

MARIN VALLEY MOBILE COUNTRY CLUB
Park Acquisition Corporation
MVEST/FIREWISE STEERING COMMITTEE Meeting Minutes
May 23, 2022, 5:00 p.m.
Meeting via Zoom Teleconferencing

MVEST Steering Committee Members Present: Pam Berkon, Joan Cervisi, Bill Davis, John Feld, David Gray, John Hansen, Steve Plocher, Erma Wheatley

Not Present: Carol-Joy Harris

Other MVEST team members and residents present: Ellen Jane Schulz

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

Public Comment

None.

Consent Calendar

Minutes of the May 15 meeting will be resubmitted with corrections.

MVEST Financial Report

John H. reported that the amount of \$3,044 in the MVEST account was sent to Matt for confirmation in a letter also suggesting that the remaining money be spent to purchase fire extinguishers so we can do non-flame fire extinguisher trainings, once a year or so.

MVEST NOTICES AND PROJECT REPORTS

Coronavirus

In the climbing scale of COVID cases the use of the Pavlovid drug is seeming to have a rebound effect. Not much is known about it yet, but it might require longer usage.

Park Safety/Security

David said a car with a flat tire that had been here about a week and might have had someone staying in it disappeared the day after informing Matt about it.

Fire Safe Marin

John H. reported again that the next meeting of the Fire Safe Marin Board of Directors will be Wednesday, June 22 at 9 a.m.

It would be good to see everyone at the Ember Stomp event of May 28 from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm at the Marin Civic Center. John F recommended wearing our blue (or Fire Safe Marin) shirts to identify who we are. Erma said there are additional posters and door hangers on the lobby counter that can be tubed and recommended people might tube their neighborhoods as it would be good to have your neighbors attend the event where there will be a lot to learn. We might not have enough media for everyone, but what we do have could be tubed.

John H reported that the report from FSM's Mobile Home Wildfire Safety Committee is being prepared for the printer. The brochure will be sent to the managers of all the mobile home parks in Marin, enough for all residents.

Marin Valley Firewise

John H. reported that he has not yet received news about the outcome of the shaded fuel break proposal he submitted for the PG&E grant for the maintenance of defensible space.

Residential D-Space Planning: Ellen Jane reiterated that the brush and tall acacias that the rest of the county considers among the four most unsafe plants, which should be removed, are not being taken out below her house. When the wind blows, they shake against her house. When she repeatedly brings it up to Matt he considers it a privacy issue. She also talked to Yvette (Blount, Wildfire Mitigation Supervisor) who suggested the new neighbors might be amenable to cutting them. But the trees are owned by the City. John H will be speaking to Matt about defensible space and will bring it up then. Bill said this is clearly a pyrophytic plant and should be managed better and suggested Ellen Jane write it up formally to Matt as a Letter of Concern with a copy to this Board, also to the Fire District so they are in the loop as well as Deputy Fire Marshal Lynne Osgood with a follow-up next week.

John H spoke with Tara Plocher about focusing our effort on a single item on defensible space, which can be a little overwhelming with the three zones and what is and isn't appropriate for each zone. Instead, this year we should emphasize Zone 0, where you don't grow anything and take things out. We need to do research on it and work with HOL. John F will bring it up at the HOL meeting and invited John H.

John H recommended the Marin Master Gardener's Zoom Webinar at at 6 pm on Wednesday (<https://marinmg.ucanr.edu/>) about using draught resistant, waterwise, fire-smart landscaping on existing landscaping—exactly what we need here. Our next step might be this as a useful item for us to have.

Novato Fire District (NFD)

Novato RV Park was canvassed, and smoke alarms were installed a week ago, with the Red Cross, The Fire District, and the Rotarians. Over 50 were put in. We don't know the status of fire alarms in our Park. MVEST should support having smoke alarms in our homes and offer them with free installation. Working with the Red Cross was not easy and required filling out six pieces of paperwork that were essential with the Red Cross. Rotarians had purchased alarms two-and-a-half years ago but they did not want them. Bill could have access to the resources that the Rotary already has in Novato. If we installed them as MVEST we wouldn't have to do all the paperwork. John H said the Red Cross needs the paperwork for liability protection (cya). Who would do the installation?

The Red Cross has already been here, and they won't be coming back. Erma brought up liability concerns. The ten-year alarms put in two years ago sometimes start randomly beeping. We don't want to be liable if they don't work. David said there's a First Alert recall on smoke detectors the Red Cross used. MVEST would need some protection. People cannot sign away their rights but could sign that they were informed. The issue needs more study and will be discussed in a subcommittee of Bill, John H, and David (for the next four days), with suggestions to speak with Matt if he has other options; do a class or workshop on fire alarms; we could buy the units but have someone else install them.

Bill said the Fire District will not be involved with the evacuation. We are on our own and have to use the bullhorns. Needs to be crisp message: *Siren—Start evacuation drill now*. We will also have a robocall. It can't take more than five minutes with three cars driving with the sirens and not driving into the cul de sacs. We have Bill and Steve so far and need two more people. Each car needs two people as well. We need to call and ask two more people to volunteer for the bullhorn warning.

Evacuation Planning Subcommittee

Also see above under NFD. We may not have the 14 people needed, but we can still cover things in a pinch. Tickets should have "2022 Evacuation Practice, place for a number, write on the back with any comments, questions, and suggestions. Take this ticket to the clubhouse and turn in for a piece of pizza and drinks. We might need to order more pizzas depending on number of participants. The day of, we should meet at the clubhouse at 9:30, and check assignments, and the bullhorns. Go to our positions a little after 10:00. We need to have radios and use channel 7. In general—for anyone without a radio, regular radios are important to have during a real emergency if the electricity goes out.

Power Outage Protocol

Not addressed in the protocol is what happens if the outage goes more than a day or so. It is out of our hands then and Matt and the City would take over. We should still be available to assist them to help get things done. We should keep the white board going even after some other entity takes over and still have the power strips available.

We need to put the radio and TV stations on the emergency list Joan compiled. John F will add them to the list. We also have to add the name of the company that looks after the generator. The motion to approve the Protocol was passed with those additions.

Echo Articles

We could use the Power Outage Protocol as the *Echo* article. We should also readdress smoke but could leave that for the August issue. We could also mention the mister in the breezeway. John F will make a new instruction sign.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Tuesday (due to the holiday), May 31, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Residents who are not on this committee who would like to attend, please contact John Hansen so that he may send you an agenda.

Submitted by,
Erma Wheatley