

# **FireSafe Marin Meeting Minutes**

## **February 11, 2005**

**Call to Order:**

9:05 a.m. by President Kent Julin.

**In attendance:**

Pete Martin	MCFD (Retired)
Emily Johnson	Marinwood Fire
Matt Carbone	Fire Safe Marin
Mary Ellen Irwin	San Rafael Fire
Scott Alber	MCFD/Fire Safe Marin
Kent Julin	MCFD/Fire Safe Marin
Lynne Osgood	Fire Safe Marin
Alex Naar	NPS – GGNRA
Eva DeNegri	Sheriff/OES
Roger Sprehn	Corte Madera Fire
Anita Tyrrell-Brown	Bolinas Fire
Tom Roach	Marinwood Fire
Greg Holquist	PG&E

**Additions to the Agenda:** President Julin asked to add an item to the agenda: Bi-Law Review. M/S Matt Carbone/Pete Martin to approve the agenda as amended. Motion approved.

**Approval of January 2005 Minutes:** M/S Pete Martin/Mary Ellen Irwin to approve minutes. Motion approved.

**Presentation:** Request for \$1000 for the removal of juniper around the clubhouse at the Novato Mobile Home Park. Last year they received \$600 from FSM. They displayed a board with photographs of the existing juniper, and estimated that the removal cost is \$850 with additional \$150 for chipping and brush removal. As such, they are requesting \$1000 from FSM. President Julin noted that usually it is a 50/50 split of funding between FSM and the applicant. After the representatives of the association left, there was discussion of cost and funding and it was the opinion of the group that they were asking for entire cost, \$1000, rather than \$500. It was decided not to fund this project because of FSM funding problems.

**Treasurers Report:** Matt Carbone indicated that not much has happened as yet this fiscal year. We are still waiting for NPS funding. The coordinators grant is a big question right now. There is roughly \$20,000 in checking right now and he needs to find out how much of that is for operational needs and how much is already encumbered. As Matt sees it, the problem is that we cannot go forward with our projects without a coordinator. Kent indicated that he anticipates another \$10,000 from the BOS.

There was a discussion of the purpose of the “members” in the bi-laws is and it was the opinion of the group that it is there as a funding source in the form of membership dues. A discussion of the check detail ensued. M/S Pete Martin/Mary Ellen Irwin to approve check detail. Motion approved.

**General Business:** Kent discussed the project list. He said that there were 22 projects expiring as of March 1<sup>st</sup>. He spent a lot of time getting the projects complete before they expired. He ended up spending \$20,000 in Bolinas. Also Mike Meszaros and Inverness are going to do some fuel break work. He indicated that approximately \$269,000 in unbilled/unspent funds was on the books. He did manage to extend four projects because they were unable to finish them by March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Kentfield has a funding request to have FSM match up a \$1000 request for a chipper day lasting 4-6 days. Typically homeowners stack the brush near the residence and the tree service comes and chips the material. Kent indicated that he wants to make sure the coordinator position is going all right. Chief Smith indicated that the project wouldn't be occurring until March or April, asking for \$500 now and asking for the additional \$500 after the coordinator position funding is figured out. M/S Roger Sprain/Mary Ellen Irwin for \$500. Motion approved.

Back to presentation from beginning of the meeting, Pete Martin indicated that he wanted to hear from Bill Tyler of Novato Fire Protection regarding the merits of the project. Carl indicated that he felt that Bill would support it. It had been used as a model project. M/S to deny funding by Eva DeNegri/Matt Carbone. Reasons for denying the request included that the project is not a high enough profile neighborhood project.

Presentation by San Rafael Fire Battalion Chief Mike Waterbury on the “Old Fire” in San Bernardino during the 2003 Firestorms.

**Bi-Laws:** Matt Carbone has a friend at a law firm who looked at our current version. He edited the bi-laws to make them more in line with current statutes. He expanded on the non-liability of the directors of FSM. He also indicated that we should move the indemnification of the directors of FSM to its own section. There was a discussion of other minor items within the bi-laws. M/S Mary Ellen Irwin/Matt Carbone to approve the bi-laws with changes. Motion approved.

Ray Moritz has offered to update the plant list (Hort-Script). Within the plant name he would like to change the name from “pyrophitic” plants to “fire prone” versus “non-fire prone” plants. He would also like to expand the list in the brochure, which would include a description of fuel types (i.e. how to maintain the different fuel types and vegetation modifications). He would also like to define gardeners, arborists, pesticide specialists, and applicators, etc. Finally he would like to add a description to the brochure to describe various fuel models in determining defensible space. He is seeking FSM support in terms of later seeking funding to publish the updated brochure. Chris Branham suggested that Ray talk to Machon Martin – OSD and work with her on the plant list.

**Adjourn:** M/S Mary Ellen Irwin/Carl Sanders to adjourn at 11:08. Motion approved