

**Town of Fairfax
Citizens Disaster Council**

**Friday, January 25, 2008
10:00 a.m.
Youth Center
16 Park Road**

Minutes

In attendance: Mary Ann Maggiore, Mayor; Michael Rock, Town Manager; Maria Baird, Community Resources Coordinator; Craig Carroll, Ross Valley Fire Dept; Cindy Swift, Gail Wiemann, Fairfax Library, Bruce Stahley, OES, Jon Marchant, Paula Schultz, Natural Hazards Mitigation

Mayor Maggiore convened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. She introduced Michael Rock as the new Town Manager and welcomed him to the Citizens Disaster Council.

The December 7th minutes were approved with the following correction regarding "Get Ready" Marin by Craig Carroll: **"A total of 2,000 booklets are available in the Ross Valley area; a total of 300 have been distributed so far.**

1. **Effects of recent January 2008 storms**-Craig gave an update on successes that have been implemented since the previous flood of 2005: creek level gauge is in place rather than visual monitoring of creek. The high number of on-line users did cause the server to crash temporarily, but it was quickly restored.

At the County level, Bruce reported that County Administrator Matthew Hymmel partially activated the emergency response center on January 4th. The County's Department of Public Works began setting up response teams in the field; the Town of Ross activated the TENS system. Mary Ann Maggiore reported that in Town, she began notifying neighbors, who in turn assisted each other. Power was out for at least 3 days in most of Fairfax, and up to a week in some more remote parts of Town. San Anselmo activated MEANS the night before the storm. Michael reported that a sub-committee of the Marin Manager's Association is being formed with PG & E to explain neighborhood power grids and how priorities for restoring power are determined.

2. **Magnets to inform residents of emergency preparations**-Mary Ann Maggiore expressed the importance of educating residents on proper procedures to follow during a disaster. She proposed the idea of refrigerator magnets being developed with the basic information

necessary on what to do when disaster strikes. The magnet could include important phone numbers, resources, instructions on where the emergency shelters are in the area, local radio station call numbers, etc. The suggestion was that they be mailed to every household in Fairfax (total about 4,000), to prepare them for emergency situations.

Maria brought a sample magnet that had been prepared by the Park & Rec Commission in 2006, which were very well received by residents. Maria will research cost of the magnets, and work with Mary Ann & Michael on a sub-committee devoted to this project.

3. **CERT Update and Get Ready Program-** Craig reported that a CERT class had been held at College of Marin, for 16 teachers & students. A list of classes is posted at www.rossvalleyfire.org. The next CERT training is scheduled for March 1 & 8 at College of Marin. The Fire Dept. is adding a third day to the CERT training component, which will take place the Thursday night prior to the weekend CERT class.

The Get Ready advertising campaign is gearing up again for March, when the signs will once again be visible around the County. There are three new classes scheduled for February. They are: Tues., Feb. 5th from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at San Anselmo Town Hall Chambers for the Town Council; Sat. Feb. 16th from 10-12 at San Anselmo Town Hall Chambers; and Wed., Feb. 27th at the Women's Club in Fairfax from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

4. **Update on the Town's Flood Mitigation planning activities-**Paula prepared implementation strategies based on the results of the survey of priorities set by the Disaster Council and Town Officials. She distributed both handouts. The survey results were summarized and ranked according to ratings by the council. Those activities that scored higher than 50% were then included in the implementation strategies. She asked that the Disaster Council review the document and forward any comments to her by Mon., Feb. 4th. Once these are incorporated, there will be a 30 day public review period. A public hearing will be held, and the Town Council will be presented with the results at the April 2nd Town Council meeting.
5. **Update on County of Marin Disaster Council activities-**Bruce stated the previous meeting of this committee was held on December 13, chaired by Supervisor Susan Adams. The focus was on the Cosco Busan oil spill which occurred on November 7th. An action report will be published by the Coast Guard on the incident, and will be released to the public. The Oil Spill Prevention & Response (OSPER) agency is involved.

There is a Public Education Disaster Preparedness Committee of the Council that would like to see every County employee undergo disaster training. There are some ramifications to this, so they are still considering it. The next meeting of the County of Marin Disaster Council is scheduled for March 13th.

6. **Other announcements**-Mary Ann stated she was working with the Girl Scouts and Save the Bay on wetland restoration projects. More information is available on Save the Bay's website: www.girlscoutssavethebay.org.

7. **Next Meeting**-scheduled for Friday, March 14th at 10:00 a.m. at the Youth Center, 16 Park Road.