

Minutes
Volunteer Program Advisory Board
February 26, 2007
Youth Center
16 Park Road
7:00-9:00 p.m.

Mission Statement: "To foster goodwill and community spirit in Fairfax through volunteer activities."

Board Members: John Reed, Scott Valentino, Holly Dines, Silke Vom Bauer, Michael Branton, Melanie Peratis, Anya Schandler

Present: John Reed, Holly Dines, Scott Valentino, Melanie Peratis, Anya Schandler, Maria Baird, Community Resources Coordinator, Craig Carroll, Ross Valley Fire Department, Patrick Troupe

John called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The January minutes were approved. Changes to the agenda included moving the presentation on CERT training by Craig Carroll to the beginning of the meeting.

1. Reports

- Chair-John announced that Karen Eklund had picked a date of March 11th from 10-3 to maintain the native plants near the ballfield. Additionally, the Open Space Committee is holding a fundraiser on Earth Day, April 22nd from 5-10 p.m. in the Women's Club.
- Treasurer-Maria forwarded correspondence to Silke prior to the meeting.
- Coordinator-Maria distributed the Home Safety Emergency Plan brochures.
- Discussion-There will be a joint meeting of all the boards & commissions that are interested in networking together on Saturday, May 19th from 9-12 noon at the Women's Club.

2. Projects

Neighborhood based CERT Training-Captain Craig Carroll with the Ross Valley Fire District, made a presentation on the "Get Ready" program. "Get Ready" is an abbreviated version of CERT that is being adopted from Tiburon. It consists of a four hour "train the trainer". Attendees who complete this course will then be eligible to train others in a two hour format. This emergency response training differs from CERT in that it does not qualify those who complete it as disaster relief workers. They are not covered by the State's Office of Emergency Services under Worker's Compensation. It does not provide the "hands on" training of CERT, but rather focuses more on classroom instruction. On the other hand, they still learn critical information that will enable them to help themselves, their families, and their neighbors

during a crisis. The two hour course will also be made available on-line, allowing more residents to complete the training. Tiburon has trained 2,200 residents through this program. Craig announced a grant is being pursued through the fire department to fund this program.

Old Business:

- **Jolly Hill clean-up project** –John announced that this group had met and cleared brush from their neighborhood.
- **Neighborhood groups**-John announced that he and Melanie will work on completing the map projects with pins.
- **Brewfest event**-A call for volunteers will go out in an e-mail blast, along with requested help for the Easter Egg hunt & Earth Day event.
- **Picnic notes**–A date of Sunday, September 16th was chosen for the annual picnic. Maria will contact Donnie Poe regarding availability of the ballfield.

New Business

- **Kims benefit**-An announcement will go out for the good-bye party at the Women's Club for the Kims. Melanie & John will work on a photo collage as a farewell present.
- **The Good Festival**- Patrick Troupe, a College of Marin student, and Fairfax resident, made a presentation on an eco-friendly based event he would like to hold in August. He is partnering with Next Generation and other environmentally-based organizations. The Volunteers will assist him in promoting this event and providing help.
- **Benches**-John announced Fairfax Lumber would sell us discounted benches at \$50 each to install near pedestrian pathways. The object would be to get residents circulating and familiar with routes of entry into and out of their neighborhoods. The Board decided to begin with a few benches as a pilot project, and expand if they are successful.

Next meeting scheduled for March 26th at 7:00 p.m. The following items were deferred until the next meeting: Earth Day event, Ecofest table/Coffee Oasis.