



Las Virgenes Homeowners Federation, Inc.

Post Office Box 353, Agoura Hills, California 91301



January 2009, MEETING (www.lvhf.org)

Thursday, 15 January 2009, 7:30 – 10:00 P.M.

The Place – Diamond X – Take Las Virgenes to Mulholland; turn left on Mulholland. For the next 3/4 mile, the King Gillette Ranch will be on your right. After you've passed Stokes Canyon Road, in about 3/4 mile, you will see a sign on your right with "Diamond X" and the National Park Service logo on it. A short distance past the sign a narrow road goes south at a right angle. This is Wickland Road, and, at this point you are entering the King Gillette Ranch. Follow Wickland about 300 yards until the road forks; take the left-hand fork; keep bearing left to lighted house. Park; get out of your car; go into the lighted part of the house.

Call to Order

Roll Call

Agenda Changes/ Approval

Conversation with James Bozajian (beginning at 7.30pm)

Conversation with Jonathon Wolfson (beginning at 8.30pm)

Old Business/ Reports

Correspondence/Announcements, Approval of Meeting Minutes

Officer's Reports, Delegates Reports

Banquet Report

New Business

CALABASAS ELECTION NEARS

Five candidates have filed papers for the three seats on the **Calabasas City Council** that are up for election for four-year terms in March. Incumbents **Mary Sue Maurer**, **James Bozajian**, and **Jonathon Wolfson** are all seeking reelection. Challenging them are former Councilmember **Bob Sibilia** and **Dale Reicheneder** of Steeplechase Townhomes.

The election will be held on Tuesday, March 3rd. The last day to register to vote is February 17th. Voters may request absentee ballots during the period beginning February 2nd and ending February 24th. For more information, call the City Clerk at 224-1661.

CONVERSATIONS WITH THE CANDIDATES

Council members and candidates **Jonathon Wolfson** and **James Bozajian** will be at the Federation meeting on Thursday night to answer questions about City business and their candidacy from the delegates. These conversations will be limited to a half hour so we can complete other items on the agenda. Please note that we will begin with James right at 7.30. In February, the remaining candidates, **Mary Sue Maurer**, **Bob Sibilia** and **Dale Reicheneder** will join us in the same format.

CANDIDATES FORUM SLATED FOR FEBRUARY 4TH

Editor's Note: We have gleaned this notice from the City's website and wanted to pass it on to delegates.

In partnership with the [City of Calabasas](#), the [Center for Governmental Studies](#) (CGS), a non-profit, non-partisan organization that helps individuals participate more effectively in their communities and governments, is pleased to host the 2009 City of Calabasas City Council Candidate Forum on Wednesday, February 4, 2009.

The Candidate Forum will be held at Founders Hall in the Calabasas Library beginning at 7:00 p.m. The Candidate Forum will be videotaped and cablecast on CTV Channel 3, the city's government access channel, and archived on the City's website at www.cityofcalabasas.com.

All qualified City Council Candidates are invited to participate in this forum and we invite you, the people of Calabasas, to participate as well. Please send in questions you would like the candidates to answer and we will pose the most pertinent of the submitted questions to the candidates. Questions should be concise, timely and able to be asked of all Council Candidates. Submissions may be made at online at <http://www.cityofcalabasas.com/election2009/forumquestions.html> or you can email your questions to Calabasaselections@cgs.org.

More information on the Calabasas Municipal Election and the candidates is available at <http://www.cityofcalabasas.com/election2009.html>.

CGS looks forward to receiving your questions. Betsy Rosenfeld, Video Voter Director at CGS, is available at brosenfeld@cgs.org for any additional comments concerns or questions.

JUST RELEASED — THE LOS ANGELES CONSERVANCY'S 2008 PRESERVATION RANKING

The official Los Angeles Conservancy's Preservation Report Card issued every 5 years has just been released for 2008. Analyzing every jurisdiction in Los Angeles County, encompassing some 88 cities and the county the results were as follows:

A's – 7 (7.9%)

B's – 10 (11.2%)

*Calabasas

C's – 16 (18.0%)

D's – 25 (28.1%)

*Malibu, Westlake Village, LA County

F's – 31 (34.8%)

*Agoura Hills, Hidden Hills

Geoffrey Starns, Calabasas Senior City Planner, says thanks to its new Historic Preservation Ordinance, Calabasas is very excited to have moved up to a C+ - the highest ranking of any neighboring community. Agoura Hills ranked an **F** along with Hidden Hills, while Malibu, Westlake Village, and Los Angeles County were given a **D-**.

Mr. Starns also notes that the timing of the report affected the City's grade since Calabasas had not yet been able to finish its historic survey, or been able to designate any properties as historic. Mr. Starns would expect that Calabasas would have received at least a B and possibly an A had the report come out next year. It was also noted by the LAC that Calabasas' program is "already serving as a notable model for surrounding communities."

CALABASAS HISTORIC CONTEXT STATEMENT YIELDS SOME INTERESTING RESULTS

The Calabasas **Historic Context Statement** discussing the **Paleontological** and **Archaeological** histories of Calabasas as well as the history of how Calabasas developed was approved last week by the City's Historic Commission. An intriguing document, it yielded some fascinating results describing a City rich in deposits of

paleontological and archaeological resources, proving its prehistoric heritage deserves *active preservation*. Archaeological records include significant gathering sites, hunting sites, small camp sites and village settlements spread out across the city with new discoveries anticipated to be made.

In order to protect and embrace this heritage, Calabasas will revisit and update the conditions of *known* archaeological locations and also establish clear and reasonable procedures to find, evaluate, and protect previously *unknown* archaeological sites.

These procedures will include archaeological field surveys conducted on foot by qualified archaeologists that will be **required** for areas not previously examined for cultural resources. They will also be **recommended** for properties where surface conditions have changed or where a prior survey was conducted so long ago it no longer meets current professional standards.

The city's planning department will maintain comprehensive records so that these resources will then stay protected and not destroyed by mistake or by proposed development. Development will not be allowed to destroy or adversely affect any significant, protected archaeological or paleontological site.

The surveys and studies will remain confidential as the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance and State policies limit the availability of archaeological records to prevent sites from being disturbed by people looking for artifacts.

CALABASAS–TV TO DO “LIVING HISTORY” SHOW ON DAVE BROWN

Speaking of historic resources, **John Loesing**, Editor of the **Acorn**, and “MC” of the **Calabasas Living History** show on CTV, recently interviewed former Federation President **Dave Brown** for a “**Calabasas Living History**” program to be carried on CTV several times over the next few weeks, probably starting around the end of this month.

According to a “mole” with contacts at CTV, Loesing requested the interview that was filmed in Brown's back yard with Loesing doing the interviewing. General topics were decided on in a series of emails before the interview and CTV staff worked the portable video cameras.

Loesing asked several questions about the newly-adopted **Update to the Calabasas General Plan**, the controversy over the allocation of the state mandated “RHNA” low income units and he seemed particularly interested in City sign control policies.

COMMENT PERIOD CLOSSES ON KING GILLETTE RANCH PLANS

The **National Park Service**, **State Parks**, the **Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy**, and the **MRCA** have been taking testimony on their joint **Development Concept Plan** for **King Gillette Ranch**. The deadline to submit comments was

January 10th, but those of you who forgot might be able to get them accepted if you get them off in a hurry to King Gillette Ranch Planning Project, 401 West Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360-4233. For more information, log on to the King Gillette Ranch website at http://www.smmc.ca.gov/KGRP/public_involvement.html

The ***Design Concept Plan*** divides the 588-acre property into three “**Management Areas**”.

322 acres of woodlands, meadows, and rugged terrain is proposed for “**Low Intensity Use / Natural Areas**”, where development will consist chiefly of three riding and hiking trails

49 acres of buildings and roadways, mostly in the northwest portion of the park, referred to as the “Urban Core” is planned for “**High Intensity Uses**”, with access through the present gate. In addition to the “Urban Core”, this designation also includes the meadow at Diamond X, the DeCinces House to the west, and a portion of the old Holiday Camp on Las Virgenes Canyon Road.

The undeveloped meadows just south of Mulholland are proposed as “**Disturbed Moderate Intensity Use Areas**”.

The following uses are proposed for the three major buildings,

The large building on the west side of the main entrance road is proposed to become the **Visitor Center** and interpretive center.

The auditorium building just south of the parking lot is proposed to be used as an overnight **Dormitory** for visiting schoolchildren.

The “**Novitiate**” the sprawling building west of the Gillette Mansion, is proposed for several possible uses; a) a Conservation Science Center, b) an Interagency Park Operations Center, and c) a combined Conservation Science Center and Seminar/Conference Center.