



MOUNT VEEDER FIRE SAFE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: Saturday April 16, 2011

Location: Dry Creek-Lokoya Fire Station 5900 Dry Creek Rd. Napa

Time: 9:00 am

Members Present: Greg Holquist (Chairperson), Gary Green (Treasurer), Bill Robertson (Secretary), Carole Meredith, Gary Margadant, Russell Van Dewark, JoAnne Sutro, Wayne Cain, Kelly Wallace, Beth Dewyer, Anita Holquist, Anaka Holquist,

Guests: Stephan Gort (Napa Communities Firewise Foundation), Brad Wagenknecht (Napa County Board of Supervisors District 1).

Previous Meeting Minutes: Approved as corrected.

Chair Person Report: Greg Holquist turned the meeting over to Stephan Gort for his presentation. Mr. Gort gave a report on the CWPP in the communities and his field trip with Carol Rice of Wildland Resource Management. She has filled the void in the NCFE since Don Gasser has retired. Mr. Gort shared a demonstration of using Google Earth to lay out project areas with satellite imaging. The aerial photos can be magnified to show the surface of the earth in detail.

Treasurer's Report: Gary Green passed copies of the check register and Special Budget Report. There is currently \$12,293.52 in the Checking account. Purchases were made at Staples for a new computer for the Secretary and Special Tee's for new apparel with the Mount Veeder Fire Safe Council logo. Some bills that are forthcoming include the new and refurbished fire prevention signs, two weeks of fire crew work for the Cove fuel reduction project and the Golf Tournament. Greg will forward the expenses to Gary Green once the bills come in.

Committee Reports:

CWPP: Kelly Wallace told the group that they would need to review, revise, edit and to make any final comments on the Draft CWPP. Carole Meredith brought up discrepancies regarding the timeline Kelly had devised such as Oakville Ridge being completed. Bill Robertson explained that the time needs to be changed to a more generalized timeline since grant funding is uncertain. And even if we are awarded a grant for some fuel reduction work, we may not see it for several months. We need to keep our timeline general such as tasks accomplished in the first quarter, second quarter and so forth. The clock doesn't start until the first check arrives.

Grant Committee: Stephan Gort said that the Mount Veeder Fire Safe Council should stay under the 501c3 of Dry Creek -Lokoya Volunteer Fire Department for the time being. This is because of the funding constraints on this years grant cycle, he wants us to have a chance for some grant monies. There is a limit of \$250,000 per organizations fiscal sponsor. Since the Napa Communities Firewise Foundation is forming groups in the Berryessa, Atlas Peak and elsewhere throughout the county, there is little funding to go around. This was brought out by the Grants Clearing House Workshop that Stephan Gort, Bill Robertson and Gary Margadant had attended on April 11th in Oakland. We need to change our fiscal sponsor information on the grant application. We need to get bids for the work to be done and all in kind services start when the first check arrives. For example the Calfire inmate crews are \$215 per day for a crew of about 17 men to work on cutting and limbing vegetation.

Bill Robertson, Gary Margadant and Stephen Gort attended the workshop for this years grant application process sponsored by the California Fire Safe Council that was held in Oakland at the Trudeau Center on Monday April 11th in Oakland. It was brought out that these are lean times and that funding is extremely limited due to the Federal budget situation and cutbacks to the Department of Interior. It is uncertain at this time that sufficient funding will be available for fire safe councils as there was in the past.

Events Committee:

Golf Tournament: Greg Holquist wants to advertise the Tee Up For Fire Safety Golf Tournament being held on May 4th at Eagle Vines Golf Course. Gary Green mentioned using the Fire Prevention signs and that a red background would stand out more. JoAnne Sutro will send a PSA (Public Service Announcement) to the local radio stations. She said she would like to have Greg Holquist and Gary Green both on the Kelly In The Morning Show to speak about the Golf Tournament and the Home Winemakers Classic. This would be broadcast on KVON and KVYN.

Bill Robertson asked if any postcards advertising the event have been mailed out to the residences and property owners in our area. Beth Dewyer and Greg Holquist both said no postcards had been mailed and that email would be better. Bill disagreed because he feels we need to be more assertive in inviting our

friends and neighbors in the area if we want support from our community. Bill also mentioned that he has spoke to some residences and asked if they heard of the golf tournament and was surprised when they said they had not. Bill emphasized that we need to do better communication with our community if we want their support.

Greg also said that Calfire Unit Chief Tim Streblov and Napa City Fire Marshal Darren Drake might attend the Golf Tournament. Greg also said the contract with Eagle Vines has been signed. Beth Dewyer spoke about some donations that were coming in for the silent auction including a condominium being donated by John McCormick for a few days in Hawaii. Greg mentioned trying a new game using a deck of cards for the raffle drawing.

Old Business:

- 1) **Fire Prevention Signs:** Gary Green that there were some price changes for the new and refurbished fire prevention signs. He also mentioned that we would need to purchase concrete and rot resistant posts for mounting the signs.
- 2) **Website update:** Carole Meredith is keeping the website updated with current information including the approved meeting minutes and other information.
- 3) **Insurance:** Stephan Gort told the group that DNO Insurance and General Liability Insurance is needed and we need to purchase it for our organization.
- 4) **Bylaws:** Gary Green said he would check with the county to see what we need to be recognized as an organization. Kelly Wallace discussed with the group and asked the questions, " What do we want organized and how ?", "What are the terms for Officers and Board of Directors?", "How will we be structured?" and "Who would be on the Board of Directors and who would be a general member of the Mount Veeder Fire Safe Council?". It was decided that we would have a maximum of twelve Board of Directors which would include the four officers, Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. Stephan Gort suggested a sliding scale quorum based on a percentage of those attending. Two year terms of office was discussed. JoAnne Sutro suggested a one year term was sufficient. The group agreed to one year terms.

When asked about filing with the state Stephan Gort said we do not have if we are a committee under Dry Creek - Lokoya 501c3, but may want to in the future. The MOU between Napa Community Firewise Foundation and the Mount Veeder Fire Safe Council is on hold for now.
- 5) **Secretary's Computer:** Bill says there is a learning curve for him and Windows 7. JoAnne Sutro mentioned a document sharing program and an organization that could help tutor the new user.

New Business:

Pancake Breakfast: Gary Green stated that the Dry Creek - Lokoya Volunteer Fire Department are hosting a pancake breakfast on Sunday June 5th from 9-noon. This is an attempt to promote community involvement and improve community communication.

Newsletter: The Mount Veeder Fire Safe Council agreed to pay for the postage of the newsletter and Dry Creek - Lokoya will pay for the supplies and printing. It was shown that it was roughly a fifty fifty split. Gary Green wants articles as soon as possible to put in the newsletter.

Other business:

Grant Application: Greg Holquist offered to get with Bill Robertson to help fill out the 2012 grant application.

New Display Booth: The new display booth is here courtesy of PG&E. It was set up for show and will be used at public events such as the golf tournament, Home Winemakers Classic and the Pancake Breakfast. It is a nice 10x10 foot white pop-up with the Mount Veeder Fire Safe Council logo and PG&E logo on it.

Dry Creek - Lokoya Volunteer Fire Dept. Board of Directors Meeting:

The next DCL Board meeting is Monday May 2nd at 7:00pm in the evening. Gary Green invited Greg Holquist and anybody else to come. Gary Green and Bill Robertson have been reporting back to this body over the years since we fall under this non-profits umbrella of fiscal sponsorship.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:10 am

Next Meeting: Saturday May 21, 2011 at 9:00am

Dry Creek- Lokoya Fire Station located at 5900 Dry Creek Road.