

YAHOO! SMALL BUSINESS

I'm sorry - It was my mistake Chet Bruce was elected a member of the new board in 2004

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From: "Ralph" <webmaster@readmetoo.com>

To: chbruce@c4aba.com, liza0859@sbcglobal.net, sugarlady4@att.net, kselce@sbcglobal.net, ddalilasteve@aol.com, Raindrop6789@aol.com, myangelonhi@aol.com2, Thundercloud6789@aol.com, lgriff0074@gmail.com, cukillo@gmail.com, pvtasaka@gmail.com, Sanchez.Felix76@yahoo.com, katherine@att.net, leechg@gmail.com, Thomas.Cheung@invensys.com, "Lawrence Schoelch" <parkmedhoa@gmail.com>

I'm sorry - It was my mistake Chet Bruce was elected a member of the new board in 2004

On 5/20/2004 was the first of many meetings of concerned homeowners that resulted in Alex Taylor's entire Board of Directors later being recalled on 9/9/2004. Many of the details were posted years ago on <http://www.r-a-l-p-h.com/park-mediterrania.htm>

The recall effort was a long discouraging process with many naysayers with the negative attitude that a recall attempt would not be successful. Several times it appeared so many homeowners were giving up that there were not enough of us left to continue the effort. One of the concerns of some of the homeowners was that we needed someone to serve on the new board that had previous board experience. I had heard that Chet Bruce had served on a board (or maybe it was just he had lived in an association) in Riverside .

Many homeowners said they wanted to get rid of Alex Taylor's board of directors, but were reluctant to actively go door-to-door gathering signatures on a petition for the Special Meeting of the Members than later on proxies to remove the entire board. It was also very difficult to get 6 homeowners to run together as a slate of candidates for the 6 Board of Directors positions. Of the 6 that were elected only 3 were active during the whole recall process. The other 3 missed meetings and were not helpful in gathering signatures.

On the second attempt I was finally successful in recruiting a reluctant Chet Bruce to join the recall process. At first he said he was only interested in being our advisor, not a board member, but then later after going door-to-door and finding out people would eagerly sign the proxies he changed his mind. Then we got lucky by obtaining a mailing list. Chet Bruce volunteered to be the one to mail out the proxies with my return address.

It wasn't until later when some proxies came back undeliverable that I saw he had inserted without consulting all of the rest of us a lame flyer that he had written on his own that probably cost us some proxy votes. Another time he did something on his own without consulting all of the rest of us was 15 days after we successfully recalled Alex Taylor's entire board of directors he purchased the lame domain name of parkmedhoa.com on 9/24/2004. Come on, who would do a Google search for our Park Mediterrania Homeowners Association by typing in parkmedhoa? Without consulting all of the rest of us new Board of Directors members he designed that personal website he owns stating **on its** home page "Welcome to Park Mediterrania." After a few years he stopped updating his website, **but** our association's annual budget continues to show we are paying \$50 a year for it.

Did you notice I specified "without consulting all of the rest of us"? He may have informed one or more of the others of his plans earlier as he apparently did on the evening of the successful recall. As we were leaving where the Special Meeting of the Members was held on 9/9/04 a woman employee of our management company (Euclid) overheard the announcement that the new Board of Directors members were going to the Bluff's restaurant in Colton . She objected saying we couldn't do that, because it would violate the Brown Act, the open meeting law in California .

The following are the minutes of this illegal meeting attended by Chet Bruce, Kathy Barnes, Lisa Clay, Olusoji (Soji) Akinremi, Tana Baldwin and myself.

Executive Planning Meeting

Meeting began at 8:40 P.M. on 9/9/04

In attendance were; Chet, Ralph, Soji, Lisa, Tana and Kathy.

Items discussed were as follows:

1. The use of Robert's Rules of Order for all meetings, committee meetings will use an informal Robert's Rules of Order.
2. Tana will call Euclid to find out where we as a community stand financially.
3. Chet will let the community know that it will take the new board time to go through past boards records.
4. Tana will call Euclid to obtain a list of projects that are already in progress.
5. Chet will compose a note to the homeowners thanking them for their support.
6. Lisa will check into canceling future meetings that are booked at the Gonzalez Community Center and see about obtaining a refund.
7. Changing meeting days and times was discussed. It was decided that it is best to keep meetings on the third Thursday of every month.
8. Tana will call Euclid to see if it will cost extra to mail an agenda with the monthly billing.
9. Chet would still like to have an area "counsel person" for complex problems.
10. Tana will check into the Euclid contract and find what they are charging us.
11. Violations should be discussed in person with the home owner. If they are not home, a letter can be left on their door requesting them to call to discuss the violations before they are fined.
12. Does Elite Landscaping have a formal contract?
13. Chet will call James regarding having the meetings at 6:30 instead of 6:00.

Next meeting will be at the pool on 9/23/04.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30.
