

MONTEREY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL
STEERING COMMITTEE
AUGUST 27, 2009

Please note:

- Meeting date: All meetings will be held the LAST Thursday of each month 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM unless specified otherwise.
- Meeting location: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, 2221 Garden Road. Monterey; Expanded Dispatch Center behind CDF building. (Please park in front and walk down by Dispatch Center).
- Board of Directors meeting will be held at 10:45 AM following the regular Monterey Fire Safe Council (MFSC) meeting.
- **BOLD TYPE: Current issues, action plans and people responsible for these actions appear in bold so that projects move beyond discussion mode. Names in boldface type have agreed to take some action on or before the next meeting.**
- Website: www/FireSafeMonterey.org

1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairperson pro-tem Lonni Trykowski at 9:11 AM. Present were:

Pete Harris (USFS)	Joe Rawitzer (CTF/WFSC)
Ed Muñiz (MoCoPW)	Mike Filbin (Central Coast Land Cl).
Pam Peck Palo Colorado	Mike Caplin Palo Colorado
Tom Di Bartolo PG&E/Davy	Sarah Godfrey (BSLT)
Penny Vieregge Big Sur	

2. REVIEW OF MINUTES: The minutes of July 30, 2009 were reviewed.

Corrections

Spelling of Chief **Hamlin**

Order of numbers on Agenda

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED MADE BY SARAH GODFREY SECOND TOM DI BARTOLO. APPROVED

3. ACTION ITEMS: (see Action List for August 2009)

4. CORRESPONDENCE:

Pam Peck – indicating willingness to accept the position of part-time Financial Overseer. (see #8-Old Business)

Reminder of Pebble Beach Fire Planting workshop Saturday August 29, 2009

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Strategic Planning – Grants:

PG&E – Dick Ravich completed and sent in. **ACTION: TOM DI B. TO CHECK WITH WENDY OF PG&E**

Salinas Rural: Chief Taylor to inform Chief Urquides of \$1000.00 from PG&E that is set aside for the SRD demo garden.

Big Sur Grant (financial): (No report from Steve Daus.) The Council has learned that the Grantor has added another quarter to the time line making this a two year project. It is noted that there is a September deadline on the first quarter... Clarity is needed from Big Sur. **ACTION: SARAH GODFREY AND ROB THOMPSON TO SET A DATE FOR AN EMERGENCY BOARD MEETING TO DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION** (See item #9 – Good of the Order).

Public Education:

Workshops – Community Presentations

Pebble Beach: Fire Safe Landscaping: Saturday, August 29 – materials being stockpiled at Cal Fire headquarters.

There is no report on the development of a 2 hour format for future presentations of Fire Safe Landscaping. (see ACTION list).

An enthusiastic discussion on the Council developing a pamphlet with color photos of what plants to avoid that could be available to HOAs, stakeholders and environmental service vendors took place. Mike Caplin, Mike Filbin, Sarah Godfrey suggested several organizations which might already have files on these i.e.: Elkhorn foundation, the native plant society, Cal flora and the CA natural diversity data base. Per Mike Caplin - **since** only federally listed plants need permission that would only be 20 to 40 species. Penny V. suggests that college or high school students might be able to do some of this research. Bird nestings and animal and reptile needs might also be included. This pamphlet must be clearly labeled as a non-legal, general guide only. As the data accumulates it could be put on the Website for no cost. Since 10% of Grants applied for should be for public education, such a printing might be factored in. **ACTION: MIKE FILBIN VOLUNTEERS TO START THE INITIAL INVESTIGATION OF WHAT IS AVAILABLE AND WHAT THE COUNCIL COULD DO.** Mike C. knows of occasions when fish and Wildlife has developed MOUs WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES. He feels this can happen in Monterey County. If it does, this would shorten the list that we are developing to hand out. **ACTION: MIKE CAPLIN TO SEND A COPY OF FISH AND WILDLIFE MOU TO MIKE FILBIN.** It is noted that this project clearly fits into our mission statement. **ACTION: SECRETARY TO PUT ON SEPTEMBER AGENDA UNDER PROJECT SUMMARY. ACTION: LONNI T. TO CHECK WITH CINDY R. ABOUT A DECISION THAT 10% OF EACH RFP MUST BE FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION.**

Grants – Pre Award Workshop: Sarah Godfrey reports attendance by herself (BSLT), Steve Daus/Mary Trotter for Big Sur and Cindy Reeves (San Benito FSC) who also represented the MFSC. **ACTION: SARAH TO BRING THE HANDOUT BINDER TO THE EMERGENCY BOARD MEETING FOR DISCUSSION AND ESTABLISH CLARITY FOR BIG SUR, PAM PECK AND THE COUNCIL.**

Website: Sarah Godfrey reports that Webmaster Lisa Goettel is switching hosting and domain as instructed. Lisa will continue to lead as Webmaster with Sarah as backup. The site should be switched over by next week

MC2WG: Mike Caplin reports that the Buzzword CWPP website has received 240 comments. Participation is still growing. The regular participation of the new forest Service Supervisor, Sherry Tune, is particularly appreciated. On Buzzword one can highlight a definitive sentence of the document and then comment. **ACTION: SARAH GODFREY TO LOG ON.**

CEQA meeting – Mike Caplin reports that most defensible space has been covered in previous Cal Fire an analysis. When this is true, there is a possibility that CEQA requirements have already been met. He also points out that since MFSC is a non-profit organization, any grants given through the Council rather than the government may not trigger the CEQA requirement.

6. PROJECT SUMMARIES:

Big Sur: (No report from Steve Daus)

RTG; Lonni T. reports that Gavilan crews have already worked on the County greenbelt area concentrating on high start areas along the roads. The County area around the homeowners' property lines is also being cleared for the planned community fuel break. Kudos to Edward Muñoz for his invaluable guidance in accessing County funds designated for this work. Kudos also to Peter Stern and Mike Sherwood for their matching dedication to this work.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

Financial Overseer: Pam Peck needs more clarity on the Big Sur plans.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

9. GOOD OF THE ORDER: The lack of a quorum for today's Board meeting emphasizes the need for a speedy emergency meeting to address several issues.

ACTION: SARAH G. TO CONTACT ROB T. AND SET A TIME AND PLACE. Some items which need to be addressed soonest are:

- a. Big Sur/CERT: immediate clarity is needed regarding the Steve Daus contract and the need for due diligence in putting out bids. There is an SO meeting coming up in Big Sur and the Council is waiting to be contacted for specifics.
- b. Pam Peck, as financial overseer, needs a projected plan from the Big Sur CERT group in order to track funds for whatever project is being worked on.

10. ADJOURNMENT: