

Minutes
Volunteer Program Advisory Board
April 27, 2009
Youth Center
16 Park Rd.

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

Board Members: John Reed, Holly Dines, Melanie Peratis, Anya Schandler, Tim Barrett

Present: John Reed, Melanie Peratis, Holly Dines, Council Member Larry Bragman, Maria Baird, Community Resources Coordinator, Margaret Yates, Lana Pereyaslavskaya

John called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The March minutes were approved with the following changes: Under Chair Report, John will contact the County of Marin regarding the outstanding water bill for the community garden.

Public Forum-

1. Reports

- **Chair-** John announced there are now two vacancies on the Board. Lana filled out an application and submitted it to Maria for appointment to the Volunteer Board at the May 6th Town Council meeting.
- **Community garden-**Mel announced there are 18 plots at the community garden. The annual fee is \$65-\$75, depending on the size of the plot.
- **Coordinator-**Maria announced she has ordered three additional pet waste bag dispensers. One will be replaced at Deer Park, another on Porteous (damage was caused by a garbage truck), leaving one surplus dispenser at this time. This may be used on Oak Knoll, as there has been a request for one there as well.

Old Business

- **Fairfax Trails project-**John announced a funicular trail between Tamalpais & Scenic is on the list of trails to clear, and was cleared at the bottom because it was covered in brush, but as the top runs very close to the windows of a house, these residents will be contacted first, that privacy is not compromised.
- **Tree Chipper project-**on Scenic/Tamalpais loop was very successful, with much enthusiastic work by much of the neighborhood, but only reached a fraction of the vegetation that is needed to be removed for fire safety. Forrest Tree Service will make additional runs for the

remaining part of the week to capture all of the brush that was left at the curb. Margaret Yates spoke on behalf of the Scenic Avenue neighborhood, and stated the residents were very pleased with the results. The event has drawn attention to the fire hazard of overgrown brush, and paved the way to perform more brush clearing. Maria announced the Town has been awarded the Hazardous Fuel reduction grant which will help sponsor future chipper days, as well as other fire prevention projects. The funding will be available in six months. The Ross Valley Fire Department agreed to pay \$400 towards a tree chipper fee, and provided six Fire Explorers that assisted the residents in brush removal. John added that Fire Safe Marin will be providing a grant for additional money towards the existing chipper cost on this project. Approximately 20% of the brush has been cleared in the Scenic/Tamalpais neighborhood, which represents only 3% of the Town. Larry Bragman stated he would be bringing up the subject at the next Town Council meeting in May. Maria shared information on the City of Mill Valley's vegetation management program, which is funded through a special parcel tax. A legacy record should be created where copies of leaflets, flyers, instructional sheets, problems and solutions, etc. are kept for reference and used in future "chipper day" projects.

2. **Future Projects- 2009**

- **Creek clean-up-** The Volunteer Board agreed they would like to hold our creek clean-up on the same day as the Town of San Anselmo's creek clean-up again this year, which will likely take place in mid-July.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 18th at 7:00 p.m., Youth Center.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.