Minutes of the Friends of the Mark West Watershed, a California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Meeting was held on May 11, 2017, 6:30pm at Monan’s Rill HUB, 7899 St. Helena Rd, Santa Rosa, CA 95404.

The following directors, constituting a quorum of the full board, were present: Harriet Buckwalter, William Blake, Chris Schaefer, Megan Dehn

There was absent: Ray Krauss

General membership present: Graham, Richard, Dolores, Penny

Announcements:

Penny: Forest Conference June 7,8,9 at Santa Rosa JC (which we are sponsoring) 3 days of informative talks and discussions www.sonomaforests.org Penny is presenting – she’d love any assistance she can get with putting together a powerpoint presentation!

Previous minutes are approved.

Financial Report
Hike & Hoot: financially successful. Currently have:
Checking: $3491.20 .... Savings: $6701.83 Total $10,193.03
Brought in a bit over $3000 from donations and auction. Envelope donations ~ 1/3 of that, Credit card acceptance was helpful
Hike & Hoot Revisited

~ 43 people signed the waiver
with Monan's Rill residents probably ~50-55
Some competition from Earth Day?
Hikes were well received. Important to be flexible and ready to improvise. Maybe some level of coordination between hike leaders would be valuable?

Presentation – summarize on website?
Chris and Penny to see about summarizing some points/slides for website or Faceebook

Potluck
Probably could increase letters of alphabet bringing entrees versus desserts.

Music
Music was fun. No budget for paying musicians this time, and group agreed that paying musicians but not other contributors doesn’t feel right.

Cleanup
Need to agree on cleanup time the following day, maybe earlier than in the past?

Kids
Kids coming in and out of the room during the presentation – quiet signs for doors, probably need to make it clear to the kids that they need to be respectful of the presentation. Maybe a tent outside that’s designated kids place?
Also might consider some potluck designation for kids snacks (in addition to popcorn?)

Russian River Conference Debrief

Penny: Great event. James Gore good job as positive community/coalition builder.
Example: “One Tam” multiple organizations trying to take care of Mt. Tam, started a concerted effort, developed successful collaboration on protecting the mountain.

Date for Road Cleanup

September 30. 9-noon.

8th of July – Alpine Club meeting

Penny will contact Andrew McClain and Cyndi Foreman from Rincon Valley Fire District and Caerleon Safford from Fire Wise Sonoma. They will attend the meeting and help us to obtain more information from landowners about details on individual
parcels to be added to the pre-attack fire map being developed for the Upper Mark West. This is a cooperative project between Rincon Valley Fire District and CalFIRE. The Pre-Attack Map will be a hard-copy map located in secure locations for fire responders coming into our area in response to wild fire. During a big event, it is likely that fire responders will be brought in from out of the area. The map will identify road types, gates, water sources and other information essential to fire fighters. We will have an info table available as people check into the event with maps of parcels for residents to check and to add their notes.

Newsletter deadline for submittal June 1.

**CWPP – community wildfire protection plan**

Grant period 2 years – Caerleon working on template.
Penny to detail in newsletter.

**Nomination of Pat Gray as Board Member**

Approved unanimously. Welcome Pat!
Need to include agenda item for how to retire from Board Membership

**Wildlife Camera Report**

Picture of mountain lion with collar, tracked by Audubon society
Bear, multiple lions sighted.

Note, the straps on the cameras are failing at this point, best to mount them with wire or a new strap. Some have broken.

Time to bring back cameras that aren’t reporting – Megan and Dolores volunteering to help. Need list of inactive cameras.

**Stewardship Committe**

Reconvening soon.

**Emergency preparedness Committee**

4 meetings over past 4 months, new & improved calling service. Road captains updated, key communicators. Test call coming soon. Planning for outreach at Alpine Club meeting as well, updating Penny’s map.

**Next meeting**

Sept 7th
Adjourned

Directors confirmed and approved all decisions that were made by group consensus. Since there was no further business to come before the meeting, on motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Dated: May 11, 2017
By: Graham Wehmeier, Secretary