

Fire Safe Sonoma
CDF West Division Headquarters
2210 W. College Ave, Santa Rosa, Ca
Minutes

February 4th, 2009

Attendees

Jack Rosevear, Caerleon Safford, Tamara Boulton, Marjorie Conley, Tony Walls, Nathan Garrett, Marshall Turbeville, Doug Jones (Master Gardener), Betty Miller (Master Gardener), Al (Master Gardener), Gary Miltimore (Conservation Corps North Bay)

Consent Agenda

All present Board members unanimously approved the consent agenda.

Fire Safe Garden

Betty, Al and Doug gave an update on the progress of establishing the Fire Safe Sonoma Demonstration Garden.

Though the garden is not complete, Jack believes a presentation of the garden during Fire Prevention Week (in May) would be a good idea.

Betty and Doug explained the design and establishment of the Garden in detail. The garden will be established in phases. The first phase is the "Urban Garden" with plants already in place. The second phase will be the "Country Garden" with a less formal design. All plants in these two phases will be drought tolerant.

Betty has contributed over fifty hours of research for development of the Garden. Al designed the irrigation system.

The Master Gardener's have not yet received any money from Sonoma County Fire Protection Officers (FPO's) for the Garden. Jack will assist in securing funds from FPO's and Betty will estimate future costs for the garden.

The Healdsburg Garden Club has volunteered to maintain an area of the garden with succulent plants.

Credit was given to Doug Jones and his crew for preparing the land for the Garden and installing the irrigation system.

Tax Preparation for 2008

Tamara stated that the budget for tax preparation would be approximately \$1700. The estimation is high to ensure the cost is covered.

There is approximately \$1400 left in the SOD grant for administration purposes.

Grant Updates

SOD Grant

Caerleon has conducted inspections of several properties and is setting up contracts with property owners.

Moving forward FSS will not be accepting group projects, but will still give priority to applications from multiple property owners with adjacent properties.

CWPP (Community Wildfire Protection Plan)

Continues to be a work in process.

Chipper Extravaganza Grant

Funding for this grant has been discontinued.

Projects associated with this grant will be put on hold until further notice.

Conservation Corps North Bay (CCNB)

Gary Miltimore, representing CCNB, outlined their goals, objectives and the various programs run by CCNB such as recycling and habitat restoration.

CCNB is interested in building partnerships with various agencies and entities such as FSS, to assist with community outreach, offer their contracting services and to provide leverage when applying for grants.

FSS Board members discussed the possible advantages and pitfalls of a partnership with CCNB. FSS could provide fire prevention expertise to CCNB and will make it a goal to establish a partnership.

Website Updates

The FSS website needs to be updated with tax and fiscal information.

Additional Topics of Discussion

Caerleon recommends FSS should hold off on the idea to secure a mailbox. All present Board members agreed.

Caerleon wants to create a "Task List" and make it a reoccurring item on the agenda. Tony was charged with the task of getting quotes for web-master services to oversee the FSS website.

FSS Chipper Update

The first safety meeting regarding chipper use will be held on February 28th, from 10:00-12:00am at the Santa Rosa CalFire station. The safety meeting will include a DVD presentation and a “hand on” demonstration.

A new set of blades for the chipper need to be ordered.

Jack will solicit donation in return for use of the chipper to help fund the purchase of replacement material.

Budget for 2009

The basic operational expenses, outlined in a handout provided by Tamara, were approved by all present Board members.

Next Meeting.

FSS will hold the next meeting on March 4th, 2009 at the CDF West Division Headquarters, 2210 W College Ave, Santa Rosa, CA