

Manzano Mountain Gun Club

General Meeting 19 November 2009 Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Club president Jim Greene. Thirteen members were present, along with 4 guests. Let the record show that Lou Rupnick arrived early!

1. Minutes.

Lou Rupnick moved to accept the minutes as previously distributed to the membership; Ken Jackson seconded. The minutes were approved.

Kathleen Clute reported that her notes of the Ad Hoc meeting on 9/24 were incorrect in the following regard: Paul Chavez and Ken Jackson were present at that meeting, and Trinidad Griego was not present. Kevin Dunlap moved to accept the notes as corrected; Robert Chung seconded; the notes were approved.

2. Treasurer's Report.

Ken Jackson reported that we now have 40 paid members. Eighteen members paid the 2010 dues early, netting \$1880 for the treasury. The current balance is \$2651.06; that includes 10¢ interest.

Lou Rupnick moved to accept the treasurer's report; Robert Chung seconded. The motion carried.

It was pointed out that we should thank Denise Immerwahr for the idea to raise funds by offering discounts for early payment of the 2010 dues, and the group responded with enthusiastic praise for Denise.

3. President's Report: Range Development.

As our proposed range location abuts BNSF Railroad, Jim Greene had spoken with Harry Lara, BNSF representative based in Albuquerque. While Mr. Lara was skeptical at first of having a shooting range so close to the tracks, Jim convinced him to pay a site visit. Once he saw the location Mr. Lara told Jim to discuss the range layout with the railroad general manager in Belen. However, Jim Greene and Alan Clute already agree with Mr. Lara that the rifle range cannot face north, based on the ballistics projections Alan calculated.

Meanwhile, Jim Lambert has already figured a way to have us drive in at the northern end of his property and shoot south/southeast. As this faces away from the railroad, Mr. Lara okayed that layout.

The downside for the club in the new range orientation: we will need to build berms to protect the Lambert house and their water tank; and the trains will be noisy at the range. On the other hand, we will not need to put in too much fencing, as the property is already fenced along its northern boundary, and the area is dirt, not rock, which is better for digging the berms.

Now we have three other landowners to contact, but BNSF at least will okay our project. Jim requested that 2 people volunteer to find the information about the other neighboring landowners so that we can approach them. The Clutes volunteered for this.

Alan Clute recommended that a group go out to the Lambert's to stake out the proposed ranges, so that a site plan can be drawn. Volunteers to help with staking were Kevin Dunlap, Alan Clute, George Immerwahr.

Jim Greene continued with a discussion of lease length options. Peter Ide had gotten back to Jim and said to get at least a 10-20 year lease. Jim reported that Jim Lambert is willing to sign a 25-year lease, but Nanci Lambert is not. The clubs the Lamberts go to for shooting events typically have 5 to 7-year leases.

4. Report: Raffle.

Robert Chung reported on the fundraising raffle that he and Barbara are planning for MMGC. Jim Lambert is willing to sell us one of their M4s at cost. Robert and Barbara would like to offer three prizes: the M4, a hunting rifle, and a .22 rifle. If we sell \$3000 of tickets, and spend \$1500 on acquiring the rifles, then we net \$1500. One of the appeals of the raffle could be that we will only sell 150 tickets, at \$20 each, so the odds of winning will be excellent.

Robert and Barbara are not yet sure of the timing of the raffle; it will occur after the New Year, maybe around Valentine's Day. The Chungs will have a mockup of the entire raffle, with pictures, by the next club meeting.

Lou Rupnick moved to accept the Chungs' plan for the raffle; Kevin Dunlap seconded; the motion carried.

5. Old Business: Membership Requirements.

Robert Chung said that the proposed membership requirements will either be presented by George Immerwahr in December or by Robert in January.

6. New Business.

No new business was presented.

7. Meeting Time.

President Jim Greene asked the group if we want to adjust our meeting time, now that it's dark in the evenings. After some talk, we settled on 5:30 pm as our winter meeting time.

8. Discussion.

Visitor Donn Gallahue, NRA & CCW instructor and owner of Double 'G' Firearms Training School near Tajique, commended our attempt to develop a shooting range. He encouraged us to fence and post bilingual signs, to protect ourselves from every contingency; to make plans for lead remediation in our range development; to test the wells at any range we develop (again, lead contamination issues); and to be aware that shots leaving the range is the single biggest headache in running a range.

In response to that last, Denise Immerwahr suggested that we require logging in to the range. Donn replied that we should also talk to clubs, like Big Horn, that have had rounds leave the range. Raymond Moore pointed out that at Big Horn, if you turn east (**not** the range's shooting direction!) houses appear as targets!

Finally, Donn offered a discount on concealed carry classes to MMGC members. His fee is usually \$150, all inclusive. For MMGC members it will be \$125. For Donn's contact information, email Kathleen at herself@ackc.name.

9. Next Meeting.

The next meeting will be Thursday, December 17, at 5:30 pm at Ancient Cities Cafe.

Lou Rupnick moved to adjourn; George Immerwahr seconded. All approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Clute, secretary