



## **MOUNT VEEDER FIRE SAFE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE:** Saturday, June 23, 2012

**LOCATION:** Carole Meredith's residence, 4967 Dry Creek Road

**ATTENDANCE:** Wayne Cain, Gary Green, Carole Meredith, Mike Parkes, Bill Robertson, Joanne Sutro,

**REVIEW OF THE MINUTES:** May 26 minutes were approved

**ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO AGENDA:** None

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:** No formal report. Gary Green commended Kelly Wallace for a great job sorting out the complicated invoicing for the recent vegetation management projects and stated that he is a great asset to the MVFSC.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Bill Robertson reported that the current bank balance is \$18,959.95. Ken Van Oeveren was reimbursed \$266.50 for postage for the recent Dry Creek-Lokoya Volunteer Fire Department newsletter.

Several budget categories were modified. The Marketing category was eliminated since those expenses fall into other categories. The former Postage category was eliminated because postage expenses can be placed into the Publications or Office Supplies categories.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. **Grants:** Bill Robertson reported that less money is available this year through the California Fire Safe Council Grants Clearing House. A new requirement for proposals is that a letters of commitment must be submitted from owners all parcels through which a project passes. Mike Parkes suggested that the written agreements required for Delta Camp crews to work on private property be obtained from property owners at the same time.

It was decided to request funding for only the Old Ridge Road (ORR) project and not the Lokoya project. The ORR project will be split into two separate proposals, one each for the North and South segments, respectively.

Bill Robertson will take the lead on submitting these proposals. A special meeting of the MVFSC will be held on July 13 at 4 pm at the DCLVFD Firehouse. The grant proposals will be the only item on the agenda.

## 2. Events:

- a. **Golf Tournament and related activities:** Deferred until Greg Holquist is present to provide an update.
- b. **Dry Creek-Lokoya Volunteer Fire Department Open House, June 3:** The open house was a successful event, although attendance may have been lower than last year.
- c. **Old Ridge Road Shaded Fuel Break Open House:** The event will be held at 4967 Dry Creek Road on July 28 from 9 to 11 am (in lieu of the July MVFSC meeting). Publicity for the event was discussed. It was decided to limit invitations to members of the Mount Veeder community and not to invite the general public. Invitations will be sent to specific groups, including Hill and Dale, the Soda Canyon Fire Safe Council, Napa Community Firewise Foundation board, the Mt. Veeder Appellation Council, local vineyard managers, county supervisors, and the Napa Register. A notice of the event will be placed on the MVFSC website and also sent out the Mt. Veeder Fire Safe community email list. Everyone will be advised to wear appropriate shoes and clothing.

Carole Meredith will place some signs at the base of the driveway and at various points along it to direct people to the site. The guides will be Bill Robertson, Gary Green and Greg Holquist. Wayne Cain will prepare a binder containing before and after photos for each of the 3 guides. As people arrive, they will be assembled into groups and each group will be led by a guide to both the north end and the south end of the project.

We will take some photos during the open house. Bottled water and cookies will be provided. Bill Robertson will get the water and Joanne Sutro will provide the cookies. We will set up the MVFSC canopy and kiosk and provide information about our activities. Attendees will be given the opportunity to donate money to the MVFSC. Checks must be made out to Dry Creek Lokoya Volunteer Fire Department with "for Mt. Veeder Fire Safe Council" on the memo line.

## 3. Project Updates:

- a. **Old Ridge Road Shaded Fuel Break:** Gary Green reported for Kelly Wallace regarding the payment to Burke Vegetation Management for their work on the project. The final invoice was for \$18,755, of which \$16,875 will be paid by NCCFF. The remaining \$1,880 will be paid by MVFSC from our own funds.
- b. **Moving Fire Prevention Signs:** Deferred until Gary Margadant is present to provide an update.
- c. **The Cove Fuel Reduction Project:** Deferred until Greg Holquist is present to provide an update.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **June 2 Napa Firewise Community Meeting:** Carole Meredith reported that the reports from the other Napa County Fire Safe Councils were impressive. With the exception of the Soda Canyon group, which is just getting started, the other groups have had grant funds to work with and have made significant accomplishments.
2. **Storage at firehouse:** Bill Robertson said that space has been identified for storage of MVFSC items.
3. **Firewood sales:** Discussion was deferred until Greg Holquist and Kelly Wallace are present. Bill Robertson reported that we may need to involve the California State Board of Equalization if we are going to conduct sales. So it will be preferable to give the firewood away and ask for monetary donations.
4. **Signed CWPP for website:** Not yet done
5. **Removal of old duplicate website:** Deferred until Greg Holquist is present to provide an update.
6. **MVFSC website updates:** Carole Meredith reported that the website is up-to-date.
7. **Email list:** Carole Meredith reported that she has created the Mt. Veeder Fire Safe email group. It contains over 300 email addresses of residents of the DCLVFD area along with some CalFire individuals and DCLVFD and NCCFF board members.
8. **Fire road access point update:** Deferred until Gary Margadant is present to provide an update.
9. **Pole saw donation letter to Community Projects:** Carole Meredith reported that no progress has been made on this. The group agreed that it may be preferable to ask Community Projects for financial support instead. Joanne Sutro agreed to work on this.
10. **Blog revenue discussion:** Deferred until Steve Levine is present to present his report.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**OTHER BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** 11:00 am (at which time most of the group walked to both ends of the Old Ridge Road project to view the work)

**Next Meeting:** Saturday August 25, 2012 at 9:00 am  
Firehouse, 5900 Dry Creek Road

**TO DO LIST:****Gary Green:**

- a. Send email invitations to the 7/28 ORR Project Open House to NCCFF Board, county supervisors, Hill and Dale, Soda Canyon Fire Safe Council (completed)

**Bill Robertson:**

- a. Prepare grant proposals for submission through the California Fire Safe Council Grants Clearing House

**Joanne Sutro:**

- a. Draft a letter to Community Projects requesting financial support

**Waye Cain:**

- a. Prepare 3 binders with before and after photos for use by the 7/28 Open House guides.

**Carole Meredith:**

- a. Put a notice about the 7/28 ORR Open House on the MVFSC website
- b. Invite the Mount Veeder community to the 7/28 Open House via the Mt. Veeder Fire Safe community email list
- c. Make road signs to direct visitors to the 7/28 Open House

**Gary Margadant:**

- a. Arrange for the movement of the Dry Creek Road sign and the installation of two additional signs
- b. Investigate whether the old fire road access points are still viable

**Greg Holquist:**

- a. Follow up on tying in to the Clubs for Vets golf tournament as a means to receive the money that PG&E has budgeted for the MVFSC.
- b. Continue to work towards removing the duplicate website

**Kelly Wallace:**

- a. Send scan of signed version of the CWPP to Carole Meredith to put on the MVFSC website. (completed)

**Steve Levine:**

- a. Prepare a report detailing the revenue that could be generated by a MVFSC blog