



## **MOUNT VEEDER FIRE SAFE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE:** Saturday, February 23, 2019

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

**ATTENDANCE:** Joe Nordlinger, Gary Green, Bill Robertson, Roger Provost, Paul Woodward, Jeff Enos, Carole Meredith, Evangeline James

**ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO AGENDA:** Property inspections, Old Ridge Road maintenance

**REVIEW OF THE MINUTES:** The minutes of the January 26, 2019 meeting were approved with 1 correction (date)

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (Joe Nordlinger):**

The Dry Creek Lokoya board has approved finalizing the contracts for the Mayacamas Mount Veeder Community Outreach Education Grant (MMVCOEG).

**Napa Communities Firewise Foundation/Napa County Resource Conservation District:** Ag Innovations (a non-profit organization focused on "ideas and actions needed for healthy farms, communities, and ecosystems") will organize a workshop focused on creating a county-wide CWPP. This will be not so much a document as a commitment by the involved entities to an ongoing process. Part 1 (early April) will focus on Cal Fire, Land Trust of Napa County, NRCS, NCFE and the Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. Where are opportunities for collaboration regarding fire preparedness, education and vegetation management. Part 2 will bring the Fire Safe Councils together.

The purpose of separating Parts 1 and 2 is to avoid a chaotic situation. Should the County supervisors be invited? There is concern that doing so might politicize the workshop. Alternatively, they could be copied on distributed information. The workshop is just the starting point, so not everyone needs to be involved at that point.

**Cal Fire:** Ben Nichols has moved to another Cal Fire position. Barry Biermann is retiring. Their replacements have not yet been announced.

**Sea Ranch Retreat:** Jeff Enos attended this gathering of people representing Fire Safe Councils and other organizations concerned with fire preparedness. Kate Dargen

reported that some legislation is underway. Dave Shew talked about structure hardening and said that attachments to structures are a big problem.

**Property assessments:** While it would be convenient to use an online form, everyone still seems to be using paper reporting forms. Property assessments raise privacy concerns. Vehicles need to be marked so as not to alarm residents.

**California Fire Safe Council:** Gary Green will sign the contract. Diane Ratto attended a workshop at McLellan to understand the process and requirements.

**501(c)(3):** Kelly Wallace has filed some of the required application documents but not all. Kelly expects to have everything in place by April or May. Evangeline James commented that it could take longer. The MVFSC will need its own address so Evangeline James said she would get a post office box and use Joe's home address as the physical location.

## **ACTIVE FUNDING**

**Napa Communities Firewise Foundation:** \$12,000 funding has been approved.

**LAR1:** Joe is working on the concept proposal with a civil engineer.

## **PROJECT MANAGER'S REPORT (Greg Holquist):**

**Bald Mountain legacy fire road:** CEQA documents have been sent to Cal Fire. Work has been completed on the private property that provides access to the Bald Mountain project.

**Mount Veeder Peak legacy fire road:** CEQA documents being prepared.

**Neighbors in Need:** One of the structures at 4515 Dry Creek Road recently burned down. One larger structure remains.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT (Gary Green)**

The checking account balance as of 2/23/19 was \$40,212.72 and the money market savings balance was \$10,041.77.

Neighbors in Need money from previous years never got carried over to the current budget. Gary Green will put \$15,000 in Neighbors in Need (700.12) and \$11,000 in General (700.11).

Line 711 (Organizational Education) needs to be increased from \$250 to \$1,500 to cover Jeff Enos' expenses and still leave additional funds for this purpose.

**OLD BUSINESS:** none

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Inspections:** Paul Woodward and Roger Provost are seeking further guidance on objectives and procedures. It was agreed that it is premature to proceed until the MMVCOEG work is underway. It will probably take 2 or 3 months to get that going. We are fortunate that we can economize by using our own people to do this work but we must wait until we are ready.

**NFPA Training:** Bill Robertson noted that the National Fire Protection Association is offering a 2-day classroom training program on “Assessing Structure Ignition Potential From Wildfire” in San Francisco on July 18 and 19, 2019.

**Old Ridge Road maintenance:** Paul Woodward is willing to personally undertake maintenance on part of the Old Ridge Road. He proposes to remove vegetation in a test area by several methods and track vegetation recovery over several years. Concern was expressed over his working alone. It was agreed that we should hire a crew for this.

**ADJOURNMENT: 11:45 am**

Next Meeting: Saturday, March 23, 9 am, DCL Fire Station 5900 Dry Creek Road