



**FRIENDS OF THE
GENERAL MEM**

**WATERSHED
MEETING—Minutes**

**August 19th, 2010, 6- 9 PM
MONAN'S RILL HUB**

**Facilitation Team
Linda, Penny, Josh**

6:30 Business Meeting. Attendees: Linda, Harriet, Josh, Bill, Penny, Grif, Greg, Jeff, Sherry, Janis, and Clint.

1) Approved June minutes

2) Financial Report – Bill \$12,334.61 prior to \$1000 check to Steve Volker for the grading ordinance; after which FMWW will have \$11,334.61.

3) Any New Members? No.

3) From the Strategic Advance 06-05-2010: New language proposed (from Linda & Penny):

4th bullet under **Philosophy**:

- We work to build neighborly relations and direct interventions toward policy makers and enforcers.

What We Do

- We educate ourselves and other neighbors about good stewardship practices.
- We cooperate with non-profit organizations and governmental agencies.
- We influence public policy to protect environmental values.
- We hold public servants accountable.
- We practice consensus decision-making in order to reach agreements.

Current Core Values Page – Bill still needs to enter into computer but with Philosophy, Interests, etc. from section 2 of the 05-17-2008 binder. Once Bill has it done electronically, it'll be reviewed by Linda and then sent to the full FMWW email list for review prior to the Sept 23 general meeting.

4) Consensus summary and “who we are” pages – Harriet to work with Penny on summarizing 4 pages from binder.

5) Public Policy Committee – proposed new language for charge of committee – “The Public Policy Committee identifies land use and environmental policies, laws, regulations, and standards, and learns how they apply to the Mark West Watershed. It monitors amendments and changes that have the potential to promote and/or frustrate the FMWW Mission and recommends to the membership, FMWW participation in the public processes when appropriate.” Language approved.

Members of the Public Policy Committee are: Josh, Grif, Ray, Pat

We need a convener for the Community Building Committee

Discussion included:

Q: should we break up CBC's charges (and send to other committees)?

Decided: Move movie night to fundraising committee

Point: Some education programs done by Stewardship Committee

Q: do we just find a person to handle education activities?

Lecture Series: a way to draw more people to our regular meeting

Q: where and when does committee meet?

Q: Do CBC as an ad hoc committee?

Point: Would be good to have a convener looking at the Big Picture

Point: bring a friend to a meeting

Point: the more concrete events and projects we have, the better will do

Janis: Shining Star Ranch, owned by Doug Hill, is now for sale. It is close to Safari West. Shining Star Ranch provides green activities for kids not used to being outside.

Q: Meet Shining Star Ranch for next FMWW meeting? Janis to look into?

Road Clean-Up: base it out of Shining Star Ranch? New areas? Need a CBC meeting to get into the details.

Clint is willing to be a co-convener and so is Janis, when they both are in town.

Point: have membership expansion brainstorming as regular agenda item for FMWW general meeting. Approved.

Q: keep CBC discussion (activities) on regular meeting agenda? Group: yes.

6) Upcoming training for facilitators – proposal to have FMWW sponsor members who would like to attend training

Penny: Larry Schwab facilitators' training. 2-year course. Linda and Penny plan on doing some or all of the courses. Courses are at intentional communities, which are used as labs for practicing facilitation. Monan's Rill has several interested people. You can audit just one or two sessions. Penny offers to forward link to interested people. Course cost? Approximately \$600/weekend?

7) Russian Riverfest benefit for Russian Riverkeeper on Sat. 9/25 – Does FMWW want to sponsor any members who'd like to attend? \$20/person if tickets bought before 9/20

Penny will go (and pay on her own). FMWW will sponsor two more people, if two other members want to go. Contact Harriet ([huck at sonic.net](mailto:huck@sonic.net)) by 09/20.

8) Cornell Winery Public Hearing – September 9th, 1:05PM - discussion

Mitigated Negative Declaration, revised: did a biological assessment, with one rare plant species found and possible habitat for other rare plants (depending on season). Plans are now for a new location of building site. Caves are still in plans.

Jeff: relays his happenstance meeting and discussion with Henry Cornell.

Do we as a group submit a statement at the meeting? (We can only comment on the new information in the MND.) Decided: no, not as a group.

Grif: doesn't think we should change FMWW's opposition (i.e., requiring a EIR). Group agrees.

Harriet: as group, we need to focus on the law, like the grading ordinance.

Clint: can we guide Cornell in the right direction, since he has financial resources.

Grif: Davis's already using many environmental techniques, like water-saving equipment. Grif encourages individuals to speak at meeting.

Committee Reports

9) Fundraising –Sherry. Nothing to report.

10) Stewardship – Harriet

A) **Cresta** Riparian Enhancement and Education Project planning is underway – FMWW has met with RCD members and seen the project site. FMWW (Harriet & Greg) has agreed to coordinate volunteers for the project.

Harriet: now there are some funding delays (update: RCD hopes to have grant agreement finalized by 8/26/10).

Greg: to recruit and organize downstream volunteers. H: to recruit and organize upstream volunteers

Harriet: the project will pull invasives and plant native species ideally before the rains begin, but we may need to begin work after the rains begin.

Harriet: hoping to have a big public info meeting, maybe at Pepperwood with big mailer (uses funds from grant)

Harriet: We have lots of High School volunteers, and Open Space and

Pepperwood.

B) **Central Mayacamas Forum** at Pepperwood Preserve – 09-16-2010 – Greg

Greg: presentation on wildlife mapping and corridors (“connectivity”). 9/16 evening. There is room for a small delegation from FMWW to attend. Ray, Harriet, LuAnne, and possibly Clint are going. If you are interested in attending, please email Greg Damron directly at gdamron@pepperwoodpreserve.org.

C) Letter of Support for LandPaths’s acquisition of remainder interest in **Ranchero Mark West property**. Approved by group.

11) Community Building Committee – No report.

12) History Committee – Linda

Interviewed the last of the Tarwaters. Henry Mattei died, before he could be interviewed. Working with person for History website.

13) Emergency Preparedness – Bill

Porter Creek Social Club expansion of Phone Alert System. Approved.

14) Public Policy Committee – Ray absent.

Concern about MRA’s drainage of upper pond.

Concern: local resident is causing soil damage on properties Gates Rd.

Concern: someone might be damming the creek off Gates Road.

Concern: water in creek is not what it used to be and assumption is that someone is doing something.

Suggestion: ask Ray regarding which regulatory authorities to approach with concerns.

Point: group needs to create a list of resources that can address such issue.

Point: maybe create an agenda spot for people to air watershed concerns.

Next Meeting?: 09/16 is in conflict with Mayacamas Forum. So 23rd is picked instead. Assumption is that meeting will be at Monan’s Rill, unless we hear differently about the Shining Star Ranch possibility (from Janis or Clint).

Sherry and Penny as co-facilitators.

Next General FMWW Meeting is September 23th, 2010 - Monan's Rill HUB

Directions to Monan's Rill ~ 7899 St. Helena Road, Santa Rosa CA 95404. Approx. 4 miles on St. Helena Road from Calistoga Road. At the bottom of a sharp S turn, there are several mailboxes on the left at the base of the main drive onto the land. You will also see a sign for Monan's Rill at the entry on the left side of the road. Go up the gravel drive. Please keep your speed below 15 mph. Monan's Rill community HUB is about a mile up the drive. Once you get onto the property, keep going straight, curving around to the left until you get to a "Y". Take the right fork and make the next left at the mailboxes. The community building is on the left and parking is on the roadway or in the parking lot area on the right of the building. *Please leave your pets at home ~ stay clear of the ponds ~ no smoking. Please Note: All attendees at our monthly meetings are asked to sign a general liability release for the benefit of Monan's Rill.*