



Fire Districts

Public Meetings

Moraga-Orinda Fire District

Board of Directors
Wednesday, March 16, 7 p.m.
New Meeting Room:
Moraga Library Community Room
1500 Saint Mary's Road, Moraga
For meeting times and agendas,
visit www.mofd.org

ConFire

Board of Directors
Tuesday, April 12, 1:30 p.m.
Board Chamber room 107,
Administration Building,
651 Pine St., Martinez
For meeting times and agendas,
visit <http://alturl.com/5p9pu>.

Emergency response information and training:
Lamorinda Community
Emergency Response Team (CERT)
www.lamorindacert.org.

**Please submit
Letters and Opinions:**
letters@lamorindaweekly.com

MOFD Puts Station 46 Property on the Market

By Nick Marnell



Former proposed Station 46 site location on Lorinda Lane in Lafayette

The doomed fire station 46 project slipped deeper into the history books March 2 when the Moraga-Orinda Fire District board declared the potential station site a surplus asset and authorized its sale through a listing agreement with Coldwell Banker.

The district purchased property at 1035 Lorinda Lane in Lafayette in 2013 to build a new fire station, which would have consolidated MOFD station 43 and Contra Costa County Fire Protection District station 16. The joint venture unraveled in August. Coldwell Banker agent Larry

Hood secured the listing. As Hood was the agent who worked with the district on the \$1.2 million purchase of the property, Fire Chief Stephen Healy said he was able to sole-source the listing agreement rather than put it out for bid. "We are one of the most prolific

brokers in the area," said Hood. "We do 40 to 50 homes a year. We will do everything there is to do, including staging this property at our own cost."

The property was subdivided by the district and both parcels are included in the listing agreement. Hood said the agency will market the two properties together, one including the home and the other as a standalone lot. While not confirming a listing price, Hood said he felt a reasonable price point was \$450,000 for the lot and \$1.225 million for the house.

"And I'll remind you that everything we've sold this year has gone over asking," he said.

The district is renting the house and gave the tenants a notice to vacate by the end of March. According to the six-month listing agreement, the real estate agency will submit the property to the Multiple Listing Service in April.

The motions to surplus and sell the property passed 4-0, with Steve Anderson absent. The motion to list the property with Coldwell Banker passed 3-0, as director Fred Weil, who until 2000 represented a company that Hood owned, abstained.

Photo Andy Scheck

CERT-ified ... continued from page A1



CERT trainee Bruce Sprague, left, and Adrian Durbin, right, treat mock victim Martin Valentines for injuries during the medical portion of their final. Photo Cathy Dausman

California seems to constantly teeter on the brink of one disaster or another – earthquake, wildfire or El Nino storms, and emergency responders have long preached the practicality of resident community preparedness. The Federal Emergency Management Agency website says the CERT concept was initially developed by the Los Angeles City Fire Department in 1985, and the program was made available nationwide in 1993. The Lamorinda CERT program began in the mid-1990s, when it was known as the Neighborhood Emergency Response Team, said Gordon Nathan of Moraga, the program's original trainer. Initially a responsibility of the then Moraga Fire Department the CERT program was administered for a time by the Lamorinda police departments. The Moraga-Orinda Fire District now administers CERT.

with other CERT programs.

"I always thought about doing it [taking the class]," said Lafayette resident Gerry Robey. "You have to look after your neighbor." Robey learned about the class offering through an online neighborhood website; he plans to enlist a friend to help him set up a telephone tree for use during emergencies in their area.

"When they're done, they can take care of their family, their neighbors and eventually organize their neighborhood," said Lamorinda Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Dennis Rein. He found the latest group "an interesting collection of people of all walks of Lamorinda life," and likes to ask each new CERT volunteer one final question: "What's next?"

CERT emergency preparedness sessions are offered three times a year, and are open to all Lamorinda residents or employees. The spring session in Moraga is already filled, but space is still available in the fall session in Orinda, which begins Sept. 7. CERT also hosts monthly perishable skills refresher courses the second Monday of each month at the Orinda Library.

"We're always open to teaching groups [of 25]," Seibert said. For details, call (925) 255-5143 or visit <http://www.lamorindacert.org>.



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