RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Approve the Friends of the Red Cloud Library St. Paddy's Weekend Dinner as a county sponsored event for insurance purposes and the waiving of fees for the use of the Greeley Hill Community Club. The Friends of the Red Cloud Library are hosting a St. Paddy’s dinner on March 19, 2005, at the Greeley Hill Community Club to raise money for the Greeley Hill Library building fund. The group is planning on serving Irish Beer and will complete the necessary application process and fees with the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control. Without this event being sponsored by the County, the Friends of the Greeley Hill Library do not believe the St. Paddy's Weekend Dinner will be a financial success.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Board has approved other fund-raising events that will ultimately benefit the citizens of Mariposa County as a county sponsored event.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Do not approve the Friends of the Greeley Hill Library St. Paddy's Weekend Dinner as a county sponsored event. The Friends of the Greeley Hill Library will need to pay the required fees to rent the Greeley Hill Community Club.
January 28, 2005

Lyle Turpin
Supervisor Area 2
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors
P.O. Box 784
Mariposa, CA 95338

Dear Lyle,

Our Friends of the Red Cloud Library group is asking Mariposa County for help in sponsoring a benefit dinner for the Red Cloud Library. Specifically, we are asking the County Parks and Recreation Department to waive fees for a St. Paddy’s Weekend dinner which is scheduled March 19 at the Greeley Hill Community Club.

We plan to serve one alcoholic beverage (an Irish beer) to those adults who wish it with dinner. To our dismay, we discovered that county rec department fees would total nearly $150. Since this is only a one evening event, and since total attendance will be approximately 100 to 120 persons, (of whom perhaps half will be minors or will not want beer as their dinner beverage), the price tag just for the county fees would be some $2 per beer served. This would create a huge financial “loss” to the friends group which is seeking to raise money to construct a new library facility.

As you are fully aware, the Red Cloud Library in Greeley Hill faces a particularly difficult challenge in 2005. The landlord at our current library site is asking for a new lease scaling upward to nearly double the current rent. Mariposa County simply can not afford this rent over time. We are now planning a joint County-School District facility which would be comprised of modular buildings installed on school property. The project would be partially funded with “surplus” monies remaining from the construction of the Mariposa Main Library a few years ago plus contributions from the community and a substantial gift from the Friends of the Red Cloud Library.

The Friends group was originally formed in 2001 to help support our community and to buy books and other materials as well as contribute toward staffing costs to keep the branch open for at least a few hours each day. Through fund raisers such as our “St. Paddy’s Gala” and summer “Big Book Sales” and “Star Party” events we have managed to raise several thousand dollars toward this end. Now we must raise more than $15,000 to help support the new library building project.

We have expanded our “St. Paddy’s Dinner” and are planning on more than 120 attendees, compared with seating for 100 last year. All proceeds will go to the building fund.

Is it possible to waive the fees by making this a county-sponsored event?

Sincerely,

Bernie Knoll
President, Friends of the Red Cloud Library
COUNTY OF MARIPosa
P.O. Box 784, Mariposa, CA 95338 (209) 966-3222

BOB PICKARD, CHAIR
LEE STETSON, VICE CHAIR
LYLE TURPIN
JANET BIBBY
DIANNE FRITZ

DISTRICT V
DISTRICT I
DISTRICT II
DISTRICT III
DISTRICT IV

MARIPosa COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTE ORDER

TO: LYLE TURPIN, Supervisor District II
FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF FRIENDS OF THE RED CLOUD LIBRARY ST. PADDY’S WEEKEND DINNER AS A COUNTY SPONSORED EVENT

Resolution No. 05-53

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPosa COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

ADOPTED THIS Order on February 15, 2005

ACTION AND VOTE:

Approve the Friends of the Red Cloud Library St. Paddy’s Weekend Dinner as a County Sponsored Event for Insurance Purposes and the Waiving of Fees for the Use of the Greeley Hill Community Club (Supervisor Turpin)

BOARD ACTION: Supervisor Turpin initiated discussion relative to the request. Rich Inman, County Administrative Officer, noted that with the County taking over ownership of the Community Center, it now has to approve events, and if this is a County-sponsored event, then the insurance is not an issue. The issue is the waiver of the facility use fee; and he recommended that this be considered a County-sponsored event and that there is no fee to be charged. Supervisor Bibby clarified that the Friends of the Red Cloud Library will obtain an alcohol permit separate from the County; and she asked that verification of the permit be submitted to the County and that there be caution for events with minors in attendance and the serving of alcohol. (M)Turpin, (S)Fritz, Res. 05-53 was adopted approving the event as a County-sponsored event, with no fees to be charged for the use of the facility. Ayes: Unanimous.

cc: Dana Hertfelder, Public Works Director
    Rich Begley, Deputy Director Parks & Recreation
    Sandi Laird, Administrative Analyst
    Greeley Hill Friends of the Library
    File