

**Minutes**  
**Volunteer Program Advisory Board**  
**April 23, 2012**  
**Youth Center**  
**16 Park Road**

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

Members in attendance: Holly Bragman, Melanie Peratis, Ted Pugh, Anya Schandler, Bruce Killen, Helen Fauss, Merrell Maschino. Staff in attendance: Maria Baird, Community Resources Coordinator. Others in attendance: Council Member John Reed

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. The minutes of the March meeting were approved.

**1. Reports**

- **Chair-** Holly announced the Seder was very successful, with 50 people in attendance. Melanie announced the Rousers are playing this Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, at the Fairfax-San Anselmo Children's Center at a concert to benefit GMO awareness. The event is from 6 p.m.- midnight, and a \$20 donation is requested upon entry. The event is for ages 21 and up.
- **Treasurer-**no news to report.
- **Coordinator-**Maria announced a Park & Rec sponsored Bazaar Fete is being held on Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup> from 12-6 p.m. in the Pavilion. It is a crafts fair, with music and food for sale.
- **Discussion** –Maria announced the Emig Trust Fund grant monies have run out, according to the attorney in charge of the estate.

**2. New Business**

- a) **Next door.com**–Ted reported there are now 32 members on the Nextdoor.com for his neighborhood, "Fairfax Heights". Anya has also launched the Deer Park neighborhood, with 15 neighbors joining. Ten is the minimum number required for a neighborhood to launch Nextdoor.com. Ted has received a map from the Public Works Department that he will use to expand the program to additional neighborhoods.
- b) **Poetry Slam Contest-** Maria announced that five people have responded so far. It was determined that more outreach is necessary to promote the event. Maria has sent out announcements to the Marin IJ, Ross Valley Reporter, and Pacific Sun. Additionally, she has posted it

on the Patch on-line newsletter. It was suggested that posters be enlarged and placed on sandwich boards downtown. Holly phoned David Smadbeck and requested use of real estate A-frame signs, which are more manageable than sandwich boards. Maria will work with Avatar to enlarge the posters. They will be placed at the parkade and at the old Rhino gas station parking lot. The slam will also be promoted at Manor Elementary School, and White Hill Middle School, in addition to Drake High School. Postcards will be developed and distributed at the Farmer's Market, which begins on Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. There was some discussion for acknowledgement of the poets, such as certificates or prizes.

### **3.Old Business**

- a) **Trail marking project**- repairs on existing trails. Maria announced she was contacted by Rose Taber regarding the condition of the trail at Meernaa & Forrest Terrace, which runs from Hillside & Crest. The trail was marked by the volunteers several years ago. Rain and erosion have caused the soil to become loose, and the post was removed and moved down the street. Rose has complained that she is unable to use this trail. The trail needs to have soil added, and some steps installed as well. Bruce hopes to work on this trail over the summer, perhaps with the help of Efren Alba.
  
- b) **Other projects**- Melanie stated that David Smadbeck has secured the funding to prepare a banner enlisting volunteers that will be hung across Sir Francis Drake Blvd. The banner will be hung at every opportunity when there is unreserved space for free. Holly suggested an insert be put into the garbage bill to coincide with the volunteerism campaign. Merrell suggested the [www.eventsvolunteer.com](http://www.eventsvolunteer.com) website be updated with all the events sponsored by different entities in the town, including Park & Rec, Youth Commission, Chamber of Commerce, Sustainable Fairfax, Rotary Club, etc. Maria will send out an announcement to all the parties requesting the dates of their events. She will then input these into the website. She will request the event organizer submit a list of duties to coincide with the event. John Reed added there is a program called Cyclos, an on-line complimentary currency module for people to track volunteer hours with each other. He suggested people could sign up and get volunteer credit, and then exchange duties with other users. This could be used for childcare, yard work, and other areas where people can use assistance.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. **Next meeting scheduled for Monday, May 14th at 6:30 p.m. at the Youth Center.** Topics will include staffing the table at Ecofest, "Find your Thing" volunteer campaign, and the town-wide picnic.