



MOUNT VEEDER FIRE SAFE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Saturday, June 24, 2017

LOCATION: Carole Meredith's house, 4967 Dry Creek Road

ATTENDANCE: Joe Nordlinger, Bill Robertson, Carole Meredith, Greg Holquist

ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO AGENDA: none

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the June 3, 2017 meeting were approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

NCFF: Joe Nordlinger reported that he attended the June 22 board meeting of the Napa Communities Firewise Foundation (NCFF). The June 17 fire safety event at Napa Expo was reviewed. The June 9 NCFF invoice deadline was met and the invoice deadline will be similarly early in the future. Rick Thornberry asked about a possible conflict of interest for Greg Holquist and was told that Greg is not on the MVFSC board. Tom Vreeland said we should state in our proposals that we will have a project manager. The NCFF raised \$19,000 with a general fundraising email.

Maps: Joe proposed that we pay to have maps made of our neighborhood and commented on nice maps of Angwin made by Carol Rice. We should find out how much she would charge. The maps should be in electronic form. Who else could generate good maps? Cal Fire? PG&E? And how much are we willing to spend?

501c3: No further progress. We are still waiting for Kelly Wallace to send a list of what is required.

Kelly Wallace asked for details on the Neighbors in Need liability question. Greg has sent the Family Tree contract to Kelly and Joe.

Wildfire Preparedness event at Napa Expo: Attendance was very low, perhaps because it was not well-publicized and also the weather was very hot that day. Joe had a good conversation with Supervisor Diane Dillon. Joe displayed maps and binders that he prepared to describe our work. The MVFSC won \$250 from the California Fire Safe Council but we need to follow up to get the money. Bill Robertson reported that he also made some contacts with California Conservation Corps and California Fire Safe Council.

CWPP: Joe plans to meet with Barry Bierman (Cal Fire; County Fire Chief) about getting more signatures. He has got signatures from Ryan Gregory and he will be getting Diane Dillon's. Joe also plans to meet with Dillon and Gregory.

Residential assessments: Jeff Enos has expressed interest in conducting residential assessments but Evangeline James has expressed concern that this represents a

liability for the MVFSC. We must establish a procedure by which to authorize individuals to conduct assessments on behalf of MVFSC.

Multi-parcel project: Joe is trying to get funding via the Cal Fire California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for a fuel reduction project (thinning and chipping) involving 6 parcels and 75 acres. NRCS requires a Forest Management Plan. Joe got a bid of \$17,000 but CFIP will only reimburse up to \$10,000. Joe asked whether Tim Morin (a Registered Professional Forester with whom the MVFSC has worked before) might be willing to do it for less because the residents will be unwilling to pay the additional \$7,000 themselves.

TREASURER'S REPORT: As of 6/17/17, the checking account balance was \$54,695.48 with an additional \$24,230.92 in the reserve account. Budget lines were modified to reflect the decision to direct the PG&E funds to LAR 7.

CURRENT BUSINESS

1. Project manager's report (Greg Holquist):

NCFE funds: We had 3 full weeks of Delta Camp crew time (15 crew days). Seven days were used at The Cove and 8 at Enchanted Hills. The crew did not work on Old Ridge Road maintenance as originally planned because the weather was too hot and it was preferable to have them work in shaded conditions.

Cal Fire SRA funds: The 2 projects funded by the Cal Fire SRA funds (Wall Road and the LAR off Redwood Road) have been deferred because of CEQA-related delays. These projects will take 37 days of Family Tree time.

PG&E funds: Family Tree will start on LAR 7 on July 17 and work for 28 days. Greg has not yet been able to make contact with the Land Trust of Napa County. Bill Robertson suggested talking to Tony McLimans, who has ties to the Land Trust.

Family Tree will be starting on July 5 and will be working through the first week in November. They will spend their first week chipping at The Cove and Enchanted Hills. Greg will ask Gary Green whether Family Tree can leave their boom truck and chipper at the fire station at night.

It was agreed that address signs should be required for all the LAR projects.

2. Neighbors in Need projects: Greg has done the assessments for the 2 NIN projects. We have not yet received the contract back from Kelly Wallace so we can't yet proceed. Bill Robertson suggested another candidate for a NIN project, a Lokoya Road resident. Bill will take an application to the resident's neighbors.

Tony McLimans has suggested that we use some NIN money to rent a boom truck to trim overhanging trees and branches along private driveways.

ADJOURNMENT: 11:40 am

Next Meeting: Saturday, July 22, 9 am
DCL Fire Station
5900 Dry Creek Road