

**Board Members Present:** Cecelia Borland, Glenn Borland, Robert Carlyle, Elizabeth Getzoff, Don Grant, Sue Hanson, Rosemary Johnston, Katie Michelmore, Michael Pique, Alan Serry, Yvonne Vaucher, Michael Walsh, Jack Weisgerber, Mark Wisnosky.

**Board Members Absent:** James Ewen.

The PMPO Board Meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM at the Palomar Mountain Fire Department, by Glenn Borland, chair. A quorum of Board members was present.

Treasurer Michael Walsh reported our current combined checking and savings account balance is \$46,830.90. Total donations for 2017 were \$3465 from 18 donors. Recent expenses have been \$300 to Pamela Dose, CPA (Donna's daughter). We have completed and filed 2016 Federal and California tax returns, and 2016 California RRF-1. The Highway to the Stars signs accounting: (A) Purchased 50 large signs (10 of which were Teflon-coated) for \$1437.79. Sold 40 signs for \$1583, net +\$144.21. Six coated are in service; 4 in reserve. (B) Purchased 50 large and 20 small signs for \$1467. So far, have sold 20 large and 20 small for \$1180, inventory remaining is 30 large (value 30 x \$39 = \$1170). The report was approved.

Secretary Michael Pique presented the minutes of the September 9 and November 11, 2017 board meetings, which were approved with corrections. Cecelia Borland was thanked for taking notes and preparing the November minutes.

### **Old Business**

#### **Traffic Safety:**

Burt Hulbert says frequency and intensity of racing has gone down - but Sundays are still the worst racing day. Please call in when you see racing, especially during red-flag fire threat days (858) 637-3800. Mark Wisnosky asks how we can approach the race organizers. Mark typically sees groups of 5 motorcycles, the groups spaced a few minutes apart. Alan Serry says CHP Captain Amy Mangin retired within a month of us sending her a joint PMPO-PMVFD thank-you letter for her efforts to improve South Grade traffic safety. Mike Marin is our new contact. The annual snow emergency planning meeting was held; Alan again briefing law enforcement on our needs. Alan says the sheriff will dedicate two officers to Palomar on snow days. They may be able to open the State Park for snow play.

#### **Sheriff's Community Action Group:**

Alan is leaving the Sheriff's Advisory Group; Mike Appelman, purchaser of several properties up here, will take over representing Palomar. Sometime in March there will be a community sheriff meeting regarding new marijuana laws.

#### **Palomar Mountain Fire Safe Council (PMFSC):**

PMFSC Board President Yvonne Vaucher reported that the Council has \$3600 and have filed all their tax forms. The major current project is a community evacuation plan, being prepared in cooperation with the San Diego County Fire Safe Council and San Diego County Fire Authority. The plan's emphasis is on getting residents safely off the mountain as soon as possible, using primary and alternate routes, but will include information on temporary refuge areas and emergency safe zones. The Observatory has been firm that they are not a good refuge area. One question is what signage to post about alternate and contingency escape roads.

The USFS on-site chipping grant is ending; only previously booked work will be done. Some Barricade fire gel kits are available to residents. The PMFSC is trying to raise \$200,000 to create a 100-foot defensible space west of Conifer Road and to straighten the 32J easement road that leads north from Birch Hill, connecting with Conifer Road and leading to the East Grade Road.

**Community Emergency Response Team (CERT):**

Cliff Kellogg, reporting for CERT program manager Bill Leininger, says both of them attended the quarterly county CERT meeting in Escondido. A big training meeting will be held all day on May 19. Residents still have time to order the \$15 reflective address signs but this is the last opportunity for this year. Alan Serry says the Valley Center Amateur Radio ('ham') Club is preparing with Valley Center and Palomar Mountain CERTs to maintain communications during a disaster. They have placed a 146.235 MHz VHF radio repeater at the Walls' house on the south side of Crestline Road.

**Palomar Mountain Fire Department (PMFD):**

Cliff Kellogg, PMVFD President and former Fire Chief, says the Fire Department is working with the Palomar Christian Conference Center to move out the office trailers and then to move the storage cargo containers. Some days we are staffed by Cal Fire with two drivers but usually only one. Captain Kowalski had said that the easement roads on the south side of Crestline are largely accessible now by Engine 79.

**Palomar Mountain Mutual Water Company (PMMWC):**

Sue Hanson says the Mutual Water wells, in Pedley Valley, are up to good levels. The company is working on updating their electronic communications and web site.

**Palomar Mountain State Park:**

Rosemary Johnston says the Palomar State Park Apple Festival (October 15) attracted over 1000 visitors. Will Meyst, the seasonal park interpreter hired by "Friends of the Palomar Mountain State Park", led guided hikes and presented campfire talks for 1800 visitors last season. This year the Friends will be hiring a full-time maintenance person for the Park, and also starting to plan a new Visitor Center.

**S6 "Highway to the Stars" Road Signs:**

Alan Serry says the signs are now up along S6 (South Grade and Canfield Roads). The county didn't drill the mounting holes correctly and neglected to secure the signs (as promised) with theft-resistant fasteners. He has emailed the county asking for the fasteners.

**Neighborhood Watch:**

Katie Michelmores is preparing both a public email list of Neighborhood Watch members and a private address & contact info list. The "Form 602 Trespassing arrest authorization" form now needs to be filed/renewed with the sheriff's office every six months, not every 90 days. You should post your property every 1/3 mile (1700 feet) and at each entrance. Katie will send webmaster Mike Chesney information to post on the PMPO <http://www.pmpoinfo.com> site.

**Road Clearance Resolution**

Mark Wisnosky says now that the PMPO, PMVFD, and PMFSC have all signed the letter, we need to figure out how to distribute it and who to. Captain Kowalski would like it sent at least to every address on Crestline. Mike Pique will work with Dave Henderson and Don Grant on getting mailing addresses for each tax parcel in the area.

The real need is for guidance on the next step - is there a way we can help owners do necessary road/easement clearance? Especially out-of-town owners who may visit the mountain rarely, if ever? Mark will help Yvonne Vaucher on grant requests, and look into whether SANDAG (the San Diego county Association of Governments) might have funds, particularly for 'research' in fixing a problem. Rosemary Johnston suggests submitting through our county Supervisor.

**Community Center of Palomar Mountain (CCPM):**

Jack Weisgerber says the next event will be an Easter Egg hunt. The CCPM Board meets the first Friday of every month and everyone is welcome to come and help.

**2018 Pancake Breakfast, Annual Meeting, Election of Officers, and newsletter:**

Cliff Kellogg will ask permission of Captain Kowalski for use of the station and kitchen for the May 26 breakfast. Cecelia Borland will supervise the breakfast setup and cooking. If we need to rent a porta-potty, Jack Weisgerber will ask Rosie Lopresti how that was done in 2017. Five board members' terms will expire in May (Don Grant, Sue Hanson, Michael Pique, Yvonne Vaucher, Mark Wisnosky) and Alan Serry is leaving the board then too. Katie Michelmore agreed to send out prompts for newsletter articles, drafts to be done by mid-March. We will include in the newsletter a request for email addresses so we can move toward electronic distribution for newsletters and important announcements.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:32 PM.

Next meeting is the Annual General Meeting, after the Pancake Breakfast, Saturday May 26, 2018 (10:00 AM meeting time).

Michael Pique, Secretary (email: [secretary@pmpoinfo.com](mailto:secretary@pmpoinfo.com))

Minutes approved by PMPO board August 25, 2018.