



MOUNT VEEDER FIRE SAFE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Saturday, August 26, 2023

LOCATION: Joseph Nordlinger's residence, 4297 Dry Creek Road

ATTENDANCE: Joe Nordlinger, Ken Van Oeveren, Roger Provost, Jeff Enos, Paul Woodward, Bill Robertson, Joanne Sutro, Cynthia Kerson, Gary Green, Dan Woodard, Jake Songer, Carole Meredith

ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO AGENDA: Mission statement (Jeff Enos), DCLVFD projects (Ken Van Oeveren)

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the July 8, 2023 meeting were approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (Joe Nordlinger):

MVFSC updates: Joe is continuing to work with Carol Rice on the new MVFSC CWPP and on National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Firewise Community certification.

NCFF and Napa County: The NCFF working group is continuing to work with county staff to build out a 10+ year CWPP that can be taken to the Board of Supervisors.

Ballot measure: NCFF is working on a ballot measure to replace the failed Measure L. They are looking at successful measures in Marin and Contra Costa Counties as models. It will probably be after the 2024 election. They are also considering opening up Measure P (roads) to include roadside clearing.

PROJECT REPORTS

Vegetation Management and Fuel Reduction (Jeff Enos, Project Manager):

Roadside clearing: The work has been completed on upper Dry Creek Road, Oakville Grade, Wall Road and is in progress on Mount Veeder Road. The lower Dry Creek Road work that was suspended will be completed by Signature Tree.

Dozer line maintenance: Wall Road is 90% complete. The Veterans Home is complete. Close to 100 miles of dozer line maintenance to be funded by the Napa Valley Vintners Association are being scouted and prioritized.

Fuel Breaks: The third and last botanical surveys have been delayed until September for the Old Ridge Road, Timberhill, and Partrick Rd to Redwood Rd Connector. Maintenance on the northern end of the Oakville Ridge Road fuel break will be done in

September. The Hogback Ridge fuel break project is in the planning stages, with additional scouting, surveys and landowner permissions needed.

Neighbors in Need (NIN) (Roger Provost):

A project on Mount Veeder Road has been completed and the owner is satisfied. A new application has been received from another Mount Veeder Road resident with both physical and financial need. A lot of vegetation removal is needed.

It was agreed that residents should be encouraged to apply to the NCFE cost-sharing program as a first resource. If the owner is not able to provide the matching funds, then MVFSC NIN funding might be used as the match. Concern was expressed that the application process for the NCFE program is not working well.

What about residents who have previously received NIN support and whose properties now require maintenance?

Joanne is working on a funding request to Community Projects in support of our NIN program.

Neon contact database (Joanne Sutro): No update but it was noted that the monthly fee we are paying has increased.

Home Winemakers Classic (Cynthia Kerson): We netted about \$23,000 (vs. \$19,000 in 2022), not including the amount that has been set aside as startup funding for next year. The \$23,000 will go largely to the Neighbors In Need program.

Ken Van Oeveren presented a list of DCLVFD needs, including repairs to both stations, wood removal, and cargo shed removal. Repairs are a high priority. It was agreed that MVFSC will donate up to \$4,000 to DCLVFD for specific projects.

Bob and Jennifer Schwind have joined the HWC committee. Next year the HWC will be on July 14.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The MVFSC bank balance is \$70,987.72. The Home Winemakers Classic has a current balance of \$54,053.05. We will be paying Carol Rice about \$24,000 for her work on the CWPP.

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: Jeff Enos expressed concern that the mission of MVFSC be more clear to the public. Although we have a mission statement, it was agreed that it should be available the MVFSC website.

Next Meeting: 9 am, September 23, 2023 at Roger Provost's house, 5780 Dry Creek Road

ADJOURNMENT: 10:30 am