



PLACER SIERRA FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES: February 28, 2019

Attendance: Lauraine Bacon (Alta/Secret Town/Emigrant Gap) Don Beldon (Secret Town/Emigrant Gap) Mark D'Ambrogi (Colfax-Greater), Sean Lomen (Colfax-City) Alex Harvey (Placer Hills FPD) Robert Zaucha (Meadow Vista)

Quorum: Yes

Representatives: Luana Dowling, Placer County Firewise Coordinator

Guests: Kurt Bertilson, Bill Van Nort, Rob DeSotle, Jessica Arrabit

1. Meeting called to Order: 6:05

2. Approval of Agenda: Alex/Sean, unanimous

3. Approval of Minutes: Alex/Rob, unanimous

4. Public Comment (5minutes): Kurt Bertilson and Bill Van Nort introduced themselves and spoke of the recent FIREWISE assessment that took place in their area; Manzanita Ridge HOA. They also talked about the Barrister Fuel Break and lack of water in this same area. Possible grant funding may be available to assist in obtaining water supply/system in the future. Rob DeSotle and Jessica Arrabit introduced themselves and expressed their interest in the PSFSC. They have experience with the Butte FSC.

5. Action Items:

A. Wilder than Wild presentation.

Sean will look at April 3 and April 17th for showing of the film at the Colfax theater. He will coordinate with Luana on this project. Members for the panel were discussed and it was suggested that Luana- FIREWISE, Steve Garcia- Cal Fire, Brian Eagan- Cal Fire, and Ty Connors- PCSO be the core panel.

B. Cal Fire signs

Sean reported that locations within the city of Colfax were being looked at for signage. There is also an electronic sign board that could be possibly used for messages and events. BC Eagan to bring back additional information to the FSC regarding signs.

6. Local Agency reports:

Placer County Fire Alliance-

Luana is tracking all the Wilder Than Wild presentations. Recent one in Foresthill had outstanding attendance, people were turned away due to capacity of the facility. The Bin Program is up and running. Bins are used for green waste such as needles and leaves, good resource for FIREWISE and communities doing clean-up days. The bins are free and the

program is run through the RCD. The trailer is almost ready for use, gathering more tools and supplies. Working out details as to where it will be stored and insurance coverage and sign out/use process.

County Tree removal- work to begin through contractor to remove trees in the Dutch Flat and Meadow Vista areas. Still a large number of trees out there to be removed.

Cal Fire/Placer OES- Three main points- Placer Alert, defensible space, and Ready Set Go, are message out to the public.

Colfax City- Looking at a Hazardous Vegetation Ordinance to address properties needing vegetation removal.

PHFPD- Working on Measure A, special tax assessment for the district.

7. Information/Non-Action Items/Adjournment:

Colfax City- PG&E did a presentation to the City Council regarding their vegetation removal program as well as their procedures for wildfire risk and what they are doing.

There was discussion as to the FSC doing a similar presentation perhaps at the April meeting.

Rob shared his experience visiting Paradise. The destruction was devastating, didn't seem that defensible space made much of a difference in some cases due to fire severity, some older homes remained untouched while newer homes were destroyed. The evacuation seemed like a monumental task given the conditions but could have been much worse if the town of Paradise didn't have plans in place and exercised their plans.

A question came up about the PSFSC website, email, and Facebook. All these medias were created by someone and are out of date and current members have no access to bring them up to date. It will be looked into so the PSFSC has access and can update.

Adjournment: Alex/Sean at 7:25