



Moraga Firehouse Liaison Meeting

This historic 30-year liaison meeting is held in the conference room of the Moraga/Orinda Fire District on Moraga Way at 8 a.m. on the second Friday of each month. The purpose is to share timely local information with Moraga organizations, businesses, government, schools, associations, service clubs, residents and friends of the community. Check out www.moraga.ca.us.

July 10, 2009

Jerry Meyer-Moderator

- **Town Council-Mayor Dave Trotter**-The Town Council adopted this year's \$6 million operating budget with a \$450,000 reserve, currently balanced pending state take-ways. This does not fund everything but the Town has adopted a disciplined spending program in these tight conditions. Also approved was a draft housing element which the Council hopes to get certified this year. The 4th of July celebration was well attended, exceeding last year's attendance. Coming to the Council in September is consideration of the amendments to the animal ordinance as it pertains to Rancho Laguna Park. There will be no Council meetings in August.
- **Town Manager-Mike Segrest**-The Revenue Enhancement Committee continues to look for funds for deferred maintenance. Much of our Town's infrastructure is fifty years old and will be needing attention. Moraga is in good financial shape because past Councils have been conservative. Unlike surrounding cities, we do not have employee pension problems. Repairs on the Hacienda continue with the hopes of returning staff to their offices by the end of September. A grant has been obtained to install an elevator at 329 Rheem in the Town offices.
- **Town Public Works Director-Jill Mercurio**-Paving will begin tomorrow (Saturday), pending any breakdowns, from Sky Hy to Buckingham. It is hoped the job can be completed in one day! Striping will take place next week. The Corliss sidewalk project will begin in August with completion before school resumes. Bids for paving from Buckingham to Draeger should be open next Friday. However because of the volume of work in this area using Stimulus money, local contractors are overloaded and we may not see this job completed this summer. Contracts must be awarded by September to keep this money. All entities are facing the same challenges.
- **Planning Commission-Mike Segrest**-The Commission has completed their work on the Moraga Shopping Center Specific Plan and Moraga's Housing Element. To be handled next are code amendments to the General Plan. The Palos Colorados developers are working through approvals from the proper agencies and work may commence next year with several years before homes are

seen in this development. The Hetfield project is waiting for an EIR report requested by concerned citizens. The most recent CalFire maps designate Indian Valley as a high risk fire area, therefore requiring more intense building requirements. Consideration of this matter has delayed adoption of the CalFire map.

- **Park and Recreation Director-Mike Segrest**-The \$20,000 collected for the fireworks does not include the expenses of the Police Department. Next year an attempt will be made to collect enough money to cover fireworks and police expenses. The Moraga Movers and staff are trying to raise \$10,000 to purchase a 15 passenger van. The Sports Field Committee is discussing uses of the \$737,000 Measure WW grant. Recently honored was Jessica Target for her work with the Moraga Youth Involvement Committee.
- **Police Department-Chief Bob Priebe**-Graduation and the 4th of July were very successful celebrations. Internally four promotions were made within the force.
- **Fire District-Darrell Lee**-No fires on the 4th of July! No accidents with the fire vendor. Miner Road in Orinda is closed but excellent cooperation between the fire department and the contractor with radio contact and quick response times. We are on a full wild lands fire alert now! The department will be performing a water drill in Canyon in August to test water supply and equipment. Two firefighters are presently in training and several more in paramedic training. The preliminary budget was adopted with a \$900,000 deficit. The Fire Board as reported by Frank Sperling asked staff to go back and evaluate how this budget will affect the community. The Fire Protection Bureau is now charging an inspection fee for apartments/townhouses/businesses to offset this service.
- **Library-David Kruegel**- Sandy Steiner, the Children's Librarian, has visited 25 classrooms and reached over 500 students to explain the Summer Reading 2009 program. Splendor and Reverence: Art and Power in the Central African Savannah hits the library July 22nd at 2 pm, and Origami for Teens and Adults is scheduled for July 23rd at 4 pm.
- **St Mary's College-Director, Community and Government Relations-Tim Farley**-The first ever June term was a success as was the Northern California Banjo Association Jamboree. The Summer Wine Festival is August 16th from 2 pm-5 pm--\$25 early bird special, \$30 after 7/31 and \$15 for designated drivers. Call 925-631-4200 for tickets and information or www.stmarys-ca.edu/wine.
- **Moraga Movers-Bob Foxall**- Now 400 members strong, the Movers are in conversation with Jay Ingram, Director of Parks and Recreation, to purchase a 15 passenger van for \$10,000 to be used by the Movers and Parks and Rec.
- **Chamber of Commerce-Edy Schwartz**-The Chamber held a mixer with 100 merchants and guests in attendance at the Rheem campus of St. Mary's College. This was the kick-off for future involvement with the college and the Town of Moraga. The new lay-out of booths at the 4th of July celebration at the Commons facilitated better communication between the clubs and the community. Look for increased involvement with MEF and local businesses.
- **Park and Recreation Foundation-Chuck Treat**-The 1,000 light sticks purchased for the 4th of July celebration sold out in one hour! Last year 800 were sold. The Pear Harvest will be Saturday, August 1st at the pear orchard next to Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School. The crop is donated to the Solano/Contra Costa County Food Bank. If you have pears you want to donate, bring them to the corner of Canyon and Camino Pablo for drop-off.

- **County Supervisor Gayle Uilkema-Carol Yates**-A list of “Cooling Stations” for senior citizens on hot summer days can be obtained from the office of Information and Assistance Program 1-800-510-2020. County Connection is continuing route 25 until the end of the year. This is the connector route from BART. St. Mary’s College is a big user of this route. Ridership will determine the future of this route.
- **Moraga Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness-Linda Borelli**-Coffee will commence in September to inform the community of ways for residents to prepare for /react to emergency situations, earthquakes, fire, etc. because Moraga is an isolated community. It is extremely important for our neighborhoods to organize to take care of themselves for at least 72 hours or more. This committee is endorsed by Moraga Police Department, Moraga/Orinda Fire District and Lamorinda CERT. Contact MoragaNEP@gmail.com if you are interested in having a coffee or want more information.

Next meeting September 11, 2009

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Sperry