

NORCAL VOAD MINUTES
Tuesday, August 12, 2008
American Red Cross Building
3901 Broadway, Oakland

Attendees: Ollie Arnold, **Eden I&R**; Anette Boulware, **City Team**; John Chavez, **FEMA VAL**; Franci Collins, **SCNC ARC**; Rodger Doncaster, **Sonoma ARC**; Dick Eskes, **CRWRC**; Karma Hackney, **State OES**; Wallace Hogge, **Church of Jesus Christ LDS**; Alexander King, **TSA-Santa Rosa**; Helen Knudson, **LSS**; Melinda McLain, **United Church of Christ**; Shirley Pounds, **City Team**; Trudy Read, **City Team Ministries**; Almon Shen, **Tzu Chi Foundation**; Charles Varady, **Southern Baptist**; Don & Gert Vos, **CRWRC**; Steve Weaver, **Southern Baptists**; Linda Wong, **City of Oakland OES**.

The following joined us by way of conference call: Deb Alich, **NVOAD Services Manager**; Cindy Henderson, **Del Norte VOAD**; Linda Smith, **Scientology**. **Call number is 1-800-320-4330 Pin 219219#**

1. The meeting was called to order by our vice-president, Melinda McLain. She asked for a round of introductions around the table.
2. The minutes from the May 13, 2008 meeting were approved as written.
3. Steve handed out the treasurer's report. It showed a balance of \$3,401.01 with no receipts or expenditures since our last meeting. This report was approved as printed. Steve is moving out of the area and the new Baptist representative will be Chuck Varady.
4. Executive Committee Report
 - a. There will be a Faith-Based and Community Initiatives meeting in Sacramento on August 18, 2008. Rodger Doncaster and Al Chen will be attending and report back to us.
 - b. Many new county VOADs are coming together and need leadership. Dick has been very helpful in this area.
 - c. SAUSI is still on hold due to lack of funding.
 - d. Our grant writer has submitted our information and the job description that will be used to locate and hire a paid staff member for our NORCAL VOAD.
 - e. We do not have a quorum to hold an executive meeting or to make any decisions
 - f. Reports on the National VOAD conference in Little Rock.
 1. Deb Alich (deb@NVOAD.org) on the conference line shared some ideas concerning this meeting. She is working for better communication with the state VOADs. One thing discussed was the possibility of having conference calls with all of the state VOAD presidents. This would help build stronger relationships and keep us informed as to the state needs.
 2. John Chavez added that he stressed communication, especially with the inter-tribal groups.
 3. Linda Smith reported that there were 3 new members at VOAD: Habitat for Humanity, Latter Day Saints, and City Team. Time was spent at the conference defining the difference between proselytizing and evangelizing. There was time spent on training in the Matrix training and they are still working on Donations Management. The next annual meeting will be held in Salt Lake City.
5. Dick reported on his work with the VOADs in Del Norte, Solano, Contra Costa, Butte, Marin, Alameda, Napa, and San Mateo counties. They are at various degrees of organization. some just starting, some writing by-laws and some still just thinking about it.

6. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION---California fires
 - a. John Chavez had lots of statistics for us on the various fires that have been burning since June. Many counties have been hit with the fires. The fires have burned a lot of acreage, but the number of primary residences that have been lost is quite small. The homes that burned ranged from million dollar homes to small cottages. FEMA has done a lot of PDAs, which is a necessary part of seeking a Federal Declaration. John walked us through the fact sheet of a Federal Declaration. So far none of the CA fires have received a Federal Declaration
 - b. Karma Hackney added that the post-Katrina situation has changed the picture as to how things are done. Nobody wants to have the finger pointed at them for things not done correctly.
 - c. Helen Knudson reminded us again that every disaster is unique in its own way.
 - d. Long Term Recovery needs were also discussed. Many of our members reported that the various communities are pulling together and trying to help each other, Al Chen reported that they had helped out financially in several of the fire areas. Several of those affected are still working with their insurance companies.
7. LTRC updates—Dick reported that South Lake Tahoe had raised quite a bit of money locally. They still have survivor money to continue to operate but lack administrative money for the administrator and case worker. They will probably have to shut down.
8. County VOAD reports
 - a. Sonoma—Rodger Doncaster—Aid Matrix has been updated and a pandemic drill is being planned. They are looking for more interested parties.
 - b. Sacramento—Valerie Mihanovich given by Dick Eskes—Dexter MacNamara is leaving and they need a new slate of officers.
 - c. Santa Clara—Franci Collins—Disaster training is planned for September with many groups involved. Various areas of training will be included, especially alternative housing possibilities.
9. Election of Officers and Nominating Committee—No quorum present so this will be on hold.
10. Other Business:--Reports from NORCAL members
 - a. Carolyn Moussa is taking Elaine Varady's place on the website position.
 - b. Al Chen thanked all the agencies for their cooperation in the fires.
 - c. Chuck Varady and Steve Weaver reported on their mass feedings for the firefighters and those evacuated from their homes. They also had some mud out teams.
 - d. The City Team members had some mud out teams in Iowa and are having some disaster preparedness training.
 - e. Rodger D. —The ARC is trying to get 10 county ARCs to team together.
 - f. Wally Hogge—Mostly working within their region.
 - g. Helen Knudsen-Expanding their capabilities by getting more arms involved in the recovery process.
 - h. Linda Wong—Silver Sentinal-10 county training
 - i. Don Vos—Still waiting to see if So. CA will be ready for us for reconstruction.
 - j. Melinda McLain—Many of the UCC involved somewhat with the fires

Respectfully submitted by Gert Vos, secretary

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, November 11, 2008

