

Minutes
Volunteer Program Advisory Board
February 27, 2011
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, Merrell Maschino, Anya Schandler, Bruce Killen, Helen Fauss. Absent: Ted Pugh. Staff in attendance: Maria Baird, Community Resources Coordinator. Others in attendance: Claire Chetkental

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

1. Reports

- **Chair-** Holly announced there is an opportunity to advertise in the garbage bill to recruit more volunteers. Melanie added that David Smadbeck has indicated the Chamber of Commerce has funding to produce a banner advocating volunteerism, that can be placed across Sir Francis Drake Blvd.
- **Treasurer-** Bruce announced he went to Bank of America to be added to the account, but needs for Holly to accompany him to the bank in order to be on the signature account.
- **Coordinator-** Maria announced there may be grant funding available towards the trails projects through the Emig Trust Fund. One qualification is that the trail eventually leads to Mt. Tamalpais. The Board suggested that Maria relay the information to John Reed to determine if any pedestrian pathway trails qualify.
- **Discussion** – Merrell announced that she met with Scott Valentino regarding the website. Currently, he is the administrator of the Volunteers website. Merrell is working on a new website for the Volunteers, and is updating the information.

2. New Business

- a) **Earth Day Trails Event**–Maria announced a county-wide Earth Day event is being held at the Civic Center on Saturday, April 21st facilitated by Hannah Dorress. This event could compete with an Earth Day trail event. The Volunteer Board discussed postponing the trail marking event until later in the year, to determine if grant funding through the Emig Trust Fund becomes available. Maria will contact Ted Pugh to inquire if he is still interested in working on this project.
ACTION ITEM: Maria will e-mail the grant announcement/application to all the interested parties.

- b) **Poetry Slam Contest-** A sub-committee consisting of Melanie, Anya, Merrell, Holly, and Maria was formed to work on this project. They will meet on Tuesday, March 6th at 2:30 p.m. at Mel's house. The contest will be held on Tuesday, May 8th at the Sleeping Lady Café. The contest will be advertised through a poster, newspaper outreach to the IJ, Ross Valley Reporter, Pacific Sun, and through the on-line Patch newsletter. Additionally, Maria made an announcement at the Youth Commission meeting, and contact will be made at Drake High School. The purpose of the poetry contest is to come up with a poem that describes Fairfax. Similar rules that applied to the song contest will be once again be enforced. Contestants will not need to pre-submit their poetry reading ahead of time. They will simply show up the evening of the show and conduct an open mic recording. It was decided that a winner will not be chosen of the poem contest. Rather, it will be an opportunity for artists to express their creativity regarding Fairfax using the spoken word. It was suggested that Kay Ryan and Annie LaMotte be invited to the event.

- c) **Community Seder-**Holly announced that Claire Chetkental was interested in hosting the Seder, along with Rene Goddard. Possible dates include Friday, April 6th or the 13th . Maria indicated the Women's Club is available both dates. The group decided to go with Friday the 13th . It will be promoted via an e-mail blast.

Old Business

- a) **Update on neighborhood preparedness/CERT-** a "Get Ready" training has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 21st from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Women's Club. Karen Chen was able to work with Craig Carroll to get this organized. They would like a representative from the Volunteer Board present. Anya indicated she may be able to attend.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Next meeting scheduled for Monday, March 26th at 6:30 p.m. at the Youth Center.