

Board Members Present: Mike Appelman, Cecelia Borland, Glenn Borland, Robert Carlyle, James Ewen, Elizabeth Getzoff, Mary Ellen Harshberger (alternate), John Lesac, Katie Micheltmore, Michael Pique, Rigel Rafto, Linda Thorne, Yvonne Vaucher, Michael Walsh, Jack Weisgerber.

Board Members Absent:

Rosemary Johnston, Elizabeth Tainer (alternate).

The PMPO Board Meeting was called to order at 10:34 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 \$48,678.20 Total donations for 2018 to date are \$2439 from 17 donors. Our taxes have been filed and our registration as a non-profit has been renewed. We still have 30 large Highway to the Star signs for sale, (value 30 x \$39 = \$1170); ask Alan Serry. We have broken even on the sign costs and revenues. The report was approved.

Secretary Michael Pique presented the minutes of the February 10, 2018 and May 26, 2018 board meetings and of the May 27, 2017 Annual General Meeting. All were approved as submitted.

Old Business

Palomar Mountain Fire Department (PMFD):

Cliff Kellogg, PMVFD President and former Fire Chief, says the office trailers have at last been moved to the Palomar Christian Conference Center. This week, the storage cargo containers will be moved to the southwest corner of the PMFD property. We have sold the CERT Suburban. Captain Kowalski says the defensible space inspections are pretty much done. The mountain had fewer than half the violations observed last year. He asks property owners to do what they can to brush-back the roads. We've had more medical aid calls recently but, fortunately, not motorcycle accidents. The PMVFD Annual General Meeting will be at noon, Sunday September 2.

Traffic Safety:

Burt Hulbert says racing has decreased over the past year: Saturdays and Sundays used to be "continuous races"; now they are about an hour apart, and at lower speed. From his house on the South Grade, Burt can hear heavy racing from 6:30 or 7:00 AM until 8:00 AM, perhaps to beat the CHP shift schedule. Please call in when you see racing, especially during red-flag fire threat days (858) 637-3800.

Palomar Mountain Fire Safe Council (PMFSC):

PMFSC Board President Yvonne Vaucher reported that the Council has \$5066 in the bank; \$2500 of that from a recent SDG&E grant. The PMFSC still intends to prepare a community evacuation plan brochure/flyer. However, the San Diego County Fire Authority no longer wants to designate any temporary refuge areas but to emphasize getting residents off the mountain as early as possible, using primary and alternate routes. Two community 'free dumpster days' have been done, with at least one more to come. Last week we, in cooperation with Valley Center Fire Safe Council, hosted a Wildland-Urban Interface fire hazard education class. Upcoming events are a Barricade fire gel training session in October and a chain saw safety class November 17. The PMFSC has submitted an application to the San Diego County Neighborhood Reinvestment Program for more fire gel, chipping work, and dumpster days. Yvonne needs property owners to pledge fire clearance work, which is credited as "matching funds" at \$28 per hour. She urges everyone to sign up for emergency alerts (<http://alertsandiego.com>). Also, please take the time to go around your house and take pictures of all the rooms, closets, and drawers: you need proof of what you had if you expect insurance to cover it.

Neighborhood Watch:

Katie Micheltore now has an email list of Neighborhood Watch members; to join it, send email to neighborhood-watch@pmpoinfo.com. There will be a community meeting on Sunday August 26, 6 PM at the Lodge, including the CHP and the US Forest Service.

Community Center of Palomar Mountain (CCPM):

Rosie Lopresti says the next event will be on Saturday, September 1 (Labor Day weekend), a community picnic and potluck from noon to 4 PM at the county park. The Fire Safe Council, CERT, PMPO, and Fire Department will have tables; there will be children's games and an opportunity drawing. On Saturday, September 15, the Observatory will host a star party and dessert potluck, starting at 7 PM. The CCPM Board meets the first Friday of every month and everyone is welcome to come and help. The next Annual General Meeting will be on Sunday September 2, right after the PMVFD Annual General Meeting (which starts at noon);

Palomar Mountain State Park:

Michael Walsh says the park is in a good financial condition, with the "Friends of the Palomar Mountain State Park" hoping to create a natural history museum and visitor center. The Friends hired Will Meyst as a seasonal park interpreter: he's led guided hikes and presented campfire talks for 1400 visitors so far this year. The Apple Festival, which last year attracted over 1000 visitors, will be held this year on Sunday October 21.

New Business: Campfire Safety for Weekend Rentals

Cecelia Borland brought up the need to instruct short-term renters on how to safely build, burn, and extinguish outdoor campfires. We could prepare an information packet or poster to be placed in the rooms, perhaps in collaboration with Captain Kowalski. Cliff Kellogg suggested we might base the content on the online course that the US Forest Service offers, completion of which grants you a one-year permit (required for campfires on National Forest property). Mike Appelman says he can assemble a list of rental properties and will be happy to distribute whatever we make. Mike Pique suggests we make laminated legal-size posters for each property. He and Yvonne Vaucher will look online for suitable content to print on the posters.

PMPO Web Site:

For many years, Mike Chesney has done all the work updating our www.pmpoinfo.com site; he has also paid all the costs. Glenn Borland will talk to him, offering to have the PMPO take over, or actively help maintain, the web site.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:32 PM.

Next meeting is Saturday November 10, 2018 (10:30 AM meeting time).

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

Minutes approved by PMPO board November 10, 2018.