



MOUNT VEEDER FIRE SAFE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Saturday, March 4, 2023

LOCATION: Cindy Kerson's residence, 5101 Dry Creek Road

ATTENDANCE: Joe Nordlinger, Roger Provost, Cindy Kerson, Jeff Enos, Paul Woodward, Carole Meredith

ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO AGENDA: none

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the January 28, 2023 meeting were approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (Joe Nordlinger):

Special taxing districts: Senate Bill 852 allows a local jurisdiction to establish a special taxing district to raise revenue via taxes or fees to fund projects related to climate resilience, such as wildfire, sea level rise, extreme heat or cold. Silverado is already doing it. Joe would like to see the establishment of a county-wide district (including the cities) to fund wildfire-related projects because getting grants is not a sound approach to tackling a large problem.

Mayacamas Volunteer Fire Foundation (aka FSC): Joe and Carol Rice are helping them apply for a Cal Fire Wildfire Prevention Grant (WPG) and MVFSC will be providing a letter of support. The Mayacamas group has so far avoided the area of Calabazas Open Space and Bald Mountain but we are encouraging them to include it and to build links with neighboring groups.

City of Napa: Joe is also working on a Cal Fire WPG for the City of Napa, including watersheds and islands outside city boundaries.

Programmatic EIR for CalVTP: A vendor has been selected and fieldwork is underway. The deadline is June 23.

Napa Valley Vintners funding: NCCF and Napa RCD have jointly applied to the NVV for \$1.6 million, of which \$1 million will be for dozer trails and the remainder for RCD programs including erosion control and resilient fuel.

NC22 money: This is county money for prioritized maintenance of a number of MVFSC projects. The total amount is uncertain.

Feinstein earmark: This \$1.5 million in funding is confirmed and does not require a match.

Cal Fire Forest Health Grant (FHG): NCFE has submitted a request for the entirety of Oakville Ridga plus Enchanted Hills. This program requires large properties and has very technical requirements.

FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP): Only one part of this 4-part county grant request has advanced and that is for the Tubbs Fire area for \$10 million. The whole Nuns Complex part did not advance. That covered the Campbell Creek ridgeline up to Whitehall Lane, so a new funding effort will have to be started to raise the \$6.5 million needed for that area

Joe has submitted a Federal Earmark request via Padilla and Feinstein for the Angwin Deer Park area.

PROJECT REPORTS

Cal Fire Fire Prevention Grant (FPG) (Jeff Enos, Project Manager): Jeff is working on the expanded road right-of-way project and is reaching out to property owners to encourage them to grant permission for clearing on their property adjacent to public roadways. For the Old Ridge Road maintenance project, Jeff will bring a forester to the site on March 8 to look for rare plants.

Neon contact database (Joanne Sutro): no update

Neighbors in Need (Roger Provost): We have two new applications, both on Mount Veeder Road and both are flanking neighbors of a previous NIN recipient. Both are part-time residences and the degree of financial need is not clear. We need to clarify that the NIN program is for full-time residents with demonstrated need.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The MVFSC bank balance is \$131,160.68. The Home Winemakers Classic has a current balance of \$32,244.54.

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: none

Next Meeting: 9 am, April 22, 2023

ADJOURNMENT: 10:00 am