



MOUNT VEEDER FIRE SAFE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Saturday, February 4, 2017

LOCATION: Dry Creek-Lokoya Fire Station, 5900 Dry Creek Road

ATTENDANCE: Joe Nordlinger, Bill Robertson, Gary Green, Russell Van Dewark, Joanne Sutro, Carole Meredith

ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO AGENDA: none

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the January 7, 2017 meeting were approved with modifications.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Joseph Nordlinger reported that Cal Fire will not allow us to apply both of our SRA grants to the Wall Road project. So we will apply the Oakville Ridge Road LAR grant to Wall Road and we will go ahead with the Redwood Road LAR project.

Joe Buchmeier now has our updated Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).

TREASURER'S REPORT: We have \$55,147.83 in the checking account and \$24,230.92 in the reserve account.

Budget review: In drafting the 2017 budget, the 2016 entries have been reviewed and some are confusing. The current account structure is limiting because a new subcategory has been established for every funding source/project combination. We are running out of numbers. It would be simpler if income was categorized by funding source and expenses were categorized by project.

Joe Nordlinger proposed, and the group agreed, that we should hire a bookkeeper to restructure the budget categories. Carole Meredith agreed to post a notice on Nextdoor asking for a bookkeeper. (Those of you reading this closely will note that Carole did not do this so Joe eventually did it.)

It was agreed to budget more in 2017 for the website, publicity/postage, and office supplies and less for firewood splitting expenses. The tentative budgeted amounts for 2017 are \$278,360 for income and \$280,750 for expenses, but further revisions are anticipated.

CURRENT BUSINESS

1. PROJECT UPDATES:

- a. **CWPP:** Joe will remove the photo (which is not from our neighborhood) and add our logo.
 - b. **NCFF:** Waiting for the SRA money to arrive, since both grants will be used for the Wall Road project.
 - c. **Neighbors in Need program:** The application form has been finalized. Carole Meredith will post a notice on Nextdoor and to the community email list. The notice will include a statement that the program is generously underwritten by Community Projects with additional support from other donors (who will be listed).
2. **Equipment purchased for firewood sales:** If we discontinue selling firewood, we should consider selling the equipment we bought for that purpose. But we may continue to sell some firewood, so no decision was reached.

EDUCATION AND EVENTS

1. **Annual Community Open House and Breakfast:** Saturday May 6 from 8 to 10:30 am. This is National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day. In reviewing our experience last year, the group agreed upon the need for a sign-in sheet and that we should overtly ask for donations. It was also agreed that we should do a better job of advertising the event, including using road signs and Nextdoor. Joanne Sutro agreed to work on a public service announcement.

We will use our kiosk to display maps, as we have done previously. Proposed speakers are a representative from the Napa County Sheriff's Office to discuss evacuation (Who?, How? Is it mandatory?). Joe Buchmeier and Geoff Belyea from Cal Fire were also proposed. Gary Green agreed to contact the proposed speakers.

It was also suggested that we use the Creek Fire video that was broadcast by ABC7 TV in San Francisco.

The group agreed that it's important to make the distinction between the Mount Veeder Fire Safe Council (proactive, focused on prevention) and the Dry Creek-Lokoya Volunteer Fire Department (reactive).

We discussed the possibility of inviting other Fire Safe Councils.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Chris Prelitz event:** Tabled for now
2. **Newsletter:** Gary Green will take charge of organizing articles for the newsletter. Articles discussed and suggested authors included
 - a. Neighbors in Need program (Joe Nordlinger)
 - b. Update of MVFSC activities (Joe Nordlinger)
 - c. Chipping program, current status and county role (Gary Green)

- 3. Use of MVFSC credit card:** Carole Meredith wants to be authorized to use the MVFSC credit card in order to pay for website and e-commerce related services that she has been paying for with her personal credit card. Gary Green agreed to ask the DCLVFD Board to authorize this. The alternative of transferring the GoDaddy account ownership to the DCLVFD was deemed difficult but Carole would be willing to do it if necessary.

NEW BUSINESS: none

ADJOURNMENT: 11:30 am

Next Meeting: Sunday, February 26, 9 am
Dry Creek-Lokoya Fire Station
5900 Dry Creek Road