

MARIN VALLEY MOBILE COUNTRY CLUB
PARK ACQUISITION CORPORATION
MVEST/Firewise Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
Via Zoom Videoconferencing
April 5, 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, Erma Wheatley

Absent: Steve Plocher

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

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

Public Comment

None.

Consent Calendar

Minutes of the March 29 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/>

The MVEST banner at the top of the hill near the Park entrance, reading "Thank you for wearing a mask," has been stolen. Bill reported that he asked the one resident who complained about the banner whether they had any knowledge about this, and that person denied having any. John H. will order a new banner.

Park Security

Kevin continues to monitor the area in and around the Park, and reported no new information.

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. John is writing a tube flyer to announce it.

Mr. Bill's Shed

Bill reported that four residents have contacted him expressing interest in helping to manage the contents of the shed. Bill is working with these residents to get the shed in order.

Marin Valley Firewise

John H. reported that there will be a FIRESafeMARIN webinar on Tuesday, April 27 at 6:00 p.m. Called "Fire Smart Landscaping," the Zoom link is <https://firesafemarin.zoom.us/j/87382415962>. The speakers will be Fay Mark, a UC Master Gardener, and a colleague of hers. 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's article about the program appeared in the April *Echo*.

John H. again 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. One or even two chipper days 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. 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. is writing 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 will be the wildfire mitigation program mentioned above, which will also be promoted via tube flyers.

Wildfire Smoke Mitigation

No report.

Yard Maintenance Program

No report.

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. The next meetings will be held on Friday, April 9 at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m., respectively.

Novato Fire District

Bill reported that Deputy Chief Dmitri Menzel will soon be retiring.

Echo Articles

See above under “Marin Valley Firewise.”

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, April 12 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