



MOUNT VEEDER FIRE SAFE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Saturday, September 24, 2016

LOCATION: Paul Woodward's house, 4717 Dry Creek Road

ATTENDANCE: Joe Nordlinger, Ken Van Oeveren, Bill Robertson, Paul Woodward, Russell Van Dewark, Carole Meredith

ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO AGENDA: none

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the August 27, 2016 meeting were approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Joseph Nordlinger reported on his phone conversation with State Senator Mike McGuire, which took place as a follow-up to Joe's call-in to the August 16 KQED radio show about the most recent Lake County wildfire. Joe said that McGuire is very well-informed and seems sincere in his interest in wildfire prevention. McGuire referred to recent legislation mandating the PG&E generate 5 to 15% of its power from biomass. McGuire also mentioned money allocated to biomass studies, several biomass burning plants in California, and the use of a portable biomass burning system as an alternative to bringing biomass to a plant. McGuire also said that he is planning to meet with John Laird, Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency, and invited Joe to participate in the meeting.

A Napa Communities Firewise Foundation meeting will be held on September 27 at which individual Fire Safe Councils will present their funding requests. We discussed requesting funds for Wall Road since we will not be receiving any money from PG&E this year because they spent so much on fires.

TREASURER'S REPORT: We have \$48,848.43 in the checking account and \$24,230.92 in the reserve account.

All of the recent donations from winery and vineyard businesses are going to the Neighbors in Need program. We need to be able to generate a report that shows the status of this fund.

CURRENT BUSINESS

PROJECT UPDATES:

1. **PG&E:** As mentioned above, we will not be getting any funding from PG&E this year. Joe would like to make direct contact with Tony Walls regarding future funding opportunities.
2. **CWPP:** no update

3. **Neighbors in Need program:** Evangeline James was not present but has reported to Joe that Plumas County has a program that we can adapt to our needs. Their income level is too low for us. They hire a contractor who doesn't get paid until the work has been approved by the Fire Safe Council. Plumas County also requires a co-pay. Should we make the co-pay a percentage of the cost? Evangeline said she will have a document ready by the end of the day on 9/26.

Joe would like to start a trial program with approximately \$5,000 by the end of October. Paul Woodward said he will ask the Napa County social services department whether they would be able to identify people in our neighborhood who are receiving public assistance.

4. **Fundraising campaign:** Paul Woodward said he would use the fundraising spreadsheet that Carole Meredith has started to make some phone calls to local vineyard and winery businesses. Carole said she would acknowledge the \$13,750 in donations that we have so far received from six businesses on Nextdoor, one at a time, and that she would mention that the money was for the Neighbors in Need fund. Troy Tyner donated \$2,000 via the MVFSC website on 8/31 but it is not yet reflected in our budget. Ken Van Oeveren said he that he will look into it.
5. **Grants:** The deadline for the Cal Fire SRA grants is Wednesday, September 28. Joe will try to submit an application.

EDUCATION AND EVENTS: none

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **MVFSC contact mailing list:** Carole Meredith reported that she has made no progress on this.
2. **Firewood sales:** We need to cut and split the accumulated wood. Gary Green would like to sell the splitter and trailer. Some of the wood is already split and ready to go. The group approved prices of \$100 for split firewood and \$75 for un-split. Carole Meredith will ask Sue to put this on the website. A splitting work party is needed to split more wood.

NEW BUSINESS: Russell Van Dewark asked about the chipping program and expressed concern that piles along Mount Veeder Road are not getting chipped.

ADJOURNMENT: 11:30 am

Next Meeting: Saturday, October 22, 9 am
Joseph Nordlinger's house, 4297 Dry Creek Road