



MOUNT VEEDER FIRE SAFE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: Saturday, February 19, 2011

Location: Van Dewark Residence 3369 Mount Veeder Road Napa

Time: 9:00 am

Members Present: Greg Holquist (Chair person), Gary Green (Treasurer), Bill Robertson (Secretary), Carole Meredith, Gary Margadant, Russell Van Dewark, JoAnne Sutro, Wayne Cain, Jock Eggars

Previous Meeting Minutes: Approved as read.

Chair Person Report: Greg gave a summary of what has occurred since the last meeting and additions to today's agenda.

Treasurer's Report: Current balance is approximately \$14, 250. No expenses to report at this time. Received documentation for Tax Filing for the Dry Creek - Lokoya Volunteer Fire Department 501c3 nonprofit corporation from Greg Holquist.

Committee Reports:

CWPP: The document is ready for a final review before going for official signatures. Gary Green would like to endorse the Community Wildfire Protection Plan at the next Volunteer Chief Advisory Board Meeting and would like to invite a guest speaker to that meeting to promote the Fire Safe Council concept and how it is working in our community.

Grant Committee: Bill Robertson reported on the meetings that he, Russell Van Dewark and Gary Margadant had with Stephen Gort of the Napa Firewise Foundation. Mr. Gort is assisting the committee with the application for the 2012 Grant Cycle. The Committee met with Mr. Gort on January 28th and on February 3rd to discuss the application process and what needs to transpire prior to grant submittal. Mr. Gort had the grant committee develop a task list that is to be broken down by projects. The tasks may include property owner permission,

archeological and biological surveys, CEQA surveys, migratory bird surveys a community event and so forth. Mr. Gort also shared with the committee the importance of liability insurance if the MVFSC gets into the practice of coordinating different contractors to do work on private property such as the shaded fuel breaks. Mr. Gort also has a collection of requirements for hiring contractors. Mr. Gort also emphasized that we secure property owner permission so work can commence on those old fire trails that are identified as potential effective shaded fuel breaks. This needs to be done prior to grant submittal deadline.

Gary Margadant, Russell Van Dewark and Bill Robertson met at Carole Meredith's home and walked the south leg of the Old Ridge Road. This was to show Russell and Gary what the work would entail. Some areas will require more work than others will and the terrain in some areas is too steep for a masticator and would require hand crews with chainsaws. The north leg of the Old Ridge Road will be walked at another time within the next few weeks. It was also discussed that for this grant cycle the projects would be limited to the Cove and the Old Ridge Road.

Events Committee: Greg Holquist reported on this years Golf Tournament Fund Raiser. The Tee Up For Fire Safety is scheduled for May 4th. Greg is working on putting the committee together to handle the planning and the logistics of this years event. Carole Meredith put out feelers to the Mt. Veeder Appellation group. It is evident that the MVFSC needs to do better at promoting the golf tournament. Better coverage and publicity is needed to generate more local interest. A Press Release needs to be drafted and the event needs to e on the Napa Register Calendar of events. Other media to disperse information will include Facebook, Twitter the MVFSC webpage and the Fire Prevention signs. Gary Green mentioned that the Golf Tournament can also advertise in the Napa Valley Marketplace periodical. Greg also mentioned that he has a \$3,000 sponsorship from PG&E. Greg will hold a meeting later on this week to start the planning with the Events Group.

Old Business:

- 1) **Fire Prevention Signs:** Gary Green brought up the subject of the Fire Prevention signs. He had shared a model of what the new signs could look like and shared with the group. Bill Robertson mentioned that to have more room for the interchangeable message, we could just have logos either on the top or bottom of the sign. The logos would include the Mount Veeder Fire Safe Council, Napa Communities Firewise Foundation, Napa County and Calfire and Dry Creek -Lokoya VFD.
- 2) **Website update:** Carole Meredith will find out from Sue Santos if she can update the webpage and upload files such as meeting minutes and other important information.
- 3) **Insurance:** Greg Holquist will look into finding insurance for the Board.

- 4) **Bylaws:** Gary Green gave Kelly Wallace a copy of the Dry Creek - Lokoya Inc. bylaws to use as a model for the MVFSC bylaws. Kelly will get to work on those bylaws ASAP.
- 5) **Secretary's Computer:** There was discussion about the purchase of a laptop computer for the Secretary to use for MVFSC business such as keeping of meeting minutes and for grant application correspondence. Bill said he would purchase his own computer but was corrected by Joanne Sutro who said that the group voted at the last meeting for the purchase of a laptop. The computer will be purchased and will be in possession of the organization's Secretary, whoever it is that is elected into that position.

New Business: Greg Holquist wants to do more work on the Cove Project. Greg wanted to see if the MVFSC would be willing to fund \$2,500 for some work for Enchanted Hills and the Cove. Bill Robertson made a motion that the MVFSC would spend \$2,500 to pay for fuel reduction work by CalFire handcrews. Carole Meredith seconded the motion. The motion was passed. This would pay for approximately two weeks of work.

Other business: Greg Holquist talked about obtaining a movable display booth with the Mount Veeder Fire Safe Council logos on its banners. This display could be used at public events such as the Home Winemakers Classic and the Golf Tournament. It could be kept at the Dry Creek -Lokoya Fire Station for storage. Gary Green gave permission to have this display at the Home Winemakers Classic.

Gary Margadant showed a presentation of photos taken during the walk along the south leg of the Old Ridge Road. Jock Eggers spoke about Bike Monkey which is a bike club and to get the Cove used more often and develop and maintain the trails on that property. Greg Holquist informed the group that the Girl Scout Jamboree will be May 14 at the Cove and wanted to know if Patrol 16 with its crew would be available. Gary Green said that it was a required training day for the volunteer firefighters but something could be worked out. Bill Robertson agreed to participate with Gary Green's permission.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:30

Next Meeting: Saturday March 19, 2011 at the Dry Creek- Lokoya Fire Station located at 5900 Dry Creek Road.