



FireSafe Marin Meeting Minutes June 13, 2008

Call to Order: 9:00 a.m. by President Julin

In attendance:

Lori Jessell	Novato Fire Protection District
Mike Meszaros	Inverness PUD
Scott Alber	MCFD/Fire Safe Marin
Kent Julin	MCFD/Fire Safe Marin
Lynne Osgood	Fire Safe Marin
Dick Sadler	Dominican Neighborhood
Gary Miltimore	MCC
Roger Sprehn	Corte Madera FD
Brian Sanford	Marin County Open Space District
Roger Meagor	Ross Valley Fire Protection District
Amy Blakeney	
Dan Kida	PG&E

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was amended to include a request from the MCFPOs (see below). M/S Roger Sprehn/Gary Miltimore. Motion approved.

No minutes from last month (meeting canceled).

Treasurer's & Coordinator's Report: There was no report this month. Matt will give report to Pete Martin in the future if he is unable to attend. The check detail was filed for audit. Lynne indicated that our bookkeeper filed our State and Federal taxes for the year.

Lynne indicated that we have approximately \$13,266. We also have a handful of grant applications in process. President Julin indicated that we will be asking the County for \$10,000 next month for the new fiscal year. Lynne mentioned that Pete and she have a draft fund solicitation letter (a mass-mailer to targeted businesses).

New Business: The County will be conducting an additional survey before they make a final decision on placing the tax measure on the ballot.

Dan Kida mentioned that PG&E and Davey Tree donated two days of Chipper Days to Homestead Valley and Throckmorton. They will be chipping on site.

Lynne mentioned that Brad Mark would like our brochure to reflect 100-ft of defensible space around structures. It was decided that the brochure is in line with state laws, and San Rafael is welcome to fund any changes to the brochure to reflect their local needs.

Lori Jessell requested FSM to help fund the FPO's annual 4th of July add in the IJ. She requested \$333. M/S Scott Alber/Mike Meszaros to provide funding. As an aside, Lynne asked Lori to have Sandy Wargo (who is coordinating the ad for the FPOs) to contact her regarding her contact at the IJ.

There was a discussion regarding eucalyptus tree removal. Dan Kida indicated that PG&E has a limited budget for this activity, but that they are taking out trees as they maintain and remove vegetation around their power lines. They currently have two projects-Marin City and Muir Meadows.

The Muir Meadows project is being sponsored by PG&E, MMWD, TCSD, as well as private homeowners. The project involves removing approximately 20 acres of eucalyptus up-slope from the site of the Mother's Day Fire of two years ago. The Park Service wants \$12K/acre set aside for restoration.

Once Around the Table:

Brian Sanford: Their fire fuel reduction program is progressing. The goat-grass burn in Terra Linda has been postponed due to critical fire weather.

Gary Miltimore: They are working with MCOSD and various community groups. They seem to be getting more work due the widespread reporting of the fires burning throughout No. California. They are sending 10 people to the MCFD Wildland Academy.

Lynne Osgood: FSM took part in three recent talks. They had very good attendance. She will be attending the Fairfax Festival.

Roger Sprehn: Their draft response to the Grand Jury Report has been submitted to the city council for review and approval. They are starting their annual chipper days next week. He indicated that it is very popular and self supporting. They have not taken a position on the proposed ballot measure. Their focus is on a proposed parcel tax to build a new police headquarters.

Lori Jessell: They have a strike team out. They have also started a new recruit academy. She mentioned that a local HOA wants a vegetation management evaluation, and asked for help from FSM.

Scott Alber: MCFD is having Wildland Academy next week. MCFD submitted their response to the Grand Jury Report last month. The County gathers the

response to all of the reports, and submits them at once. We had a wildland fire adjacent to China Camp/North San Pedro Road.

Mike Meszaros: Local woodcutters have agreed to work with homeowners on tree removal. They are relaxing their limits for amounts of brush that can be chipped during their chipper days. He also mentioned that Allstate Insurance appears to be trying to exit the California market. They are asking for 500-ft defensible space around homes. He also asked if there was a way to access Proposition 84 funding. Gary indicated that the funding is generally for Conservation Corp funding.

Kent Julin: He was at the Summit Fire. He said that the terrain and fuel is very similar to Marin County.

Dan Kida: He passed around a new brochure on planting of trees adjacent to power lines. Davey Tree is sending a safety coordinator to their crews looking at equipment to make sure it is fire safe.

Amy Blakeney: She is focusing on the August 1 project. She mentioned that San Quentin Prison is not interested in eucalyptus removal on "Boot Hill" because of the historic significance of the site.

Dick Sadler: He passed around several "before and after" pictures of homes in his neighborhood that improved their defensible space as result of San Rafael's weed abatement ordinance. He is very happy with the results.

Roger Meagor: His board approved their Grand Jury Report response. Their engine company inspection program is in full swing. They have a new fire Inspector starting Monday. They had a fire off of Timothy Drive in Sleepy hollow/San Anselmo. Recent vegetation clearing saved at least one house.

Adjournment: The group thanked Casey May for his 12 years of active participation in FSM. M/S Scott Alber/Dan Kida to adjourn. Motion approved.