



Pro-Sayulita Meeting
Dec 3, 2009

“Making Sayulita a better place for everyone to live and visit”

President Cap Sparling welcomed all those that attended the first GPS meeting of the season and then called the meeting to order. A note about some unfinished business from last season, Luis Verdin, who is the treasurer of GPS, had asked to be removed from his position. He came to our meeting today to report that he had changed his mind and was staying.

Committee Reports:

AED: Mike Beck: Last year GPS approved money for a portable AED. This year, the cost is actually less at \$1800 Ps. Mike will pursue a way to get it here. Last year, Damien of Don Pedro’s expressed interest in buying one as well and Mike will follow up to see if he’s still interested. If we get both, one would live at Don Pedro’s restaurant and the other with Dr. Moy.

Recycle: Monica Jimenez gave a presentation. Her goal is to see recycle pay for itself. She recently received \$6000ps for a recycle delivery and would like to see that go to paying salaries.

Garbage: In contrast to the article in last weeks Sayulero about the improvements to the garbage pickup in Sayulitla, complaints continue about the poor garbage service we are getting from GIRRSA, especially in the hills. Luis Verdin said the municipality is planning to ask for a new contract with the supplier as everyone is very unhappy with the lack of service, both in town with the big truck and outlying areas with the small truck. They hope to accomplish this before the end of the year. He said that the town also wants more than three days of service per week. Monica urged residents to take pictures of the garbage piling up and email the pictures to her at sayulitarecycla@yahoo.com.mx and she will organize a complaint letter and possible visit to Valle to see Pres. Panyagua.

Education: Cheryl Vaughan. Over the summer, Cheryl collected 2000 children's Spanish books and they hope to store them at the Primary school either in a library built from recycled materials (Nicole Swedlow at EntreAmigos showed Cap and Cheryl how they can be built at their facility in San Pancho), or use an existing structure. There are 35 boxes of math and science materials currently in Michigan waiting for a ride to Sayulita. Someone asked if Rotary has been contacted as they often help with school supplies coming to Mexico and Cheryl said that she has been in contact with them in PV as well as in Michigan. If anyone has any suggestions on how to get the school materials down to Sayulita (the boxes Cheryl has or the +30 boxes of Spanish books in Medford Oregon) please contact Cheryl Vaughan at cherylvaughan@hotmail.com. Suzanne and Guy Paulsen said that they knew of someone who might help bring the materials down and they will discuss this with Cheryl.

A summer project at the secondary school resulted in a Sayulita calendar. That is currently for sale for \$150 Ps and funds will go to upgrade the science lab at the secondary school.

Animal Clinic: Tamara Edwards gave an update on the spay and neuter program. Over the summer, 320 animals were sterilized. The money donated by GPS paid for a part time vet for 6 months, 230 surgeries, five cat traps (still making their way from the U.S.) and finally, legal funds for acquiring non profit status. Costs for neutering rose from \$159 Ps to \$259 Ps per animal. If the clinic maintains their goal of 50 animals per month, they'll need an additional \$45,000 Ps to continue the program. The clinic will submit their request for funds to GPS for consideration.

Tree Project: Luisa Viteri of Sayulita Verde reported that 200 trees have been planted since last Spring with many more being donated to local residents. Donations have helped but soon they will need to pay labor to water the trees. Luisa is trying to find out if they can borrow the water truck to water the trees and Cap suggested she talk to Marcos Scott. Volunteers are needed to help with the watering so, if you can, contact Luisa Viteri "luisaviteri@gmail.com". Her hope is to educate children to appreciate trees and to make Sayulita more green. Perhaps the students can adopt a tree.

Finance: Cheryl is waiting for receipts for smaller items spent during the summer for a total of less than \$400 but based on what information she does have, there is currently \$472,559 Ps in the various accounts, including Waste Water Treatment and education funds. Cap suggested we have a discussion to consider putting the

\$149,000 PS in the Waste Water treatment account into the general fund. To be discussed at a later meeting.

Parking/Traffic: Monica offered to write a letter to the municipality about the lack of parking enforcement, both on Revolution and the plaza area. Excessive speed is also a big concern. Speed bumps have yet to be added, and traffic is getting dangerous. Cap reminded everyone that a local group had met a number of times last year to suggest to the County some changes to traffic flow in the village and also the possibility of closing some blocks of Revolucion between the bridge and the Plaza during the evening. Cap suggested Monica connect with Damien Porter at Don Pedros about this issue and how they might and move forward from last year.

New Business:

Fund raising: It was suggested that GPS have a discussion with all the various fundraisers in Sayulita so we can coordinate events so residents and tourists don't get overloaded with too many events being too close together. In anyone can remember the date we set for this annual event please let Cap know. He believes it was set for the second week of March or February.

Overlapping committees: There are great ideas coming in from different directions but it appears that there is some overlapping of responsibility. We need to make sure we're consolidating our efforts so we can maximize our energy!

Secondary School: Armando, the Director of the secondary school gave a thank you to GPS for the building of the new stairs up to the school and gave assurance that every cent went to the project and no where else. He has invited everyone to visit the school on Monday at 9am on December 7th to see the steps. He added that after seeing what GPS did for the school, the government has now offered to help with the bathrooms.

Funds requests:

Cheryl suggested all requests for funds should be in writing so they can all be submitted at the meetings. Also, if there was a set deadline for these requests, we would know how much money GPS needs to raise to accommodate them. A form will be designed for submitting requests. Mike suggested a budget committee to review the requests rather than trying to have all members discuss each one during our weekly meetings.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.