

**FIRESafe Marin
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Friday, February 9, 2007**

Attendance:

Lynne Osgood	FSM Coordinator
Eva DeNegri	Sheriff OES/FSM Secretary
Dick Sadler	Black Canyon Neighborhood
Chris Bramham	Marin Open Space
Emily Johnson	MWFD
Alex Naar	NPS - GGNRA
Roger Meagor	Ross Valley Fire
Mary Ellen Irwin	San Rafael Fire
Jessica Power	Tiburon Fire
Scott Alber	MCFD/FSM President

1. **Call to order:** 0910 hours by President Scott Alber in the first floor conference room of 555 Northgate Drive, San Rafael, California.
2. **Agenda reviewed and approved as submitted with no changes.**
(Irwin/Naar)
3. **Minutes of January 12, 2007 meeting were reviewed and approved as submitted with no changes.**
(Irwin/Johnson)
4. **Treasurer's Report:**
Coordinator Lynne Osgood reported the following.
 - No overhead from NPS yet.
 - We will soon receive \$10,000 from the County.
 - More Homeland Security funds will be received this month to cover the public outreach and new FSM brochures Lynne ordered.
 - Lynne was able to get the auditors to bring down their price from \$8,900 to \$8,000 for the 2005 audit.

Checks were reviewed and filed for audit.

Eva asked about the status of the Model Home project. Lynne reported that she has gone out to view many potential homes, but none are ideal. The group decided that this issue should be discussed at the next FSM meeting since there were so few people present at this meeting. One idea presented was to pull \$5,000 from the budget for Model Homes and apply it towards something else, for example, to chipper days. Another idea is to replicate Napa Firewise's successful program in which a homeowner is

rewarded for having made their home fire safe (done it themselves).
Lynne will be meeting with Napa Firewise next week to get ideas.

NO BREAK

5. **Video Project Update:** Lynne and Kent have been meeting with John Van Daam a couple times per week; Jennifer Chapman has met with him, too. The first three videos are fairly complete and look wonderful. We are going to continue to edit the videos until they are exactly what we want. The Assistant State Fire Marshall, Kate Dargen, has been approached about speaking on the video. The fourth video has yet to be started. Lynne also said that the CSAA contract has been signed. Good news that CSAA decided not to require a one million dollar liability insurance policy from FSM. Scott thanked Lynne for all her hard work on the video project.
6. **Other Business/Once Around the Table:**
 - a. **Mary Ellen Irwin (SR Fire Commission).** The Fire Commission has been visiting each SR fire station and has noted that money is definitely needed to update some of the stations.
 - b. **Eva DeNegri (OES).** Eva asked about the status of the MTZ plan (Mt. Tam Mutual Threat Zone). Roger Meagor answered that the plan still needs some law components as not all the police departments have turned in their evacuation routes. Roger will follow up and see where the plan stands.
 - c. **Roger Meagor (RVFD).** Roger is in contact with OES (Godley) about whether the EAS system could be used when activating the MTZ (as it would be used for flooding).
 - d. **Scott Alber (MCFD).** A committee of the Fire Prevention Officers will be distributing a brochure to the fire departments, which explains the WUI ordinance. The brochure is aimed at contractors, builders, planners, etc. It will contain lists of approved building materials and plants, as two examples. The ordinance will be enforced in 2008.

Scott also talked about the public opinion telephone poll which will query the tax payers on their willingness to pay for a bond which would fund vegetation management efforts and open space acquisition. The answers will help guide how the bond will be formulated. For example, it will determine whether the vegetation management and open space issues will be consolidated into one bond, or separated into two. Part of the poll will ask about a possible sales tax increase. This poll will be conducted by an outside vendor, which the county has contracted with.

- e. **Lynne Osgood (FSM).** Lynne will be attending the State Interagency Prevention/Mitigation/Education Conference in late March in Rancho Cotati. Next Wednesday she will meet with Napa Firewise. Next Sunday she will meet with residents in Marshall who are putting together their disaster teams. Keith Parker will also be there. Next month she will meet with Homestead Valley residents. She ordered more defensible space brochures, which have been updated. They are also available in PDF. We can still distribute any remaining copies of the old brochure, except there is the issue of defensible space changing from thirty feet to one hundred feet. Lynne is working on a grant with PG&E and has started one with Allstate and State Farm. For public outreach, she has signed up for the MMWD Water Show in April and the Home Show in June. She could use some help from other FSM members at these shows.
- f. **Chris Bramham (MCOSD).** Chris passed out an Open Space newsletter. He asked that group go to their website and get involved in the strategic planning that Open Space is doing, which will effect the next five to ten years. Chris thanked the Mt. Tam crews for working on fire roads at Blithedale Summit, and Pebble Beach/Chicken Shack Roads in Novato. Piles will be burned soon. He also thanked the county fire equipment crew for the repair project at Tamarancho/White Hill last fall. Open Space rangers have been burning in Cascade Canyon. MCC will be doing some brush and broom mowing. Chris added that the only way to control broom is to mow it). Open Space is currently collecting names of fire roads which need work. Open Space has contracted with MMWD to do some work. Eva told the group about a recent article in the IJ regarding the chemical ban possibly being lifted for treating broom.
- g. **Jessica Power (Tiburon Fire).** Jessica introduced herself as Tiburon Fire's new fire prevention specialist (in training).

7. Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1017 hours (Irwin/Johnson).

Respectfully submitted,

Eva A. DeNegri

**Eva A. DeNegri
Secretary, FIRESafe Marin**