

MINUTES OF THE FIRE SAFE CAMP MEEKER STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING ON 2019/02/25

Richard Seaman called the meeting to order at 11:30.

ROLL CALL: Sheila Denton, Amy Lemmer, Fawn Nekton, Richard Seaman

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING ON 2019/02/18

Amy moved and Sheila seconded that we approve the minutes of the steering committee meeting on 2019/02/18.
AYES: 3 NAYS: 0 VETOES: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 0

CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Gold Ridge RCD

John Green, lead scientist at Gold Ridge RCD, expressed interest in Richard's suggestion of exploring whether a coalition of environmental preservation groups could be put together to purchase the forested land in and around the residential area of Camp Meeker, with a view to turning Camp Meeker into a Model Community demonstrating how a modern populace can live in a sustainable, ecologically sound relationship with a redwood forest watershed. This Model Community could then become a living, visible example for other coastal redwood communities to visit and emulate. Gold Ridge suggested LandPaths and Ag & Open Space as organizations which might get involved with such a venture.

This news received enthusiastic approval from all the steering committee members, so Richard was tasked with pursuing this with Gold Ridge. Sheila mentioned that she had contacted LandPaths in her capacity as a member of the St Dorothy's Rest Community Task Force, the intention being to determine whether the LandPaths approach to public access could be applied to parts of the forest owned by SDR.

(2) Invitation To Fitch Mountain

Richard spoke with Linda Collister at the last Fire Safe Sonoma board meeting. Linda is fire marshal with the Healdsburg Fire Department, and is now on the board of Fire Safe Sonoma. Fitch Mountain comes under the fire jurisdiction of Healdsburg, and they have been doing a lot of fuel reduction work and have set up many COPE (Citizens Organized To Prepare For Emergencies) groups to prepare residents for emergencies such as wildfires and earthquakes.

Fitch Mountain and Camp Meeker have many similarities as far as wildfire conditions are concerned, so Richard expressed interest to Linda in seeing what has been done there. She offered to give the steering committee a tour of Fitch Mountain, which would allow us to take away some lessons to be applied in Camp Meeker.

This was discussed at the Feb 25 FSCM steering committee meeting, and considerable interest expressed, so Richard was asked to organize this tour with Linda.

(3) Bohemia Ecological Preserve Fuel Reduction Workshop

The steering committee has been invited to a Fuel Reduction Workshop organized by LandPaths at Bohemia Ecological Preserve on March 10. Several steering committee members expressed interest in attending.

REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

After review of previous action items, those which were completed have been removed from these minutes, uncompleted action items were rolled over, and new action items are listed at the end of these minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

(1) Outstanding Invitations to Join Steering Committee

A discussion took place about the invitation Richard Seaman made to Fawn Nekton, owner of Gaffney Insurance Services, to join the steering committee. This invitation was made around the same time as he invited Sheila and Amy to join. Amy moved and Sheila seconded that the invitation be formally made by the entire current membership of the steering committee:

AYES: 3 NAYS: 0 VETOES: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 0

Fawn accepted the invitation to join the steering committee, effective immediately. She explained her current business and other priorities, and it was agreed that to make things easier for everyone, we would have the meetings every 2 weeks for an hour and a half at a time, starting today.

(2) March 12 Community Education Meeting

We discussed at some length the proposed March 12 6PM community education meeting involving Ambrosia from Recology.

Part of the discussion revolved around the venue for the meeting. Richard mentioned that his request for an agenda item on the last Rec & Park District's board meeting didn't happen, because of an apparent technical glitch on the R&PD website, which is undergoing changes. His understanding is that it will be on the agenda of the next meeting. Sheila will discuss the use of a room at St Dorothy's Rest for the meeting.

There was a discussion of what would happen at the meeting, and it was agreed to give space to the following things:

- Distribution of educational materials and handouts, such as the Fire Safe Sonoma "Ready, Set, Go" brochures, and the evacuation doorknob hangers.
- The FSCM petition should be available for signing.
- The FSCM steering committee should be introduced to the audience.
- The FSCM project should be briefly described, and audience questions and concerns addressed.
- Ambrosia's presentation will be given, and audience questions answered.

Promotion of the meeting was discussed. It was agreed that our branding hasn't been worked out sufficiently to allow a 6' x 2' FSCM banner to be produced in time for the meeting. Amy and Sheila will work together on producing flyers for the event.

NEW BUSINESS

(1) Organization of FSCM

Sheila said that she has considerable passion for, and experience with, marketing, and we agreed that we should assign marketing to her as a role, in addition to her current role as liaison to large landowners in our area. She will probably involve some of her neighbors who also enjoy marketing.

There was general agreement that we haven't had enough discussion on how FSCM should be marketed, so we will talk about this in the future.

Fawn suggested that we take a look at what Occidental is doing with committee structure, and borrow from them where applicable. She suggested that some collaboration might be in order between leaders who are doing parallel work.

We ran out of time to address other new business.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPORTS

We ran out of time to address steering committee members' reports.

The meeting adjourned at 12:39. Minutes taken by Richard Seaman.

ACTION ITEMS

Amy and Sheila to produce an "elevator pitch" version of the FSCM mission statement.

Richard to put the SDR "zone language" on the FSCM website.

Richard to contact property owners about FSCM doing defensible space work on their properties.

Amy to contact Caerleon Safford about giving her Home Hardening presentation in Camp Meeker.

Amy to contact Fine Tree Care about becoming involved with individual property owners' projects, and supporting FSCM in other ways.

Richard to ask North Coast Resource Conservation & Development Council about using their insurance for volunteers, about people making donations to FSCM through NCRC&DC, and about what grants we could be applying for.

Richard to look into whether we can partner with the Sonoma County Park Foundation to do volunteer work on CMR&PD property.

Richard to tell Tom Austin of Camp Meeker Beat about individual property owners' projects, and COPE groups.

Richard to prepare press releases for NextDoor, FaceBook, Camp Meeker Beat and other outlets, to be circulated to the steering committee before publication.

Amy and Sheila to put together a flyer for the waste management presentation by a Recology representative on Mar 12 at 6PM.

Sheila to ask what meeting spaces SDR has available for the community meeting on Mar 12.

Richard to ask the Rec & Park board whether it's possible for FSCM to use Anderson Hall for no charge for community education events.

Richard to provide a rough implementation of the FSCM 6' x 2' banner to the steering committee for discussion prior to purchasing the banner.

Richard to finalize Fitch Mountain tour with Linda Collister.

Richard to continue correspondence with Gold Ridge RCD to explore whether one or more environmental groups could acquire the forested land in and around Camp Meeker.

Richard to email Bohemia Ecological Preserve Fuel Reduction Workshop details to steering committee.

Richard to email the Fire Safe Occidental information on their FireWise Landscaping community education meeting with Mimi Enright on Mar 17 to Amy.

Richard to put upcoming events on the FSCM website, including Mimi's FireWise Landscaping meeting on Mar 17.

Richard to add to the Mar 11 FSCM agenda an item on marketing.

Richard to add to the Mar 11 FSCM agenda an item on Fawn's insurance presentation for Fire Safe Occidental on Apr 14 or 28.