



Pro-Sayulita Meeting  
Dec 10, 2009

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

Meeting was called to order by President Cap Sparling at Blue Iguana

Committee Reports:

AED: Mike Beck will go ahead with the purchase of one AED for Dr. Moy's office (with funds allocated last year). Cheryl now has a contact to bring it down over the Christmas holiday.

Garbage / Recycle:

- Monica Jimenez reported that her aim is to make recycling sustainable. She will be adding cut glass from the recycle depot as an additional GPS fundraising product for sale so all bottles that can be turned into glasses or wine glasses are acceptable in the recycle bins.
- There was also more talk about getting back our small truck but GPS would have to pay for the fuel and workers if we want to take on garbage pickup in the hills. That decision has not been made.
- Besides recycle, Monica has offered to be the liaison with Valle on the garbage issue. She is looking for photos of garbage around town that she can show to the govt in Valle as she presses for better garbage service from GIRRSA.
- More recycle banners are coming that have been donated by Punta de Mita foundation.
- Monica has plans for a puppet program and a compost workshop for the primary school.
- Cap asked for a refresher on what is recycled. Monica reminded us that the list is on the Sayulita Son calendar at <http://www.sayulitason.com/category/local-news/recicla-calendar>.
- Cheryl asked Jose Luis if we could get larger wooden containers for trash collection. He said it was possible. Should they have sponsor logos? These larger wooden bins would be

- for the bags of garbage people put along the road so dogs won't get them and people won't steal the containers
- Suzanne said money was allotted for recycling last year and it hasn't been spent yet, so that money should go to Monica's efforts. There is a need for more recycle bins in Tamarindo.
  - Monica is getting together with Luis Verdin and Sergio Camaron to approach Valle with signatures and pictures of piling up trash.

### Education:

- Cheryl reported that English classes will start up the third week in January with the former kids (about 60). We had between 4-5 kids per teacher so it's possible we will need more volunteers to help teach this year. Last year we were at the primary school from 12-2pm Tues and Wed.
- They would also like to support English tutoring at secondary school, using books that the school already has, though they still need materials which will be chipped away at.
- Cheryl is asking for data entry help for library books this coming weekend. In an effort by GPS to get the schools to meet us half way with donations, the Principals are being asked to recruit the parents to help. In the future, GPS will supply materials but the schools need to supply the manpower.
- All students will be asked to commit to community service as payback for English classes. As part of that effort, Cheryl will make them clean the school yard before class starts; a strong beginning to teaching kids about garbage.
- Bob Guard brought down 4 large boxes of books from a winter visitor, Rusty Palmer and his wife.

A thank you: In response to an invitation from Armando, the director of the secondary school to come and see the new stairs that GPS paid for, Cap gave a "you're welcome" speech last Monday at the school.

### Animal Clinic:

- Tamra reported that \$9000 PS was raised at the plaza bazaar, with another \$14,425 raised at Moroccan night (a fabulous event we've been told). Bonnie brought the money to our meeting and gave it to Tamra. This total equals one month of spay and neuter costs.
- Beginning every first Friday between 2-5p, bring your household donations to the plaza for the monthly flea market. Proceeds will go to the animal clinic. Thank you to Josh and Shelly for hosting this.

## **New Business:**

- **Fundraising**
  1. Currently there are 5 different items for sale in town to raise money for various groups: Two calendars, Eric Rudd's book, Cynthia Gillespie's CD and colored glasses from recycling. To coordinate selling efforts, these items will now be sold together on Fridays from 4p-7p in the plaza.
  2. There is a dire need for communication among the various groups planning fundraisers. If a group wants to have GPS support, we need to hear who is planning what and when in order to avoid overlapping events and donor burnout. GPS has developed a form to submit support requests.
  
- **Grants**

There was further discussion about existing grants GPS could be tapping into with Monica Jimenez describing some funds both in Mexico and from out of the country that are willing to give huge amounts of money once their criteria have been met. GPS is able to get US tax deductible contributions through the generous offer of Second Wind, a 501c based in Tennessee.
  
- **Executive board meetings**

To streamline the often lengthy weekly GPS meetings, an executive board is being created that will meet before the general meetings. This board will be made up of the former and current officers and other individuals who have yet to be established.
  
- **Town Safety**

This has become a bigger concern with the recent amount of robberies. Mike Beck is meeting with Sergio Cameron (owner of trailer park) and Monica Jimenez to coordinate a meeting with town officials and/or police on creation of block watches.
  
- **Translation**

**Monica has offered to translate during the gps meetings plus translate the minutes for the website and email circulation so these minutes will soon be in both languages.**

- **Time to ring in the New Year with new blood!**
  - a. **Cap Sparling is stepping down as President**
  - b. **Cheryl Vaughan is stepping down as treasurer.**
  - c. **Janet Anderson is stepping down as secretary**
  - d. **We are in need of a webmaster**
  - e. **We are in need of someone to promote and handle publicity**

**If you are interested in any one of these positions, we'd love to hear from you.**

**There being no new business, the meeting was adjourned by Cap Sparling.**