

# **PALOMAR MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY SAFETY CENTER ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING**

**September 8, 2006**

The Palomar Mountain Community Safety Center Action Committee meeting was held on the Phelps' porch on Friday, September 8, 2006 and was called to order at 4:06 p.m. by Chairman, Tom Burton. Present were Action Committee Board Members: Tom Burton, Linda Thorne and Bonnie Phelps. Absent was Scott Kardel. Also present were our consultant, Earl Walls and community members, Bob Price and for part of the meeting, Allen Serry. Serving as Gatekeeper was Tom Burton and serving as Taskkeeper was Earl Walls.

## **DEFREEZE, AGENDA AND PRIOR MEETING MINUTES**

After a defreeze, approval of the prior minutes as presented and negotiation of an agenda, the following business transpired:

### **LAND REPORT**

Tom indicated to Bob Price, who had not joined us before, that the Committee was looking at all facets of land around the current PMVFD site to enhance overall Community Center viability and property values overall. Other normal discussions ensued.

### **FUNDING/GRANT COMMITTEE**

Tom indicated that he still has not had contact with the President of the San Diego Foundation, which may be offering grants for our type of project.

Tom had indicated that he's giving Robert Carlyle another couple of weeks of cooling off before talking with him. Bonnie indicated that she and Don had had dinner with Robert and Anita the other night and she thinks that he is sufficiently cool to talk about the Fire Department gifting issues – and, in fact, looks forward to Tom's contact.

Grant Committee-wise, Tom indicated that this is an area under which we are once again awaiting input from Chief George. In the past, he's indicated to us that he has a grant writer, has surveyed various potential grants that might assist in the construction of the CSC and has volunteers working on this project. The Community Center's two grant volunteers: Scott Kardel and Michelle Courtney, are standing by to assist as needed. No progress may be had, however, until we have direction from Chief George.

### **CASE FOR GIVING**

Tom indicated that the model Case for Giving, which he'd distributed to all of the members of the Committee, including Chief George, has still not appeared in CSC draft form. Tom summarized that Chief George indicated that he had this almost done. An alternate use CSC customized Case for Giving will be the construction of a PowerPoint presentation.

It was asked if someone else could do the Case for Giving. Tom suggested that the substantive content is the major “argument” relating to using the Community Center for Fire Department office and training purposes and the place of refuge/emergency housing uses. These details have to come from the Fire Department. The most articulate spokesman for those causes is Chief George. It’s possible some of the grant- writing volunteers he has may have been briefed in those needed facts. However, until input from them has been had, the second phase of the Case for Giving creation – the marketing sales and/or human relations emotional part of the pitch, which Bonnie has volunteered to add, cannot be overlaid.

Linda Thorne suggested that, understanding the import of the Case for Giving, she would make a direct plea to Chief George to either get the draft to one of us, or get someone else that can assist us in getting this project done.

Bonnie pointed out that, once we have the Case for Giving, we’ll use it with each of the land contacts that we’re discussing, as well as for general CSC marketing purposes.

## **LABOR DAY BBQ POST MORTEM**

Bonnie reported that Earl did a super job on maps, models and drawings for the CSC project. Bill Leininger pulled in folks and talked to them – manning the CSC booth. Bill reported that there were about six meaningful conversations, along with lots of less substantive goodwill sessions. The largest portion of Mountain residents were involved in other booths or enjoying the barbecue. Few were free to assist Bill or actually roam and take advantage of the booths.

Tom then questioned the value of using the Labor Day barbecue as a venue to market the CSC. The Action Committee members thought that, although the barbecue had its limitations, it is a valuable venue. In fact, they believe that every Mountain venue should have some CSC exposure. Basically, the thinking is that we need to take every opportunity to put forth the Community Center “pitch” to get it a part of people’s consciousness.

It was suggested that we develop a portable presentation of the model, drawings, etc., including the PowerPoint Case for Giving presentation, that could be taken to any event. Possible venues included the School Pie Auction; the PMPO Pancake Breakfast; each PMPO meeting; each PMVFD meeting and other Mountain special events.

It was also suggested that we could have a permanent display visible on the wall at the fire station facility.

(Your Chairman realizes in serving as Secretarial function dictating these minutes that he slipped in not getting someone tasked to do these chores with a timeline for availability. Hence, this will be put on the next meeting agenda so that we can better address its manifestation.)

## **HOUSE AS COMMUNITY CENTER**

Linda Thorne was asked what the status of the PMVFD Board’s deliberations was on using the existing small house as an interim community center. Linda responded that they are generally in favor of the idea, but the Fire Department property currently in the house needs to be relocated before they can make a formal decision. They are considering also the option of a modular home that could be used as an interim bunkhouse facility. An evaluation of the potential of this acquisition (thought to be in the range of \$35,000) will await a determination

of fund availability, which is currently underway. Earl has seen the trailer and thinks it is an excellent idea.

Tom inquired as to whether the concept of expanding Jerry McLees' concept for the Major Use Permit application (referring to Phase One of the Major Use Permit being the use of the existing house) should be expanded to include modular office space and possibly bunkhouse to better encompass all of the potential future uses of the Phase Two Center. It was thought that the use expansion concept does not have merit at this time.

Linda indicated that, as soon as the finances and modular building issues are resolved, she's certain that the PMVFD Board will act quickly. Earl asked if the draft MUP should not include the Phase One/Phase Two McLees concept now. It was thought that the PMVFD Board will receive a submittal of the MUP application before it's filed, so it would be appropriate to continue with the concept that Jerry has suggested and we have previously adopted. There are, thus, two different ways the PMVFD Board might approve of the interim use of the existing house as a CSC: (1) directly by resolution; (2) indirectly through approval of the draft MUP pre-submittal to County authorities.

### **MAJOR USE PERMIT (“MUP”)**

Earl indicated that he has been working through the rough draft process on this. He distributed a page from the pre-app meeting request form that discusses specific questions we would have of County staff. He briefly reviewed each of those questions, seeking input from the meeting participants. The Chair suggested that, since these are very significant issues, their inclusiveness and specific wording should be the subject of further discussion at the next meeting. Taking Earl's photocopied draft language home and working on it was one of the assignment for all of the members – so that we can be sure they are as broadly inclusive as we would like, as well as that the questions are stated in the fashions we believe most likely to get for us the most and best information from County staff.

### **CARLYSLE ISSUE AND VACANCY**

As an add-on item to the agenda, at the request of several of the members, a further post mortem was done of Robert Carlysle's resignation from the Action Committee and PMVFD Board. The specific facts and events leading up to that resignation were reviewed at some length. Bonnie supplied Robert's feelings that triggered his resignation. Others shared the reviews of the issue, which had been done by the Action Committee itself and the PMVFD, resulting in process clarifications. The idea of Tom talking with Robert in the future was also reiterated. The conclusion of all of these discussions is that, with the passage of time, we hope that a healing will occur. We're also hopeful that community members can put personal interests and emotions behind them when dealing with bigger picture items of community import. We wish the best for all concerned, and are actively working toward that goal.

Linda indicated that, when Doug Landy returns from his Minnesota summer vacationing home, it is hoped that his integration into PMVFD Board membership may also include his participation as an Action Committee member replacing Robert.

## **REFREEZE, AGENDA AND NEXT MEETING**

The Chair indicated that the next meeting has been calendared for Friday, September 22, also at the Phelps' wonderful patio location. After negotiation of an agenda and a refreeze, the meeting was then adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas W. Burton, Acting Secretary