

Minutes
Volunteer Program Advisory
Board
August 24, 2020
6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
Via Zoom

Mission Statement: "To foster goodwill and community spirit in Fairfax through volunteer activities "

Members in attendance: Geo Taylor, Marcia Custer, Georgia Gibbs, Jesse Hoffman, Chance Cutrano, Veronica Geretz. Staff in attendance: Maria Baird, Recreation & Community Services Manager

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. The minutes of the July 27 meeting were approved.

1) Reports

- **Chair** – Geo gave an update on the community garden billing process. Progress has been and the Board is in negotiation towards a mutually agreeable solution, a regular yearly payment. Kudos to Jesse Hoffman for his idea on streamlining the water bill and to Melanie Peratis for crafting a letter to Leslie Galliani at the Marin County Library who agreed to the offer. The bill with the leak still needs to be rectified.
- **Treasurer-** Marcia reported the Volunteer's new Town allocated funds are \$5,000 in the budget for FY20-21 that was just passed. Checks were deposited into the checking account in the amount of \$1,500 from community garden fees, bringing the checking account balance to \$9,558. It is unclear how the Volunteers will use this year's budget with the COVID-19 crisis. They will continue to pay the Fairfax Community Church the \$1,200 in rental storage for the food bank supplies. They will also use funds for the wreathmaking. Chance and Jesse will look into mask procurement. The group might order masks with the Volunteer's logo on them. The group also discussed the \$3,000 donation that came in after the COVID-19 news coverage. After some discussion, the group felt that the ad hoc Corona Virus Task Force should have input on how this money is used. **ACTION ITEM: Jesse made a motion that the ad hoc Corona Virus Task Force should decide how the \$3,000 is allocated; Marcia seconded, all Board members voted in favor. Geo & Maria will seek input at the next meeting of the ad hoc Corona Virus Task Force.**
- **Coordinator-** Maria announced there will be a vacancy on the Board when Georgia's term is up at the end of the year, as she is not planning to renew.

Geo mentioned that Sam Silverstein is interested in joining the Board.

- **Discussion** -Veronica stated she is still teaching a yoga class on Monday nights from 6-7 at Bolinas Park, which means she cannot join the meeting until 7 p.m. She will look into adjusting the time of the class to 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Fall so it does not conflict with the meeting time.

2) **New Business**

a)Holiday caroling/wreathmaking event -

Maria announced that Anne & Camille of the Recreation Department had suggested perhaps preparing wreathmaking kits to go for the holiday season. Since the event will not be able to be held in person, this seems like a good idea. Maria will order wreath rings and the group will gather green trimmings. It will be determined at the September meeting if the kits should be given out on a specific day by the Board, or if people should e-mail Maria who can bring the kits out to people's cars from the Community Center during the week. There will be a Zoom event on December 13th with a wreath making demonstration. Veronica noted that singing over Zoom does not go smoothly, so the caroling will be nixed. Some holiday music can be played on Spotify in the background of the wreath making Zoom event.

b) Volunteer 1:1 match during COVID-19 updates –Maria stated there was an inquiry from a volunteer matched with a Bennett House resident regarding evacuation help during a fire. The volunteer stated he was not equipped to help with evacuations. Maria has discussed with Garrett, Town Manager. An inquiry will be made with Mercy Housing who oversees Bennett House. Bennett House does not have an on-site attendant. Residents are encouraged to call 911 if they are in need of help.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for September 28th.