

**Minutes**  
**Volunteer Program Advisory Board**  
**April 28, 2014**  
**Youth Center**  
**16 Park Road**

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

Members in attendance: Holly Bragman, Helen Fauss, Anya Schandler, Maryann O’Sullivan, Ted Pugh, Mark Solomons, Merrell Maschino. Staff in attendance: Maria Baird, Community Resources Coordinator. Others in attendance: Rita Lewis, Melanie Peratis, Lew Tremaine

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. The minutes of the March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved with the following changes: Melanie stated the Fairfax Gardener’s Alliance is focusing on the landscaping strip at Pacheco & Center, up to Pastori. She also added that the potted plants in front of several businesses in town will either be maintained by the business owners or else they will pay to have them maintained.

**1) Public Forum- items not on agenda**

Merrell Maschino requested collaboration with Buffalo Field Campaign, a national educational group that is touring the west. They would like to make a stop in Fairfax in September, and make a presentation at either the Women’s Club or the Pavilion. They are requesting sponsorship to waive building rental fees. Their subject is the Yellowstone bison, and they focus on Native American history. Maria mentioned as long as it was not the weekend of September 14<sup>th</sup>, which is slated for the picnic and car show. Holly added that perhaps the item could be addressed at the next meeting, so the group could vote on it.

**2) Reports**

- **Chair** – Holly stated the mail house that will print the direct mail piece had some questions on the format for Merrell. Merrell will send them the electronic version of the postcard. She added there is room on the front side for a small blurb. Maryann suggested adding the volunteers website to the front & back of the postcard.
- **Treasurer-** Mark gave feedback on the community Seder. He stated several new people attended the event, which had 40 overall participants. There were some issues with the food waste & composting. He would like more participation around the table for future events.
- **Coordinator** – Maria announced she spoke with David Smadbeck about a future joint meeting of all the groups (i.e., Volunteers, PARC, Chamber & Sustainable). David thought it would make sense to wait until early September to meet again, since the summer is a difficult time to get people together.

- **Discussion** –. Melanie inquired as to who was responsible for re-filling the doggie bag dispensers at Beach House Style. Ted replied he is in charge of that station. He was out of bags, but has since replenished the dispensers with plastic bags.

### 3) New Business

- a) **Film Night in the Park-** Lew Tremaine attended the meeting to propose a summer film series, similar to the one that is done in San Anselmo. He has been running the Film Night in the Park with Tom Boss, but will now be the main organizer of these events. Currently, the film Ratatouille is scheduled to be shown the Friday night before the festival at the ball field. He would like to continue the film night series consecutively, and show the following films over the next 3 weekends in June: Sapphires, Twenty Feet to Stardom, and Moneyball. The first two movies are music related, the last, sports. Some other films that were suggested by Board members included Muscle Shoals, Last Waltz, and Rattle & Humm. Holly stated that Little League continues to have games in the summer, and that Lew should check with Steve Gallagher. Pending this, Lew will send Maria his intended dates, and Maria will forward to Town Hall so the ball field can be reserved for the films. Lew added he has teamed up with Good Earth this year for the concession stand, so there will be healthy treats for sale. He added that donations are requested by attendees, but nobody is turned away if they can't pay. There was some discussion as to what would be appropriate movies to be shown. Lew added that not all the films are kid's movies, and if there is a PG or R rating, it will be advertised as such so parents can decide whether to bring their children. Lew also offered to make a short film about the Volunteer Board, which could be shown at film night. **ACTION ITEM: Holly made a motion for the Volunteers to support the Film Night at the Ball Field series, pending availability of the field from Little League. All Board members voted in favor of the motion.**
- b) **Goals & Objectives for 2014-** The group made recommendations to the previous distribution list. Maria will incorporate all the comments, and distribute to the group for approval. The final goals & objectives will be adopted at the May meeting.
- c) **Continue Town Historic Register-** Ted announced he will meet with Brian Sager, Bill Sager's son, to open archives. He envisions the Register being extended through nextdoor.com, with historical information on each neighborhood in Fairfax on the website. One individual would be appointed as historian for each neighborhood. He added there is a 50 year gap in the records, from the early 1970's until present time. Holly added that perhaps the Marin Media Center could do a short film on the subject.
- d) **Fire Safety Committee-** Maria stated she has prepared a flyer on the "Marin on Fire" film that will be shown in the Women's Club by the Volunteers on Friday,

May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. She has secured the appearance of the new Fire Chief, Mark Mills, to be available for a panel discussion following the film. It was suggested a veteran fire fighter also be invited, who is familiar with the history of Fairfax. Maria will ask Brian McCarthy and/or Craig Carroll. Holly suggested inviting Ray Mortiz, the arborist who was involved with the fuel reduction grant. John Hurley, the Marin Medical Reserve Corps Director, will also be invited to sit on the panel. Maria asked Merrell if she can provide the movie equipment for the show, and the chalkboard advertising the film. Merrell replied that Jen Jones of Sustainable Fairfax oversees the equipment and sign. Maria will contact Jen. Helen will ask Francis Kibble if she would like to attend as well. Merrell will send out an e-mail blast, advertising the film, a workshop on Measure I that is being held this coming Saturday in the Women's Club, and the upcoming Peri Park clean-up and new installation day on May 17<sup>th</sup>. Maria will have a sign-in sheet available at the fire film to obtain e-mail address of the attendees.

- e) **Little Free Library-** Holly showed an example of this program, which is running in San Anselmo. It is a small cabinet, that houses books that the public can drop off & pick up. She discovered there is already an existing one in Fairfax, in the neighborhoods. Maria thought it would make sense to have one at Peri Park, so that parents can read to their children at the park. The item will be continued at next month's meeting
- f) **Fairfax Festival- Ecofest -**the Volunteer Board will have a booth at the Pavilion the weekend of June 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>. It was suggested the Volunteers have their own table, or share with Park & Rec rather than sharing with outside organizations. That will ensure adequate space and room to display the trail maps & posters. Additionally, the postcard will be available for distribution. Maria will prepare a sign-up sheet for coverage at the next meeting.

#### 4) **Old Business**

- a) **Youth Commission representative** – the Board is not interested in pursuing at this time.
- b) **Gardener's Alliance update-** Melanie gave a briefing on the project. There is \$10,000 available to cover maintenance & landscaping of the landscape strip on Center Blvd. The Chamber of Commerce does not wish to oversee a gardener to work on this project. Melanie will speak with Garrett as to what other options are available.

**The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. The next meeting will be on Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Topics will include: future joint meetings of the Boards & Commissions, Buffalo Field Campaign, Little Free Lending Library & finalizing the goals & objectives.**