

FIRESafe Marin
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Friday, 13, March 2009

Attendance:

Eva Baker	County OES/FSM Secretary
Bradley Mark	San Rafael Fire
Pete Martin	San Rafael Fire
Brian Sanford	MCOSD/FSM Vice President
Roger Sprehn	CMFD/FSM Treasurer
Kent Julin	Marin County Fire
Dan Kida	PG&E/ FSM President
Roger Meagor	Ross Valley Fire
Matt Carbone	San Rafael
Lynne Osgood	FSM Coordinator

1. **Call to Order:** 0915 hours by President Dan Kida in the downstairs conference room at the Center for Volunteer & Nonprofit Leadership, 555 Northgate Drive, San Rafael, California 94903.
2. **Agenda reviewed and approved with one change in order of items:**
#7 “Muir Meadows/FSM partnership idea” was moved to right after Treasurer’s Report (now item #4a). (M/S Baker/Carbone)
3. **Minutes of the February 13, 2009 meeting were reviewed and *approved* with three corrections:**
To page 1 – address is 555 Northgate
To page 2 – Delete sentence, “he would prefer that another term be used besides ‘reserves’.”
To page 3 – Kent reported on *seven* projects (not three); Mill Valley Fuel Break should be called “Mountain Theatre”; add these fuel breaks: Amaranth, Double Bow Knot, Deer Park and Bolinas Ridge. (M/S Julin/Sprehn)
4. **Treasurer’s Report (Roger Sprehn with commentary by Matt Carbone):**
 - Matt said regarding the current budget that FSM Council needs to be given kudos for working so hard on resolving the budget crisis of the last few years. With this budget, we can finally focus on increasing chipper day spending and outreach. He would like to see a positive balance and the end of the year to build up an “endowment.”
 - Lynne hopes to receive money soon from Cal Fire for the office sublet.
 - Matt said that the FSM Coordinator will be paid out of the \$19,200 listed under Accounts Payable/General Fund (Liabilities).
 - Lynne wrote a SOD removal grant for \$100,000.
 - The Council felt that it would be helpful if Lynne could create a document for use at meetings, which would track all the FSM grants.
 - Roger Sprehn is working on the accounting standards for handling “in kind” donations in the FSM budget (e.g., from Davey Tree Service).

4. a **Muir Meadows/FIRESafe Marin Partnership Idea**

After much discussion about whether the Council wants to take this partnership on, a motion was proposed that FIRESafe Marin manage the Muir Meadows grant (USDA Forest Service - \$75,000) for the time period of the grant only (not ongoing); that FSM accepts a 10% administrative fee; and that FSM encourages Jim Kasper to get donations from homeowner members, which would be specifically linked to that project. *Motion passed with no dissent (M/S Julin/Kida)*. The first step in this process is that FSM will hire the contractor. Eventually FSM will get invoiced and then get reimbursed by the feds. Note that this money will be added to the Balance Sheet under Assets and line item "Cash-restricted NPS & WSG."

****SOCIAL 10:00 AM TO 10:10 AM****

5. **Chipper Day Application Update**

Lynne referred to the new chipper day application procedures presented at the February Council meeting. The application will be up on our website soon and will be publicized through the media. Each grant will be between \$500 and \$1,000.

Grantees must provide before and after photos. The neighborhood associations and fire departments will continue to organize the chipper events. Lynne explained that the relatively small award amounts are intended to help recipients get going on their clearing, and not to fund the whole thing. Compliance will be expected with the 100 feet of defensible space requirement. The fire departments will have to "sign off" on what the recipients have done (to make sure there are no violations of the rules).

Lynne thinks it may be a good idea to also invite the recipients to an evening workshop presented by FSM, which would make sure they understand the requirements. Council members complimented Lynne on creating such a great program.

6. **Golf Tournament Update**

Dan Kida passed around a sign up sheet from Greg Holquist (Napa Firewise) of the golf tournament committees. Greg is asking for council members to sign up on a committee. Greg has already been working hard on the planning and has gotten sponsors. The tournament will take place at the Eagle Vines golf course in Napa.

7. **Once Around the Table**

- a. **Brian Sanford (MCOSD)**. Open Space is doing maintenance on Bald Hill bordering MMWD to Worn Springs Fire Road; they will be burning piles in Homestead Valley; and the Parks division will be doing fuel reduction work this summer at Stone Tree Golf Club.
- b. **Kent Julin (MCFD)**. Said that Lori Jessell is in the hospital for a planned but significant procedure. Also said that they are back to work on Eucalyptus in San Rafael and in the upper Tam Valley.
- c. **Brad Mark (SRFD)**. They are negotiating with State Park rangers to modify vegetation in the Glenwood area of San Rafael.
- d. **Lynne Osgood (FSM)**. Made a presentation to a College of Marin landscaper class, which was very well received.

- e. **Roger Meagor (RVFD)**. City of Fairfax is showing interest in fuel removal (seeking grants and getting local project contribution).
- f. **Dan Kida (PG&E)**. PG&E grant application period is open; Lynne is applying for one. \$7,500 is available for MMWD vegetation work.
- g. **Roger Sprehn (CMFD)**. Federal stimulus money (\$500 million) has been earmarked for wildland fire management on federal, state and private lands. **Pete Martin** will provide information for distribution.

**8. Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1040 hours.
(Julin/Carbone)**

Respectfully submitted,

Eva D. Baker

**Eva Denegri Baker
Secretary, FIRESafe Marin**