

**Town of Fairfax  
Citizens Disaster Council**

**Tuesday, August 28 , 2007  
4:00 p.m.  
Youth Center  
16 Park Road**

**Minutes**

In attendance: Larry Bragman, Mayor; Susan Brandborg, Councilmember; David Weinsoff, Councilmember; Linda Kelly, Town Manager; Maria Baird, Community Resources Coordinator; Roger Meagor, Ross Valley Fire Chief; Joann Lewis, Ross Valley Fire Public Information Officer; Cynthia Powell, Fairfax Police Department; Bruce Stahley, OES; Bob Wheeler, Red Cross; Gail Weimann, Fairfax Library; Paula Schultz, Natural Hazards Mitigation

Mayor Larry Bragman convened the meeting at 4:00 p.m. The June 12<sup>th</sup> minutes were approved.

1. **Flood Zone 9 Activities**-David Weinsoff spoke on this topic. The Board of Supervisors re-voted, and County Counsel recommended to uphold the results of the ballot from the special election held. There is a hydraulic monitoring model that is being prepared from the funds that will be collected in the county in December. FEMA is re-doing the flood insurance map. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is funding projects with the Town of Ross.
2. **Update on Town's Flood Mitigation planning activities**-Paula Schultz, consultant to the Town of Fairfax, announced that a public workshop was held in July. She distributed a synopsis of the meeting. Paula discussed how flood mitigation planning activities would be incorporated into the Town's Master Plan. She has been working with Debra Sue Johnson of Public Works on storm water issues. The prospect of Adopt-A-Storm Drain was raised, whereby preventative maintenance would be done by residents on storm drains, to prevent clogs during the rainy season. There was talk of amending town codes to allow permeable pavements on new parking areas. Amendments to the Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program to address impervious surfaces will be heard at the next Town Council meeting at the request of Mayor Bragman. There was also discussion covering landscaping activities. Most of the proposed suggestions would take place over a 5 year plan. There will be another public meeting scheduled in November.
3. **Update on the County of Marin Disaster Council activities**-Bruce Stahley described the make-up of the Co. of Marin Disaster Council,

which is an advisory group to the Board of Supervisors. There are 19 members representing the five Marin County districts who participate in the Council, including Susan Brandborg as the representative from Fairfax. They hold quarterly meetings; the next one is on Sept. 13th from 3-5 p.m. at the Marin County Civic Center. Topics on that agenda include:

- State Office of Homeland Security
- Office of Emergency Services,
- Assembly Bill 38
- Youth outreach

4. **Installation of the two remaining emergency warning sirens-** Linda announced the second warning siren will be installed at the 2500 block of Sir Francis Drake. It will be a 50 foot pole. The third location is yet to be determined, but will most likely be at the end of the Cascades. More testing must be done to determine audible frequency.
5. **Volunteer training for disasters-** Maria announced that she & John Reed of the Fairfax Volunteers had attended a training sponsored by the Center for Volunteer & Non-profit leadership on spontaneous volunteers. Spontaneous volunteers are those who simply show up following a disaster. One of the goals stressed in the training was to assign these individuals roles, so they are clear on their responsibilities and do not interfere with public safety workers. Additionally, Maria mentioned the Town of Fairfax may be selected by State Citizen Corps of Volunteers to receive technical assistance in the form of workshops & training. More information will follow. Maria also added the Fairfax Volunteers will be conducting their annual creek clean-up in October this year, and have been asked by the Marin Municipal Water District to participate in a joint broom pull in November.
6. **CERT Update & Get Ready Program-** Joanne spoke on this item in Craig Carroll's absence. (Craig was on a fire response team in Santa Barbara). She mentioned that Ross Valley Fire is partnering with Fairfax Lumber in offering a 20% off redeemable coupon for emergency preparedness kits. There will be a kick-off barbeque on Saturday, September 29 at Fairfax Lumber. In addition, there will be two "train the trainer" workshops at the Women's club on 9/22 & 9/29 from 9-11 a.m. Craig is looking for interested parties to complete the training. More details to follow. There was a request that perhaps the Volunteers could do an e-mail blast announcing the upcoming dates.

Bruce added that there will be a county-wide disaster preparedness publicity event on September 29<sup>th</sup> from 10-12 at San Rafael City Hall.

Public officials are encouraged to attend. Maria Shriver, chairperson of California Volunteers, will be at the event.

7. **Submittal of grant application for flood gates**-Linda announced that there is grant funding available through PG & E's community development fund. She applied for a grant of \$10,000 in the category of business retention for flood gates for the downtown businesses, which cost approximately \$600 to install. Installing flood gates typically lowers the amount a business must pay for flood insurance.
8. **Update on Town's budget with respect to disaster recovery and disaster preparedness projects**- Linda mentioned there is a surplus of \$356,000 in last year's budget. There was a request that \$4,000 be allocated towards a mailer/magnet addressing disaster preparedness. In addition, a retaining wall on Scenic Road will be installed, and repairs at 300 Olema Road need to be made. As part of FEMA project funding received, repairs will be made to Creek Road bridge to restore it to pre-flood status. Additionally, a new emergency generator was recently installed at Town Hall.
9. **Next Meeting Date**-scheduled for Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. Meeting will be held at the Fairfax Library Conference room, 2097 Sir Francis Drake Blvd.