

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

Via Zoom Videoconferencing  
May 24, 2021, 5:00 p.m.

MVEST Steering Committee Members Present: Pam Berkon, Bill Davis, John Feld, John Hansen, Carol-Joy Harris, Steve Plocher, Erma Wheatley  
Absent: David Gray, Kevin Mulvany  
Other MVEST team members and residents present: Peggy Hill, Judi Purdom, Ellen Jane Schulz, Janeen Thomas

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

Public Comment

Erma reported about troubles with the Midland weather radios, which were handed out by the Novato Fire District wildfire specialists to some residents to help when the power is out in receiving emergency information such as for evacuations. The radios seem to make intermittent unwanted noises. Some remedies were suggested, along with the fact that the best source of information on the radios can be found at [www.FIRESafeMarin.org](http://www.FIRESafeMarin.org).

Consent Calendar

Minutes of the May 17 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.”

Because not all residents are yet fully vaccinated, along with the fact that even after both doses of the vaccine are received, mask-wearing and

social distancing may 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 vaccinations and health care directives: <https://coronavirus.marinhhs.org/>

John H. brought up the idea of MVEST or Park Management investing in a large supply of plastic badge holders, along with lanyards to hold them, to distribute for use if needed to identify residents' and guests' vaccination status for participation in events such as Mar Val events. John H. will follow up with Matt Greenberg.

#### Park Security

Bill pointed out that 20% of the fires in Novato in the last year were started by juveniles or homeless persons.

#### Marin Valley Firewise

John H. reported that there will be a FIRESafeMARIN Zoom webinar at 6:00 p.m. on May 25 called "Environmental Considerations for Homeowners." Speakers will be Mike Swezy, Yvette Blount, and Nate Clark. The Zoom link is <https://firesafemarin.zoom.us/j/87382415962>. 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, [www.FIRESafeMarin.org](http://www.FIRESafeMarin.org), and also on our website, [www.marinvalley.net](http://www.marinvalley.net).

John H. also reported that there will be a Wildfire Preparedness Workshop for Southern Marin -- though the information is good for all communities, to which John H. and John F. and Erma attested -- on May 26 from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. The Zoom link is <https://firesafemarin.zoom.us/j/81659676635>, and the information about viewing it is the same as above.

John H. reported that the Park's 2021 perimeter fuel break planning is under way. Hand crews have begun the work of clearing a 10- to 20-foot break around the entire Park perimeter in preparation for the arrival of the goats, which will occur around June 1. The goats are expected to complete a 100- to 200-foot shaded fuel break around the Park perimeter. Matt Greenberg has applied for a grant from the Novato Fire District for \$50,000

to aid in the fuel break process, and those funds if granted would probably be counted in the '21/'22 fiscal year.

John H. will write an article for the July *Echo* regarding the very successful latest step in the continuing process of fire-hardening the Park, the recent visits by the Novato Fire District Wildfire Mitigation Specialists. He will also post information about this process in the MVEST glass case in the clubhouse breezeway. He will highlight in both of these places the availability of matching funds for homeowners who do home-hardening work and apply for the assistance from the NFD.

John H. reported that we may receive \$500 in matching funds for this fiscal year and \$1500 for next fiscal year, which starts July 1, for work on the defensible space and other hardening work for the clubhouse.

#### Yard Maintenance Program

Peggy reported that several gardeners have done work on several very fire-prone yards in the Park. HOL has contributed money to the effort, which is ongoing. Peggy expressed gratitude, echoed by the entire committee, for the work done by Kevin, who worked side by side for four hours with one of the gardeners on a very difficult project at one home.

#### 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](http://www.FIRESafeMarin.org). John H. and John F. again recommended both meetings as being highly informative for anyone interested in fire safety in our Park.

#### Novato Fire District

Bill reported that NFD Fire Chief Bill Tyler will be giving a report to the City Council at their May 25 meeting.

#### Echo Articles

See above under "Marin Valley Firewise." Erma suggested as another topic for the next issue a reminder that it's best to buy masks for wildfire smoke protection, such as the KN95 mask, now rather than to wait for when they're actually needed and may not be obtainable.

[www.marinvalley.net](http://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.”

It was decided that when meetings can again be held in person, that MVEST will resume trainings for Zone Chiefs and Block Captains.

Also, when possible, MVEST will again conduct an evacuation drill, perhaps one that involves just the steps needed by residents to get into their cars but not actually driving out of the Park.

#### New Business

None.

#### Next Meeting

Monday, May 31 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