



Friends of the Mark West Watershed

Protection ~ Restoration ~ Preservation

Minutes 03-15-07

Present: Jean, Pat, Ray, Sherri, Jeff, Jim, Betty, Josh, Paul, Bill, Harriet, Delores, and Richard

Special Speaker:

Joe Honton from the Laguna Foundation gave a presentation with maps and photographs of the Laguna watershed. Their group was formed in 1989 and had early leadership and funding from the California Coastal Conservancy

Anything that drains into the Laguna is included in the watershed. Cotati, Windsor, Rohnert Park, and Santa Rosa, and are all part of this watershed

They have broken the watershed into 18 unique regions; each region has its own unique vegetation and wildlife.

Joe took questions and gave more detail to aspects of his presentation

Grants:

Pat and Ray recently attended a grant writing workshop, there is money out there; most of the money is available for projects that connect people to the land. Regional projects are very attractive, imagine alpine hall as interpretive center/trailhead for Saddle Mountain...

Pat would like a small group of committed people to meet and would like u to consider us hiring an outside person to help us create a plan. The following people volunteered to be on the committee: Richard, Pat, Ray, Paul, Grif, and perhaps Jim?

Treasurer's Report:

Bill passed out an income/expense report. We have two upcoming events to budget for: Road cleanup and Hike and Hoot.

Richard can spend \$100 for food and beverages at the Road Cleanup. **APPROVED**

We will spend \$300 at the Hike and Hoot for beverages; we will spend another \$50 for raffle prizes? **APPROVED**

Legal Structure:

Pat will meet with Warren Linney regarding our group being under his groups non-profit status, he would need 4-5 percent for overhead expenses, there was a suggestion to also ask MRI (Monan's Rill Institute)

Ray suggested that when we work on our strategic plan we should also look at how we want to be structured, Jim is willing to go through the time and paperwork of incorporating ourselves...Richard is also willing to help

Creek Report:

Richard saw fish high up in creek, the water looks good and clear, Richard and Jim have photos of fish they have seen this winter.

COPE Report:

There is some mixed reaction from neighbors about gathering information from them. They have been working with Andrew McLean, who is a captain at the RV fire department, he is working on maps of watershed, and we may be able to get maps for us to use as well

Our local Cope group is still meeting once a month. There was a suggestion that COPE be transferred over to the Alpine Club

Trail Watcher Report:

Cyrie prepared a report, Grif and Sam put boxes in front of Alpine Hall so people who do trail monitoring can leave reports...

Hike and Hoot:

Should the Steering Committee bring main dishes?

Paul and Betty will help organize things

Road Cleanup:

Richard has everything in order

Kate may make a flyer for us

Harvest Moon Dinner Dance:

Delores passed out hard copies of the Event Matrix

Most of the jobs are spoken for; there were appreciations to Josh for organizing this document, Jeff volunteered to be the bar captain

Mattei:

Jim, Ray, Betty, and Steve Krimmel went up and toured the property, along with the realtor. There are 430 acres and they are asking 4.5 million.

Jim thinks this should be part of our agenda and would like to see Open Space buy it, he thinks the land market is depressed and it would be a great time to buy it.

Next meeting:

April ~~18th~~, [post facto correction: 19th] 2007, 6 p.m. at Monan's Rill