



FRIENDS OF THE MARK WEST WATERSHED GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

August 18th, 2011, 6- 9 PM
MONAN'S RILL – HUB
Meeting Minutes-DRAFT 1

Facilitation Team: Linda, Ray, Bill

Attendees: Linda, Penny, Sherry, Pat, Ray, Bill, Harriet, Jeff.

Approved: May 2011 minutes

Financial Report – Bill

\$9601.34 in bank account, \$1597 due from fiscal sponsor WSI = \$11,198.34

New Members: none at meeting.

Potential Fiscal Sponsors:

Need for local fiscal sponsor.

Without a sponsor, what would happen?

- No tax deduction for donors
- No donations from foundations (as we recently received)
- No grant application possible (future concern)
- Does FMWW want to look into doing a 501c3 application? Not at this time.

Bill to contact Amy about MRI being a possible fiscal sponsor; Amy is MRI President.

MRI Treasurer is Frankie. MRI expressed some initial concerns:

- Liability. Neither MRI or FMWW has liability insurance.
- To maintain MRI's 501c3 status, would there be any limitations to FMWW activities regarding public policies?

Also discussed Alpine Club as a possible sponsor although this might be less clear-cut.

Suggestions:

Contact Volunteer Center: legal status.

Sonoma Mountain Village: use their pro-bono consultants for non-profits

Action item: Bill to follow up with Amy.

Letter from neighbors on Mountain Home Ranch Road:

Group response:

- 1) Not in Mark West watershed.
- 2) Appears to be a dispute between two neighbors and FMWW had previously agreed, as a group, not to engage in such disputes, to be neutral, and encourage parties to work out their own resolution.

Ray to call letter writers.

Visit to Camp Newman – Harriet & Ray

(The old “Cooks and Stewards School” on Porter Creek Road)

FMWW outreach for RCD road assessment program (Camp Newman has several miles of roads). They have now been hooked up with RCD.

H & R toured the property, 430 acres.

Overall, a good contact with a major landowner with conservation-minded concerns similar to FMWW’s.

Proposal to have quarterly meetings – Penny & Harriet

Approved: General Meeting is now quarterly. **Next meeting is Nov 17th.**

Renewed focus on Stewardship Committee (see Committee Reports below)

Committees to decide themselves whether to meet on a regularly schedule basis or ad hoc.

Community Building:

Potential events for 2011: Fall event to coincide with Coho release? Would be hosted by Pepperwood, with other groups (like Open Space, Regional Parks, etc.) attending. Harriet reports on scheduling complications. May be that the release of fish will be dependent on streamflow, rainfall, temperature, etc. Could be in November. May end up being an after-the-release gathering.

Question: Should FMWW make a donation toward the cost of the fish? Who would receive that donation? The Army Corps of Engineers (who run the hatcheries)?? Is there another, alternative recipient directly involved with the re-introduction of Coho to the Mark West Watershed?

Fundraising event – October/November 2011 timeframe?

Movie night? Sonoma Environment Movie Festival had very limited audiences (30 people). Group concerned that FMWW Movie night might be a “fun-raiser” but not a “fund-raiser”.

Educational event? Is it possible to promote an educational event and make it also a fundraiser?

Outreach event?

Should FMWW try targeted fundraising? That is, approaching businesses within the Mark West Watershed? Like Safari West? Or Shiloh business park businesses? Other watershed entities? The quarry? Does FMWW have any concerns about accepting monies from businesses?

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Stewardship Committee

1) Ray reports on RCD's annual work plan:
RCD outreach for participation in their Management Plan in the MW Watershed.
Continuing water quality monitoring projects.
RCD's outreach for road assessments.
RCD's plan to install 12 in-stream enhancements in MW watershed.
A riparian workshop in MW watershed.
Next Stewardship Committee Meeting is Aug 29th 6PM at Ray's.

2) iNaturalist workshop at Pepperwood – Penny

Good example of Citizen Science: Gather digital info: photos with camera (with GPS) or use Google Earth to discover GPS and record other observations,
Bill to put a link from FMWW web to iNaturalist site (Penny has set up FMWW group)
Pepperwood is doing iNaturalist Safaris to gather information.
FMWW can use MRA's motion cameras
FMWW should definitely incorporate iNaturalist into 2012 H&H
FMWW could arrange for a training session on how to use iNaturalist.

3) Cresta:

Work morning, **volunteers needed:** Tuesday morning at 8:30AM at Cresta.
There are still a few more volunteer days before the rains start. Contact Harriet if you can come:

Tuesday	August 23	8:30-11AM
Thursday	September 8	3-5:30PM
Monday	September 19	3-5:30PM
Friday	September 30	8:30-11AM
Friday	October 14	8:30-11AM

History – Linda

Lee very active with website
Next meeting is September 12, contact Linda for details.

Fundraising – See above.

Emergency Preparedness – Bill. Meeting in September? TBD.

Public Policy Committee – Ray Pat, Grif.

Note: Our supervisor's seat will be open 2012; invite candidates to FMWW event?

Next Membership Meeting November 17th, 2011, 6PM - 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.*