and who had none, she felt deeply rewarded.

Heaven enjoyed watching teenagers be like sponges, learning quickly, wanting to be challenged and being very creative.

Kayaking became part of her life to explore and be one with our beautiful Northwest. Her love of the Northwest is apparent in her

work, as are the remarkable critters she paints, displaying their intriguing personalities. From cougars to deer, Virginia brings critters closer to us.

Heaven decided to work with watercolor after retiring from teaching, finding it to be very expressive and spontaneous.

For more info about the Valley Arts Group and our artists, visit valleyartsgroup.org or facebook.com/ValleyArtsGroup.



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FINANCIALS

Sudden Valley Community Association Balance Sheet March 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022			
	Unaudited** Mar 31, 2023	Unaudited** Dec 31, 2022	Inc / (Dec)
OPERATIONS			
Current Assets			
Operating Cash	\$ 589,969	\$ 505,901	\$ 84,068
Building Completion Deposit Fund	467,700	492,620	(24,920)
Member Receivables - Operations*	-	46,750	(46,750)
Other Receivables	9,866	8,288	1,578
Prepaid Expenses	41,931	81,738	(39,807)
Inventory	12,076	6,209	5,867
Total Current Assets	1,121,492	1,141,497	(20,005)
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	(204,804)	(200,746)	(4,058)
Accrued Vacation Liability	(66,622)	(61,526)	(5,096)
Accrued Payroll	-	(54,377)	54,377
Prepaid Assessments	(139,535)	(181,105)	(41,570)
Building Completion Deposits	(487,700)	(482,620)	(5,080)
Other Refundable Deposits	(5,486)	8,918	(14,404)
Prepaid Golf Memberships	-	(153,151)	153,151
Total Current Liabilities	(1,064,127)	(1,148,241)	84,114
Operating Reserve Funds			
Emergency Operating Cash	361,185	361,096	89
Undesignated Reserves Cash	266,844	223,185	43,659
Total Operating Reserve Funds	628,029	584,281	43,748
Net Operating Assets	\$ 685,394	\$ 577,737	\$ 107,657
CAPITAL			
Capital Current Assets			
CRRF (Capital Repair & Replacement) Cash Fund	3,319,543	3,220,671	98,872
Roads Reserve Cash Fund	2,641,536	2,560,947	80,589
Board Diversity Reduction Cash Fund	87,552	87,552	-
Mallory Cash Fund	107,447	103,061	4,386
CRRF Capital Reserve/Holding Cash	213,629	262,193	(48,564)
Mitigation Assignment of Savings Cash	44,578	44,545	33
LWSD Assignment of Savings Cash	9,076	9,076	-
Member Receivables - Capital**	-	(19,262)	19,262
Total Capital Current Assets	6,423,261	6,305,307	117,954
Capital Fixed Assets			
Fixed Assets	14,517,951	14,413,152	104,799
Less: Held for Sale	204,809	204,809	-
Total Capital Assets	14,722,760	14,613,962	108,798
Long Term Liabilities			
CRRF Loan 2022	(1,979,760)	(2,041,668)	61,908
Capital Leases	(151,658)	(166,257)	14,599
Total Long Term Liabilities	(2,131,418)	(2,208,025)	76,607
NET ASSETS	\$ 19,699,997	\$ 18,292,980	\$ 1,407,017
MEMBER EQUITY			
Member Equity			
Current Year Net Income: Operations	82,884	(77,084)	159,968
Current Year Net Income: Rec Special Assmt	24,209	22,523	1,686
Net Transfers Out from Operations to Capital	-	(482,480)	482,480
Current Year Net Income: Capital**	348,550	1,644,235	(1,295,685)
Net Transfers into Capital from Operations	-	482,460	(482,460)
Retained Earnings**	4,988,751	5,068,407	(79,656)
Capital**	14,255,603	12,659,934	1,595,669
TOTAL MEMBER EQUITY	\$ 19,699,997	\$ 18,292,980	\$ 1,407,017

* The Association's internal policy is to write off any member receivables that are 90 days past due on bad debts for internal financial statements purposes. As per SVCA policy, Management continues to pursue collection of these receivables via all avenues allowed by Washington State laws. In addition, the Association records and bills finance charges on receivables that are thirty days past due at 1% per month. At March 31, 2023, and December 31, 2022, the balances of receivables written off were \$806,147 and \$599,878, respectively.

** Beginning with the 2020 year audited financial statements, Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 606 requires issued audited financial statements to reclassify unspent capital dues revenue, including applicable capital transfer fee revenues, as a contract liability balance (unearned revenue), which is then reversed out in future years when those collections are actually received or capital related expenditures. This particular accounting standard change is only incorporated into the issued audited financial statements and is not factored into SVCA's internal monthly statements as it would obscure the reality of capital related collections for internal monthly presentation purposes. See SVCA's 2020 and 2021 audited financial statements. (2021 represents the most recently issued audited statements, which fully incorporates ASC 606 and complies with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP)).

Sudden Valley Community Association Income Statement Summary						
UNAUDITED	Current Month - March 2023			Year to Date - 3 Months Ending 3/31/2023		
	Operations & Operating Reserves	Operations Better / (Worse) Budget	Capital Reserves**	Operations & Operating Reserves	Operations Better / (Worse) Budget	Capital Reserves**
REVENUE						
Current Year Dues & Assessments Income						
Dues & Assessments Income	179,708	-	230,844	539,117	-	692,532
Bad Debt Reserve	(229)	-	592	(24,423)	-	(21,691)
Net Current Year Assessment Income	179,479	9,075	231,436	514,694	3,484	670,841
Special Ops Assmt Income: Rec/ Pools/ Parks						
Dues & Assessments Income	36,494	-	-	109,479	-	-
Bad Debt Reserve	762	-	-	(371)	-	-
Net Special Ops Assmt Income	37,256	2,781	-	109,108	5,685	-
Bad Debt Recoveries - Prior Years						
Golf Income	60,632	3,245	3,664	299,462	(6,533)	22,121
Marina Income	41,216	(110,179)	-	43,962	(107,432)	-
Rec Center & Pools Income	126	34	-	761	(14)	-
Legal & Collections Income	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Income	6,822	(644)	-	17,309	(3,825)	-
Rental Income - Other	234	(34)	-	1,681	881	-
Area 2 Rental Income	143	(1,857)	-	6,001	1	-
Lease Income	3,552	48	-	10,656	145	-
New Home Construction Fees	3,500	3,500	-	3,500	3,500	-
Capital Gain (Loss) on Sale of Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment Income	71	(17)	790	210	(52)	2,256
Total Revenue	333,031	(94,048)	236,090	1,006,844	(104,161)	695,218
EXPENSES						
Salaries & Benefits	198,810	43,567	-	427,116	89,422	-
Contracted & Professional Services	29,086	(20,348)	-	55,789	(19,546)	-
CC&T/ Mandates	42,695	(14,263)	-	110,462	(25,175)	-
Maintenance & Landscaping	44,760	(4,942)	-	107,632	10,880	-
Utilities	12,374	-	-	44,722	(3,671)	-
Administrative	17,402	(9,526)	-	38,726	(3,910)	-
Regulatory Compliance	45,199	(7,669)	-	62,575	(10,108)	-
Insurance: Premiums	13,786	(591)	-	41,017	(1,485)	-
Other Expenses	-	83	-	-	250	-
Depreciation Expense	-	-	101,574	-	-	306,054
Interest expense	-	-	7,276	-	-	21,352
Total Expenses	404,094	(14,423)	109,250	888,019	46,657	327,406
Net Income (Loss)	(71,063)	(108,471)	126,840	118,825	(57,504)	367,812
Net UDR Activity for Operations						
Fleets/Road Mowing/Clean Green	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hazardous Tree Removal	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net Income (Loss) with Board Approved UDR	(71,063)	(108,471)	126,840	118,825	(57,504)	367,812
Other Activity						
Net Other UDR Activity*	13,824	-	-	(40,064)	-	(19,262)
AR Accrual - Prior Year Reversal	-	-	-	(46,750)	-	-
AR Accrual - Current Year	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vacation Liability Accrual	(3,947)	-	-	(5,046)	-	-
Total Other Activity	9,877	-	-	(11,732)	-	(19,262)
Grand Total Activity	(61,186)	(108,471)	126,840	107,093	(57,504)	348,550

* Prior year recoveries for operations are deposited into the Undesignated Reserve Account (UDR).

** Refer to the last footnote on the Balance Sheet (prior page) for a discussion of Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 606 and capital dues revenue collections.

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Safety first on Sudden Valley golf course

By Brian Kruhlak
SVCA Director of Golf

With the recent unseasonably warm and dry weather, it's probably time for me to address the issue of non-golfers walking, jogging or riding on the golf course. It is somewhat of a challenging issue because the golf course

sits on a beautiful piece of property and has nice paths that seem ideal for a walk, jog or a bike ride. Unfortunately, it is simply not safe to be on the golf course unless you are playing golf. I know that over the years there have been several instances where non-golfers on the course have been confronted by golfers. Sometimes politely and other times, unfortunately not so politely. These confrontations, our inability to enforce the policy at all times and the policy itself can leave golfers and non-golfers frustrated.

The core of the problem as I see it is lack of awareness. Most people who walk the course when not playing are non-golfers. The fact that they don't golf means that they most likely are unaware of the damage that a golf ball traveling upwards of 160 miles per hour can do if it were to strike them. It can cause serious injury or even death. I have seen mothers with baby strollers walking on the cart paths around blind corners where golf

Continued on next page

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Family of 3+	\$3,360	\$280	Family of 3+	\$3,700	\$310
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After Noon Play	\$1,470	\$125	After Noon Play	\$1,625	\$140
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Intermediate (Ages 18 - 28)	\$1,050	\$90	Intermediate (Ages 18 - 28)	\$1,150	\$100
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Associate Membership:

Associate members receive three complimentary rounds of golf, 50% off all green fees, 50% off range balls, handicap service, a locker, preferred tee times, and may play in all Golf Club tournaments and participate in all social events. **Cost: \$500 / year - \$45 / mo.**

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balls were literally flying right over their heads.

Clearly these people and others like them have no idea of the dangerous situation they are putting themselves and/or their loved ones in.

I know that some community members become offended when asked to not walk, jog or bike on the course. There is a feeling by some that it is a selfish act by someone who is irritated by the presence of a non-golfer on the course.

However, it is critical these non-golfers understand that not only is it dangerous for them, but it is also not fair for them to put golfers in a position where they could be the ones responsible for causing serious injury to another person.

When I come upon a non-golfer on the course, I make every effort to calmly and politely explain to the individual why it is that they are not allowed onto the course.

I find that almost without exception these individuals appreciate the explanation and are happy to exit the course and refrain from using it for non-golf activities in the future.

On the positive side for those non-golfers hoping to walk on the course, we will start our Sunday Foot Golf times on June 11.

On Sundays through Labor Day, when the lower nine holes are being used for Foot Golf only, there is no safety danger and therefore walking on the golf cart paths on the front nine is permitted.

While Foot Golf starts at 5 p.m., we can't allow non-golf walking until 6 p.m. as we need to allow the traditional golfers to be done playing the front nine holes before non-golfing walkers arrive on the course.

As always, if you have any questions about this policy or any other aspect of the golf program, feel free to call or email me at the golf shop, bkruhlak@suddenvalley.com.

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2023 EVENTS			
June		July	
June 1	ACC Meeting 9:00 - 10:30AM Via Zoom	July 6	ACC Meeting 9:00 - 10:30AM Via Zoom
June 8	Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 - 9:00PM Dance Barn, 8 Barn View Court	July 13	Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 - 9:00PM Dance Barn, 8 Barn View Court
June 15	ACC Meeting 6:00 - 7:00PM Dance Barn, 8 Barn View Court	July 20	ACC Meeting 6:00 - 7:00PM Dance Barn, 8 Barn View Court
June 22	Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 - 9:00PM Dance Barn, 8 Barn View Court	July 27	Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 - 9:00PM Dance Barn, 8 Barn View Court
June 30th	Blood Drive Sudden Valley Welcome Center 11:00AM to 5:00 PM	July 31	N&E Meeting 6:30 - 8:30PM Via Zoom

Donate blood at Welcome Center

From 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. Friday, June 30, give blood at the Sudden Valley Welcome Center, at 1850 Lake Whatcom Blvd., Bellingham. There are 25 appointment slots available.

Make an appointment, by calling 800-398-7888 or visiting schedule.bloodworksnw.org.

According to Life Center Northwest, every 10 minutes another person is added to the transplant waiting list. Your deci-

sion to be a blood donor can save lives.

same. Your login credentials will not change.

CIT Bank now a division of First Citizens Bank

By Joel Heverling
SVCA Finance Director

SVCA's bank, CIT Bank, is now a division of First Citizens Bank. First Citizens has a reputation for financial strength, exceptional customer service and prudent lending that spans 125 years.

Beginning June 8, Property Pay will look different, but the functionality you rely on to pay your HOA dues online will remain the

Swim lessons

The YMCA will offer swim lessons at the SVCA main pool. The Y will handle all reservations, so please visit www.whatcomymca.org if you'd like to sign up for swim lessons.

Prices for eight lessons are \$59 for YMCA members, \$90 for non-YMCA members.

If you are not a SVCA Member, there is also an additional monthly fee payable at the Sudden Valley Community Center front desk. SVCA members pay only the price of the swim lessons through the YMCA.

Boomer

This month's pet of the month is Boomer, submitted by Evelyn Greathouse.

This month's Sudden Valley Pet of the Month is a 13 year old black Labrador named Boomer. Earlier in 2023, he made a cross country trip from Michigan to live in Sudden Valley. Boomer loves his walks through Strawberry Falls trail and by Lake Whatcom. He has also made friends with the other Boomer (a very nice Akita) on his neighborhood walks. He loves people, dogs and most of all, treats. Boomer also is an accomplished rock climbing crag dog and loves camping with his family as well.

Do you have a pet of the month? If you think that your pet is ready for prime time, please send a high resolution photo with your pet's name, your name, and a brief description to office@suddenvalley.com

Irrigation: System, road improvements coming

Continued from 1

comes off, but the lower layer remains. Fixing this will significantly improve the quality of the roads, according to the proposal.

Three separate capital requests had to be approved for the project, and the board approved all of them. \$31,084.16 from the roads fund was allocated toward replacing street signs, \$39,321.29 from roads will go toward pavement marking, and \$397,155.10 from roads will be used for asphalt repairs.

At the May 25 meeting, the board approved additional funding for the replacement of the marina boat launch dock. Replacement of the dock was prompted by a discovery in 2022 that the dock was permitted incorrectly and does not meet ADA requirements. SVCA staff has been working with Whatcom County to correct this and design an ADA compliant boat launch, according to the request.

Back in 2020 an emergency request for funds to replace the boat launch was brought before the SVCA board of directors and subsequently approved. In May of 2021, the dock was completed, but it would be brought to the board's attention in 2022 that the repairs were done incorrectly.

Now, the current board is working to correct this by replacing the dock with the correct permitting to ensure it is ADA

compliant. On March 30, a design was completed and a commercial building permit was submitted to Whatcom County. The proposal before the board during its May 25 meeting requested an additional \$212,890.97 in project funds from CRRRF to complete the project.

There was discussion amongst board members about the proposed amount and the extent of the repairs needed. Board Treasurer Sonia Voldt said she wanted everyone to remember that the proposal before them was put together by professionals, and all of the improvements were necessary to correct the mistakes made by the previous board when it attempted to replace the dock.

"I just wanted to remind everybody that this is the engineer's estimate," Voldt said. "They have an algorithm and a system and resources to help them come up with this plan and they were also adhering to the Whatcom County Codes for Lake Whatcom."

The increased amount was a surprise, Voldt said, but she reminded everyone that the situation before them is that there was an unpermitted dock built and this is the course of action professionals are directing them to take.

Ultimately, the board took a vote and approved the additional funding to continue the dock replacement.

-- Contact Sarah McCauley at sarah@lyndentribune.com.

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