

MARIN VALLEY MOBILE COUNTRY CLUB
PARK ACQUISITION CORPORATION
MVEST/Firewise Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
Via Zoom Videoconferencing
March 15, 2021, 5:00 p.m.

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

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

Public Comment

Ellen Jane Schulz had a question about excessive water use/runoff and was referred to a regular PAC Board meeting.

Ellen Jane noted that the 30 homes nearest the entrance to the Park would not be protected by the security cameras installed at the corner of Marin Valley and Marin View.

Consent Calendar

Minutes of the March 8 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 even more cautious than ever, despite the fact that we may be experiencing “pandemic fatigue.”

Though some residents have received at least one vaccination dose, vaccinations for many residents may still be weeks away. Even after both

doses of the vaccine are received, mask-wearing and social distancing will still be necessary for quite 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 rapidly evolving, John H. again recommended using the following link for keeping up to date regarding the local vaccination rollout: <https://coronavirus.marinhhs.org/>

Park Security

Kevin continues to monitor the area in and around the Park, and reported that there are no occupied campsites at present.

A discussion was held about the continuing problem of residents trespassing on St. Vincent's property, as well as the trespassing onto Marin Valley property by horseback riders coming from St. Vincent's. Carol-Joy has followed up with Matt Greenberg, who will have a double-sided no-trespassing sign placed on the easement that leads to St. Vincent's property, as close as possible to St. Vincent's.

John F. is continuing to pursue the formation of a Neighborhood Watch type group in the Park. John has spoken with two Novato Police officers from what is called the Novato Response Team. They would like to hold a community meeting and have suggested March 24. John will instead try to schedule a Zoom meeting for May.

Mr. Bill's Shed

Bill Davis has written an article about the shed for the April *Echo*.

Marin Valley Firewise

John H. reminded the committee that there will be a FIRESafeMARIN webinar on Tuesday, March 30 at 6:00 p.m. Called "Defensible Space," the Zoom link is <https://firesafemarin.zoom.us/j/87382415962>. The speaker will be Todd Lando, Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Specialist/Battalion Chief, Central Marin Fire Department. 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 evaluations by a Novato Fire District Wildfire Mitigation Specialist for the entire Park, including individual homesites. MVEST will use this as an educational opportunity for residents, stressing that it is entirely free and voluntary for the resident and that the information about the resident's property will be private, shared only with that resident. Bill has written an article about the program for the April *Echo*.

John H. reported that the Park's 2021 fuel break planning is under way and will probably again include goats' grazing as part of the process. This year there may be sheep involved as well, who graze as opposed to the browsing mode of the goats. Chipper day/s may also be included, and there is a possibility of procuring grant funds for parts of the overall process. John H. and Bill will work with Lynne Osgood, Deputy Fire Marshall for Novato Fire District.

John H. 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. will write an article about these grant programs for the May *Echo*.

John F. and John H. have developed an instructional video regarding resident utility connections, or pedestals. This will be the first in a series of video trainings for residents. They will be presented via Zoom meetings that will be recorded and later posted to the website, www.marinvalley.net. This format will allow for a question-and-answer period and therefore may prove more useful than a straightforward training video. This first Zoom meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 24 at 6:30 p.m. The information was presented in printed form in the March *Echo*, for which John F. has received much positive feedback from residents. David reported that he will send John F. a video of a geyser-like water leak (his house – now fixed) for use in John's presentation.

The next topic to be handled in this fashion is home laundry dryer safety, which David has researched. His article on it will appear 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 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 will be the wildfire mitigation program mentioned above, which will also be promoted via tube flyers.

John H. again brought up the subject of residents' probable need for masks this summer due to the expected bad air quality caused by wildfires. The committee voted to purchase 500 N95 masks at this time, before the expected rush to buy them, enough to distribute to all residents, as was done in 2019.

Yard Maintenance Program

Peggy Hill reported that seven yards will be pruned, weeded, and neatened over three days at the end of March, using funds from the newly created Humanitarian Fund for Yard Maintenance, under the auspices of PAC. Matt Greenberg has contacted the Marin Christian Academy to have student volunteers perform this service for approximately 10 additional yards at about the same time as the aforementioned work. John H. will contact Matt for more details.

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

No report.

Echo Articles

Erma reported that Anila Manning is doing an excellent job as the new *Echo* editor and that MVEST is well represented in the April issue. See above under “Mr. Bill’s Shed” and “Marin Valley Firewise.” Erma will suggest that Anila include a notice that mask-wearing needs to continue.

www.marinvalley.net

Our website continues to be updated and improved, including information about MVEST and Firewise meetings and webinars. Erma again reminded the committee that there are also links on the home page for information about Covid-19 vaccinations.

Old Business

See above under “Marin Valley Firewise.”

The committee again discussed the purchase of a tool to help residents lift and/or move their clothes dryers in their fire prevention efforts (see above under “Marin Valley Firewise”). It was decided not to pursue this, as it is probable that not many residents would be able to take advantage of it. It is recommended that a licensed, bonded contractor do the job of cleaning dryer vents.

New Business

None.

Next Meeting

Monday, March 22 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