

Marin Family Action Offices
Home Save Weekly Meeting
January 13, 2010
4 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.



Director: Manny Fernandez
Attendees: Provided Upon Request
Notes: Dianne Levy

OLD BUSINESS

- 1) **"Produce the Note:"** Brief updates on any successes with this method.
- 2) **Marin Family Action** did not win this award, but we were in excellent company; many prestigious Marin groups were nominated.
- 3) **Board of Supervisors:** Funds are coming in to be used as noted below, i.e. Attorney Fees. Ed LaBarre resigned as group attorney.

NEW BUSINESS

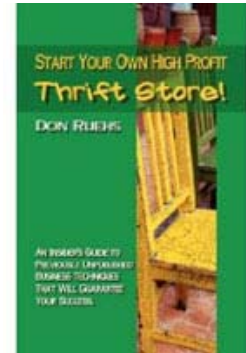
- 4) **Buddy System:** Manny updated the group on the importance of always having someone with you for meetings with banks, court appearances, etc.
 - a) JC's appearance on January 13th went very well. She was composed . . . and it helps when MFA members are with you. Four of us attended with her. She asked the judge to *recuse* himself from her case due to conflict of interest; it caught him and attorneys in attendance by surprise.
 - b) Information on upcoming appearances by members of Marin Family Action is on the Web site at: <http://marinfamilyaction.com/calendar.html>.
 - c) Important to have dates as far in advance as possible. We are finding out about them with only hours to spare, which makes it difficult for your support team to gather.
 - d) This will be moved to a page with a form so that those who will be attending in support of our members can respond.
- 5) **Attorney Fees:** Funding requests have been submitted and others are underway in order to cover attorney fees so that we will all have representation if/as needed.
- 6) **eMail addresses:** Members of the various MFA committees will have eMails @MarinFamilyAction.org (as soon as the site is moved). This will take 10 days or so.
- 7) **Russell Marne for Judge:** Please take time to sign forms and/or to help get signatures. He needs about 6,000 signatures and has less than two weeks remaining to get them all.

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8) Fundraising Committee

- a) Thrift Shop: Status, Location
 - i) According to *LA Times*, August 8, 2009, consignment shops "have a thriving market in recession."
 - ii) Access free space availability. Determine staffing
(1) Business Plan is needed. Interesting article re opening non-profit-owned thrift shops:
<http://www.bellaonline.com/articles/art4085.asp>
- b) MarinStock2
 - i) Everyone is on board. June date to be determined. Location is again Hamilton Amphitheater. Mwanza has a list of her contacts from last year's event and others had recommendations of Marin County artists that are known to help out good causes. This time, there is sufficient advance notice to help it grow. Will also build out sales booths and develop silent auction.
- c) Hand-made Valentines: Pat presented the idea of selling her handmade Valentines with a percentage of proceeds going to MFA. She will show examples of cards which she thought of selling through the website.



9) Home Save Updates

- a) Manny emphasized importance of positioning yourself before going into court: Be prepared. Rich encouraged all to view <http://www.foreclosuredefense nationwide.com> which is a blog managed by attorney Jeff Barnes. Barnes is keeping on top of cases wherein the homeowner WINS!
- b) "Produce the Note" seems to have helped one member get a trial loan modification within three months; whereas it took Dianne more than one year to receive any consideration. To our knowledge, no notes have actually been produced other than the original note when one purchases the property – and THAT is not the crucial instrument. The note as is held by your current lender is what is needed.
- c) Gregory provided information on "Judicial Disqualification in California: Self Study Article & Self Assessment Test." Discussion covered Judge Sutro, who is retiring in a month or so. It was discovered that Judge Sutro presided as judge on cases regarding foreclosures wherein he was an interested party, i.e. he holds stock in lenders' companies.

10) Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 20, 2010

- a) Committees meet at 3 p.m. in a closed-door session and Committee updates.
 - i) This meeting is to review the week and establish agenda items for the 4 p.m. general session.
- b) General meeting (open to all) starts at 4 p.m.