



**Public Disaster Education and Preparedness (PDE+P) Committee of the
Operational Area Disaster & Citizens Corps Council (DC3)
Committee Meeting – Monday March 5, 2018**

**PDE+P Meeting Minutes for March 5, 2018
Approved at PDEP meeting 5-7-2018**

Members Present:

Ann Eichhorn	ALTERNATE to Debbie Yee, Red Cross Disaster Manager
Bill Tyler	CoChair, DC3 Member, Batt. Chief Novato Fire, Fire Marshal
Frank Cox	CoChair, DC3 Member, OES Auxiliary, OES trainer
Catherine Way	Councilmember, City of Larkspur, member, MCCMC
Garry Lion	DC3 member, Marin Economic Forum
James Wickham	PG&E Safety + Preparedness Specialist, MV City Council
Maggie Lang	CERT Coordinator, Get Ready / Southern Marin

Members Excused or Absent:

David Peery	MMWD Safety & Risk Manager
Debbie Yee	Red Cross Disaster Program Manager, Solano-Marin Counties
Keith Kennedy	DC3 Member, Dist. 3
Megan Scott	Sr Program Coordinator H&HS Public Health Preparedness
Peter Mendoza	DC3 / AFN representative
Tom Cromwell	Marin Medical Reserve Corps, etc.

Members of Public Present

Allisa Ralston -	Marinwood CERT lissaralston@gmail.com
Cindy Swift	CERT, Fairfax cindyswift@sbcglobal.net
Eric Winkler -	Red Cross volunteer, eric.winkler@redcross.org
Henry Warren	Point San Pedro Road Coalition, hwarren2006@gmail.com
Lori Schifrin	MMRC, CERT, etc. / lori.sch@att.net
Marshall Nau	SRFD Veg Management marshall.nau@cityofsanrafael.org
Patrick Bignardi	SRFD Veg Management patrick.bignardi@cityofsanrafael.org
Paula Doubleday	ReadyMarin.org paula.double@gmail.com
Roger Byars	Ready Glenwood rogerbyars@comcast.net
Sashi McEntee	Mill Valley Councilmember smcentee@cityofmillvalley.org
Terrie Harris-Green	Marin City Community Services Dist. terrigreen1@comcast.net

Handouts distributed:

- Agenda, PDEP meeting 03/05/2018
- Draft Minutes PDEP_Minutes 2018-02-05 c.pdf
- PDEP recent History as of 2-13-2018 (4 years)
- Email from Judy Arnold re 3/6/18 Wildfire Preparedness Community Conversation
- Email from Henry Warren 2/24/18 with links to CMCM TV wildfire prep events
- NFPA 2017 Desk Reference – wildfire downloadable, front page from:
<https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/Public-Education/Resources/Educational-messaging/EMAC/EducationalMessagesDeskReference.pdf>
- Likelihood of a high magnitude earthquake over next 30 years webpage:
<http://www.abc10.com/article/news/local/california/likelihood-of-a-high-magnitude-earthquake-over-next-30-years/511502981>¹

¹ Here are the percentages in California of higher magnitude quakes occurring in the next 30 years:

All of California	Southern California
• Chances of a 6.7 is 99 percent	• Chances of a 6.7 is 93 percent
• Chances of a 7.0 is 93 percent	• Chances of a 7.0 is 75 percent
• Chances of a 7.5 is 48 percent	• Chances of a 7.5 is 36 percent
Northern California	
• Chances of a 6.7 is 95 percent	
• Chances of a 7.0 is 76 percent	
• Chances of a 7.5 is 28 percent	



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- How to Prepare Your Home for Wildfires Brochure (NFPA / FireWise):
<https://catalog.nfpa.org/How-to-Prepare-Your-Home-for-Wildfires-Brochure-English-or-Spanish-P18109.aspx?icid=A292>
- DC3 Agenda for March 8, 2018

I. Welcome, Introductions, Handouts. Review of Minutes

- Bill welcomed attendees, and introductions were made.
- Maggie moved and Catherine 2nd: the Draft minutes of 2/5/18 were approved.
- Bill Tyler has been recently appointed Novato Fire Chief, and must step down as PDEP CoChair. All PDEP members present thanked Bill for his outstanding 4 years of service.
- Bill and Frank have asked Catherine Way to fill the PDEP CoChair position. It is expected DC3 Chair Judy Arnold will appoint Catherine to this post on 3/8/2018.

II FireWise & FireSafe Marin – Neighborhood & Marin County efforts

- Christie Neill, MCFD Battalion Chief, Vegetation Management Program, past chair of FireSafe Marin, was warmly welcomed.
- FireSafe Marin was formed as a Nonprofit 501(3)(c) organization. Its 16 Board members range from BOS member Katie Rice, retired and active fire professionals, water district reps, and others dedicated toward wildfire prevention.²
- The FireSafe Marin program provides a wide range of professional and public programs, including:
 - Vegetation Management grants, including chipper services³
 - Development of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) 2016⁴
 - Live feed wildland fire detection cameras⁵
 - Multiple fire preparedness programs⁶ and more.
- FireSafe Marin, in turn, supports the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)'s FireWise USA neighborhood preparedness program.⁷
- The FireWise program invites local groups, such as homeowner or neighborhood associations, to self-organize wildfire preparedness efforts in collaboration with local fire agencies, following a six step template:⁸

² FireSafe Marin Board: <http://www.firesafemarin.org/about/board>

³ Vegetation Mgmt / Chippers: <http://www.firesafemarin.org/programs/vegetation-management>

⁴ Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) <http://www.firesafemarin.org/cwpp>

⁵ Live Feed Fire Detection cameras: <http://www.firesafemarin.org/remote-fire-detection-cameras>

⁶ FireSafe Marin Preparedness: <http://www.firesafemarin.org/preparedness>

⁷ NFPA FireWise program: <https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/By-topic/Wildfire/Firewise-USA> See the new user / application portal: <https://portal.firewise.org/user/login> and basic information: <https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/By-topic/Wildfire/Firewise-USA/Become-a-Firewise-USA-site>

⁸ Six Step FireWise Template: <http://www.firesafemarin.org/firewise> . See also: <http://www.firesafemarin.org/recognition-process>. The local council should consist of at least 3 individuals. The dwelling units must be of a manageable size: 8 to a maximum of 2,500 units. Some neighborhoods select demonstration areas of a larger HOA to prove the effectiveness of the project prior to rolling it out to the entire community.



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- Form a Firewise board or committee.
- Obtain a wildfire risk assessment for your neighborhood or community.⁹
- Create an Action Plan.
- Conduct educational outreach in your neighborhood.¹⁰
- Invest a minimum of \$24.14 / home in wildfire risk-reduction actions per year.¹¹
- Document efforts through our state Firewise liaison - FIRESafe MARIN will help!
- California leads the nation with approximately 138 State FireWise sites and about 1,400 sites nationally. Marin has 11 sites, and about a dozen in the process of becoming sites.
- The FireWise program offers a great many benefits, including
 - Communities are more likely to survive wildfires.
 - Participants have excellent training / learning tools.
 - There is a framework for community building, collaboration, and action.
 - Some insurance companies, such as USAA, offer premium discounts.
 - Free educational materials: handouts, posters, bilingual materials.
 - Communities may apply for grants and emollients such as free signs.
- NFD Fire Chief Bill Tyler commented one FireWise site, the Marin Valley Mobile Home Community, initially resisted needed vegetation clearance until a wildfire broke out on the hill above the homes. Residents then understood how critical clearance around their homes was, and have made great progress since then in implementing FireWise efforts. It is helpful if the council first completes the local risk assessment and proposed vegetation plan in writing in order to get competitive bids from landscaping contractors.
- Multiple Marin Communities already have formed FireWise USA Sites, and many more are in the process of creating sites:
 - Homestead Valley
 - Rancho Santa Margarita
 - Scott Highland Neighborhood
 - Mill Valley Meadows HOA
 - Marinview Community Association
 - Marin Valley Mobile Country Club
 - Pacheco Valle, Novato
 - Sleepy Hollow (San Anselmo)

⁹ The FireWise Risk Assessment can build on the detailed Marin County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) downloadable at: <http://www.firesafemarin.org/cwpp> The plan includes a detailed analysis of Marin risks, response capability, maps, recommendations and action plans.

¹⁰ Some of the local annual events that qualify include public educational meetings, distribution of educational materials such as the FireSafe Marin plants lists (<http://www.firesafemarin.org/plants>), community work parties such as chipper days, demonstration gardens, fire hazard inspections, and evacuation / neighborhood response drills. See: http://www.firesafemarin.org/images/documents/resources/firewise/FIRESafe_MARIN_Firewise_Toolkit_2017_Community_Recognition_Program.pdf

¹¹ The local investment estimate of \$24.14 per home is based on a national study of one hour's worth of volunteer time: <https://independentsector.org/resource/the-value-of-volunteer-time/> and does not mean any of the reported funds must leave the community. Rather, an hour of volunteer time is calculated by the local FireWise committee, and may be matched with grants, local vegetation management efforts, community education expenses, and other contributions – all of which stay in the FireWise community. If homeowners have private gardeners who regularly do vegetation clearance, homeowners can report fees paid to their landscapers to the FireWise board to meet the fiscal goal for the community.



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- Scott Valley Homeowner Association
- Shelter Ridge Homeowner's Association
- Blithedale Highlands Owner's Association
- The goal is to create fire-resistant communities. FireWise is but one way a community can accomplish this goal. Individuals should also look to the Ready / Set / Go online and interactive training for individuals and families.¹²
- Public agencies, such as Marin Open Space, are willing to collaborate with private landowners in vegetation management.¹³
- A priority in any local plan should be to make sure every community has adequate evacuation access for responders & egress to evacuate residents. Homes covered in flammable materials, such as juniper, can trap people in the fire zone. This subject is developed in the listed CWPP, and State and local laws and ordinances.¹⁴
- Members were advised of several public forums on wildfires (see handouts distributed).

III. Updates from PDEP members

- MCCMC Marin County Council Mayors + City Councilmembers

- Catherine introduced Sashi McEntee, Mill Valley Councilmember, who previously served on the MV Emergency Preparedness Commission and is Chair of the MV CERT steering committee.
- The Twin Cities Disaster Preparedness Committee will participate in a disaster drill the weekend of March 10th
- Corte Madera is accepting applications for a part time Neighborhood Response Group Coordinator position¹⁵

- West Marin

- Anne Sands, WMDC Coordinator, shared the 2/22/18 WMDC minutes that show MCSO Lt. Jim Hickey, Kasey Corbit - Muir Beach DC Coordinator, Mark Solomons - West Marin Senior Services, and Eric Winkler – American Red Cross attended the meeting, and will be assisting West Marin Disaster groups.
- Richard Dillman (KWMR) has provided a programmable waterproof repeater to aid in West Marin radio communications.
- Several events were announced, including shelter training, grants training, CERT classes a 3/11/18 Fire symposium, and more. The next meeting is set for 5/24/18.

- Southern Marin / Business Community

¹² Ready Set Go Individual / family preparedness: <http://www.firesafemarin.org/preparedness/ready> and the free CalFire mobile device App at: <http://www.readyforwildfire.org/Ready-for-Wildfire-App/>

¹³ Marin Open Space, Marin Municipal Water District, and other agencies are willing to consider specific requests by private land owners who have adjacent lands for help in vegetation management. See, for example: <https://www.marinwater.org/192/Volunteer-Opportunities> and <https://www.marincountyparks.org/depts/pk/our-work/os>

¹⁴ Homeowners are legally mandated to comply with fire codes and ordinances. See: <http://www.firesafemarin.org/thelaw> and City of San Rafael (example): <https://www.cityofsanrafael.org/vegetation-management/>

¹⁵ Disaster Coordinator Position: <https://nextdoor.com/agency-post/ca/corte-madera/town-of-corte-madera/new-job-opportunity-neighborhood-response-group-nrg-coordinator-part-time-76153927/> See also Neighborhood Response Groups of Central Marin: <http://www.nrgmarin.org/contact-us.html>



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- Garry advised the Marin Economic Forum is actively reviewing the business impact created by the Sonoma Fires, and is looking at business disaster response throughout the State.
- Catherine noted the online North Bay Business Journal has had multiple articles related to business fire recovery.¹⁶

- CERT, Get Ready and Get Ready 5th:

• **CERT:**

- Maggie reported the Feb. CERT class in Novato graduated 22. COM & MV classes full & closed; San Rafael almost full. Golden Gate Bridge staff class scheduled for April; Marin City in June.
- Advanced CERT Trainings: Disaster Psychology March 10th; FADR April 14th-both in San Rafael.
- The Annual Simulation scheduled for May 19th in Mill Valley; modeled after San Rafael class in Dominican three years ago. Emergency Volunteer Center training is scheduled in September, and there is a requested Shelter training from Red Cross.
- Train the Trainer: 2/8 in San Rafael with 23 graduates, including fire dept. personnel & CERTs.
- Urban Shield (Green Command): in early Sept. with 4 scenarios- ~ 8 hr. day. Planning meeting in East Bay March 6th.
- National CERT Conference will be in August in Florida. Maggie will participate.
- Next newsletter: due out in March. Ideas are welcome.
- Curriculum Update: working through modules & updating PowerPoint slide decks.

• **GET READY:**

- Get Ready: funding to update program approved through State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) to include Get Ready 5th Grade (GR5). GR5 has been offered throughout county; teaching to schools who request.
- Grants Presentation – 10 days ago with focus on reimbursable & matching grants; SHSGP just awarded & funded by end of year.
- Local Disaster Council Coalition met last week with representatives from local disaster councils sharing ideas/challenges related to bringing emergency preparedness information to residents of their town. Will meet again in May.

-- Access + Functional Needs communities (AFN):

- Peter Mendoza was unable to attend the meeting. This portion of the agenda is moved to the next meeting.

- Public Health Preparedness and related programs

- Megan Scott, Sr. Program Coordinator for H&HS Public Health Preparedness, will be on maternity leave until mid year.

• - Utilities including MMWD and PG&E

- Dave Peery was unable to attend the meeting.
- Jim Wickham advised he may have more information at our next meeting.

- Marin Medical Reserve Corps (MMRC), etc.

- Catherine noted the Belvedere Block Captains site reportedly had about half of the town's residents sign up online during the first two weeks of a campaign supported by large signs, city officials support, social media, and more.¹⁷

¹⁶ North Bay Business Journal: <http://www.northbaybusinessjournal.com/>

¹⁷ Belvedere Block Captains: <https://belvederecaptains.org/> and official city site: <http://www.cityofbelvedere.org/List.aspx?MID=263> and <https://www.facebook.com/belvederecaptains/> and also: <https://nextdoor.com/agency-post/ca/belvedere/city-of-belvedere/belvedere-block-captain-program-launch-26365769/>



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- Fire Services + County at Large Issues:

- Bill Tyler was recently appointed the Fire Chief for the Novato Fire Protection District.
- The Board of Supervisors appointed a committee chaired by MCFD Fire Chief Jason Weber, staffed by key fire, law, and other professionals, to report on Lessons Learned from the Sonoma Fires.
- A public conversation on this topic will be held at the BOS chambers March 6th, and a subcommittee meeting is scheduled March 12th.
- The City of Novato is updating its strategic plan. FireWise communities will be attending some of the public meetings.
- The Marin Fire Chiefs have scheduled a two day meeting later this week.

- OES, Training and other Events:

- Frank will teach his next new employee DSW class on April 5th.
- Additional planning will be scheduled for the 5/23/18 OES annual exercise.
- Frank has scheduled local MMSRP neighborhood meetings 3/14th and 4/6th.

IV. Open Time / Public Comment

- Sasha attended a League of California Cities meeting on 3/1/18, and anticipates future meetings will be of interest to PDEP.

3:00 PM end of meeting

- Bill closed the meeting.

Next Meetings:

PDEP Meetings: 1-3pm Year 2018: draft dates to be discussed:

4/9, 5/7, 6/4, 7/2, 8/6, 9/10, 10/1, 11/5, 12/3/2018

Dates may be flexible as circumstances require.

Site: PDEP unless otherwise posted: Central Marin Police Community Rm.

DC3 Meetings: 3-5pm: at Marin Board of Supervisor Hearing Room:

Year 2018: 3/8/2018, 6/14/2018, 9/13/2018, 12/13/2018

Dates may be flexible as circumstances require.

*PDEP_Minutes 2018-03-05 c.docx
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rev 5-09-18 1100 hr fcox*