

FACILITIES AND SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING (in person)
Wednesday July 9, 2025 @ 8:30am

1. Call to Order – 8:30am

2. Roll Call and Approval of Today's Agenda and Minutes of June 4, 2025

Present: Board members Steve Baxman, Jean Sasso, Administrator Marina McTaggart; Park Supv., Leslie Hofelich, Maintenance and Landscape Asst., Nick Thayer, PRAXIS Architects consultants Brian Grant and Stephanie Felch

Approval of agenda and minutes of June 4, 2025. Jean moved to approve both the agenda and minutes, second by Leslie- all in favor

3. Public Comment-None

4. Reports and Information

Leslie and Nick

- The two tank hot water heater at the Community Center has been replaced with one larger unit and is now functioning with almost instant hot water. The County has signed off on the inspection.
- Nick has been working on Mondays and Tuesdays at Creekside to help maintain the planted areas. The volunteer previously working in those areas has moved out of Monte Rio. New irrigation is being installed and the bamboo is being trimmed. Creekside is also the cleanup site for the Community Workday scheduled for July 12.
- The dumping of personal household garbage into our collection bins continues to be an issue and increases MRRPD's Recology bills.
- Vandalism continues to be a problem. The walls at the Community Center public restrooms had to be repainted recently due to a large amount of purple paint graffiti that could not be removed by pressure washing.
- Nick is researching getting estimates for the use of goats in targeted grazing of larger blackberry and poison oak patches in the Christmas tree located at the top of River Blvd. A total clean up of the lot was discussed.

Marina

- Marina shared a FB post from Sonoma County Regional Parks. They have installed a sign stating 'leave no trace' along with buckets and trash grabbers to encourage beachgoers to 'pack it in – pack it out' She suggested that we do the same at Monte Rio Beach. Leslie suggested offering a free soft serve cone for each bucket of trash received.
- The Big Rocky games (sponsored by MRRPD) were a big success. The community was happy to see the games return.
- The first MRRPD newsletter went out to about 55 recipients on June 27. Nick submitted 3 articles including a recap of the first Community Volunteer Day in April.
- Vacation Races made a \$300 donation to MRRPD as a thank you for being allowed to stage their shuttle buses in the parking lot in mid-May.
- Burgers have returned to the Snack Shack menu.

- The beach wheelchair has been received and has already been in use. Marina has drafted a use agreement, waiver and release form and is awaiting final language approval from CAPRI.
- MRRPD has added a pedal boat to our existing rentals and it is available for rent for \$30/hour with a 2 hour limit. It has been very well received.
- There have been increased requests for pickleball courts. Occidental is in the process of repaving their two existing tennis courts and converting one court into 4 pickleball courts. Marina will connect with the Occidental Community Council to obtain more information on contractors, costs and timeline. A public survey to determine interest in having pickle ball courts is a possibility.
- It was suggested that the red fire lane curbs be painted a brighter color with 'no parking fire lane' wording. A posted sign stating the CA code is needed for enforcement.
- There continue to be issues with the renter at the Tax Office building located at the Community Center/beach entrance who is now occupying a handicapped parking spot in the upper lot often times during the day and also parking there overnight despite the 'no overnight parking' signs that are posted. He is also setting up a flea market type stall to sell items to the general public from that same parking spot on weekends. Despite being told many times by Park District Personnel and the Fire Chief to stop he remains uncooperative and defiant. The District will engage in further conversations with law enforcement to determine how to proceed. The Administrator will also draft a letter to the tenant informing him that he does not have permission to park overnight or sell items in the upper parking lot.

Brian

- PGE has again targeted the bay tree at Creekside for removal by placing an 'x' on it. An arborist report stating the tree was in good condition was obtained several years ago the first time it was targeted for removal. The arborist report has been affixed to the tree and hopefully PGE will not remove the tree,

5. New Business – None

6. Old Business

A. Grant Updates-None

B. Emergency Preparedness- Policy is in the process of being updated.

C. Update on Trails Projects and SWS/Starrett Hill Acquisition

- Brian and Stephanie continue to attend monthly meetings with Olivia Fiore of Sonoma County Ag + Open Space. A hiking/driving tour of the property is scheduled for July 14. Board Member Brooke Maury will attend.

7. Safety Committee Report

- Leslie reported that a family requested use of the beach wheelchair for their daughter to be able to access the river. They put her in the wheelchair, went down to the water and then left

her unattended in the river. The wheelchair tipped over. Beach staff observed the situation and quickly went and righted the wheelchair.

8. Adjourn/Next Meeting – Adjourned at 9:22am; next meeting date September 3, 2025.