

MARIN VALLEY MOBILE COUNTRY CLUB
PARK ACQUISITION CORPORATION
MVEST/Firewise Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Via Zoom Videoconferencing
April 26, 2021, 5:00 p.m.

MVEST Steering Committee Members Present: Pam Berkon, Bill Davis, John Feld,
John Hansen, Carol-Joy Harris, Kevin Mulvany, Steve Plocher, Erma Wheatley

Absent: David Gray

Other MVEST team members and residents present: Judi Purdom, Ellen Jane Schulz,

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

Public Comment

Bill reported that a recent fire in a Novato apartment complex displaced 17 families, 40 people, many of them elderly or disabled, and that a similar event could occur in Marin Valley.

John F. reported that because of the work being done at the end of Club View Drive on the sewer lift pump station, there is now a large cleared space that could be used for parking in case of an emergency where residents have to leave their houses.

Consent Calendar

Minutes of the April 19 meeting were approved.

Reports

Coronavirus

The fact that the Park has so far remained virtually free of Covid cases is likely a direct result of residents and visitors adhering to local and state health care directives, mainly wearing masks – correctly – and maintaining social distance, even when outdoors. As most Marin Valley residents are in a vulnerable age group, we all need to be as cautious as ever, despite the fact that we may be experiencing “pandemic fatigue.”

Though many residents have received at least one vaccination dose, not all residents are yet vaccinated. Even after both doses of the vaccine are received, mask-wearing and social distancing will still be necessary for

some time. It is recommended that residents get vaccinated as soon as possible, through whatever channel first becomes available to that individual, especially since new variants of the virus are quickly becoming more widespread.

Since the situation is still rapidly evolving, John H. again recommended using the following link for keeping up to date regarding the local vaccination rollout and health care directives:

<https://coronavirus.marinhhs.org/>

Park Security

Kevin continues to monitor the area in and around the Park, and he reported that there is now a campsite near 101 that is apparently occupied. He has reported the information to his liaison at the Novato Police Department.

John F. is continuing to pursue the formation of a Neighborhood Watch type group in the Park and has spoken with two Novato Police officers from what is called the Novato Response Team. The officers will be present at a community meeting about it, which will be held via Zoom on April 27 at 3:30 P.M. The tube flyer announcing it has been distributed.

Marin Valley Firewise

John H. reminded the committee that there will be a FIRESafeMARIN webinar on Tuesday, April 27 at 6:00 p.m., called "Fire Smart Landscaping: Maintaining a Healthy Landscape in the Face of Drought and Water Restrictions." The Zoom link is

<https://firesafemarin.zoom.us/j/87382415962>. The speakers will be Fay Mark and Kirby Wilcox, U.C. Master Gardeners. If the Zoom call is at capacity, it can be viewed in real time on Facebook. It will be available for viewing after the event on the FIRESafe MARIN website and also on our website, www.marinvalley.net.

Bill and John H. are working with the Novato Fire District on plans for assessments by Novato Fire District Wildfire Mitigation Specialists for the entire Park, including individual homesites. This team of specialists will be in the Park on April 27, 28 and 29. MVEST will use this as an educational opportunity, stressing that this is a free service to Park residents and that the information about the resident's property will be private, shared only with that resident. Bill's article about the program appeared in the April

Echo, and there has also now been a tube flyer and a robocall. The Novato Fire District has also placed an electronic sign at the top of the hill near the Park entrance and another at the clubhouse.

Any resident may also request a “360” review of their individual residence, where the specialist will view that entire rental space and give the resident a report of their findings and recommendations – again, entirely free, voluntary, and private.

On the days the specialists are here – April 27 – 29 – they will be eating their lunch in the picnic area near the pool and invite all residents to come to meet them. Setup for the crew will be done by Bill, Carol-Joy, and John H., and Pam will bring them homemade cookies.

John H. reported that the Park’s 2021 perimeter fuel break planning is under way. The goats will be here in late May or early June, from the same company that was used last year, and there will also be hand crews. This year the entire Park perimeter will be done. One or even two chipper days may also be included. Matt Greenberg has applied for a grant from the Novato Fire District for \$50,000 to aid in the fuel break process. John H. and Bill are working with Lynne Osgood, Deputy Fire Marshal.

John H. again reported on possible grants for homeowners for fire-risk-reducing yard work (\$500) and for home-hardening measures -- e.g., replacing single-pane windows with double-pane ones or changing home siding to a more fire-resistant material -- for matching funds, up to \$2,500, which would come from the Novato Fire District as part of the efforts of the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority. MVEST may be able to help with the application process.

There is also the possibility of obtaining a similar matching-funds grant for improvements to the MVMCC clubhouse, up to \$1,500, from the same source. John H. has written an article about these grant programs for the May *Echo*.

The next topic in the MVEST Zoom series is home laundry dryer safety, which David has researched. His article on it appeared in the April *Echo*, but the date for the Zoom presentation is yet to be determined. David is also researching a dryer vent cleaner that can be used by the homeowner, and he has also found that the going rate for commercial companies to clean dryer vent systems seems to be \$275.

The following topic in the MVEST Zoom meeting series may be a follow-up to the wildfire mitigation assessment program mentioned above.

Wildfire Smoke Mitigation

John F. will write an article for the June *Echo*.

Yard Maintenance Program

Carol-Joy reported that the committee has met and will meet again soon. Many appreciative comments have been received about the work of the gardeners paid by the Humanitarian Fund, as well as the work done by the volunteers from the Christian Academy.

FIRESafe MARIN/Marin County Firewise

See above under “Marin Valley Firewise.”

FIRESafe MARIN Board meetings and Firewise Leaders meetings, both held monthly via Zoom, may be viewed on the FIRESafe MARIN website at www.FIRESafeMarin.org. John H. and John F. recommended both meetings as being highly informative for anyone interested in fire safety in our Park.

Novato Fire District

See above under “Marin Valley Firewise.”

Echo Articles

See above under “Marin Valley Firewise” and “Wildfire Smoke Mitigation.” Bill and Jay will write an article for the June edition about MERV 13 air filters.

www.marinvalley.net

Our website continues to be updated and improved, including information about MVEST and Firewise meetings and webinars. Erma reported that a YouTube channel is being set up for MVEST-related material only, which can be accessed from both our website and YouTube.

Old Business

See above under “Marin Valley Firewise.”

New Business

None.

Next Meeting

Monday, May 3 at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom teleconferencing.

Residents who are not on this committee who would like to attend, please contact John Hansen so that he may send you an agenda, which includes an email invitation to join the call via your computer or phone.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol-Joy Harris
Recording Secretary