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Greater Auburn Area Fire Safe Council Agenda

Date: February 18th 2022

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Virtual meeting

- 8:55 | **Join Zoom Meeting:**
Dial by Telephone:
Meeting Access ID: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)
- 9:00 | **1. Call to Order: 9:10 A**
 a. Introduction of members Frank U, Kathy B, Bob K, Keri AB, Richard H, Danielle, Bob S
- 9:03 | **2. Approval of Agenda:** M/S – Unanimous approval
- 3. Review of Minutes:** January 22, 2022
- 9:05 | M/S – Unanimous approval
- 4. Public Comment:**
 Any member of the public may address the Council on any matter that is NOT listed on the agenda.
 Comments will normally be limited to 5 minutes.
- 9:15 | None received.
- 5. Old & Unfinished Business**
- 9:40 | **6. New Business - Action/Discussion Items:**
- a) George Alves, Placer RCD – Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP): Shared CWPP draft and process. OES contracted with RCD to perform the update. Focus on community engagement to clarify and refine priorities around wildfire protection. Outlined key definitions and objectives. Will both update existing information and include additional areas. Creating a “dashboard” for the public to access information on the CWPP and about resources. First draft is completed, OES and County are reviewing and working on the mapping and public “dashboard” piece. “Final” document will be presented to FSCs prior to completion.
 Richard H asks whether the portal will be available to the public. George notes the public and the FSCs will have portals to access.
- 10:00 | b) Bob Snyder, GAAFSC – Neighborhood house vents rescreening program: Robie-Gold FWC is holding an event around vent rescreening. They are purchasing the screening and distributing to interested homeowners. Working on recruiting high school students to help install. Bob has information that can be shared around how to run the event and source materials. Per Rob, there is interest in his community.
- 10:25 | c) Rob Kiseleff, GAAFSC – Wildfire Community Preparedness Day – May 7: Nationally recognized event. Is there interest in promoting the day or a project we would like to conduct that weekend? Keri suggests yes we should promote and perhaps we partner with CalFire or AFD to identify a community project they have need for volunteers to help out with. Kathy adds we could do a project but also is a
- 10:30 |

perfect opportunity to work with Firewise communities to amplify opportunities around that. Rob suggests we take off line and discuss via e-mail ideas around projects, thinking perhaps more effective to focus on one project or activity. We can work on ideas and bring back for next meeting for approvals. Also, we should be promoting through our channels to take advantage of the broader context of the event.

- d) Rob Kiseleff, GAAFSC – Goals for 2022: Review of annual work plan as guide for our goals in 2022, then add to that.

Fuel Reduction Projects (2021) – Richard notes progress on this one, really shifting to maintenance mode.

Work Project During WFP Week – Rob notes we discussed earlier and will finalize in March. Also, BOR will present in March.

CWPP – Report earlier in meeting.

SFB development and maintenance – completed

Coordinate with local fire agencies and Placer Fire Alliance on grant projects – Completed, ongoing work with FWCs to help identify additional work here.

Firewise Communities – Completed noted 2021 work, Rob would like to connect with HOAs in 2022 to encourage additional communities coming on board. Kathy suggests working through real estate agents meetings as well. We could also ask parties to a Town Hall to communicate with many of the HOAs at once.

Land Use Decisions and Fire Safety – Work completed in 2021. Will continue to engage and monitor. Bob suggests meeting with the City Manager (should meet with counterpart at County) to understand what is at play and then create a plan based on that feedback. John D notes there is likely work that needs to be done. Bob asks if current codes need to be reviewed and updated. John D notes work is underway to re-evaluate General Plan both in light of current situation in the community but also in light of changes to State law around land use planning and development. Bob asks how GAAFSC can engage and monitor. John D suggests that may need to be incorporated into the City's process. Additional dialogue around whether it is feasible to also modify existing areas or communities that do not meet the newer standards. Scope of the challenges requires prioritizing work that can and should be done. Public input is a part of the process, and City has a fire ad hoc committee working on it as well. Rob suggests we frame up concerns and submit, then possibly have City talk through plans with this group. Keri asks if we may want to consider opening dialogue with planning commission to ensure wildfire issues are front of mind as they make decisions.

We will continue discussion as opportunities and ideas arise.

7. Agency and Stakeholder Reports:

- CAL FIRE/Placer County Fire – (Jeremy Rochholz) New Rescue 180 should arrive this weekend or early next week. Carries road and water rescue equipment all in one place. Hoping to have in service early March. Will be housed at Station 180. Currently seeing uptick in escaped debris burns. Weather conditions are not good, looking more like June than February. May transition into “fire season” late March/early April. Need to redouble efforts around safe burn practices for burn days. BAU in North Auburn and Ophir. Kathy asks about earlier “fire season” and whether staffing levels will increase earlier as well. Jeremy says staffing is based on conditions and data is reviewed weekly to make decisions in both Northern and Southern regions. If current conditions persist, he would expect staffing ramp ups earlier. Kathy asks about additional air resources. Jeremy notes CalFire makes those decisions based on conditions as well but he would expect to see that a bit later. Different factors than staffing resources equation.
- Auburn Fire – (John Rodgers) Currently have two grant applications out – one with FEMA around defensible space inspectors, another connected to Middle Fork project.
- Penryn Fire – Mark unable to attend, sent update to Rob. Working to address signage issues. Rob will work with Kathy on amplification of the program. New fire station construction has begun. All

three districts (Placer Hills, Penryn, and Newcastle) continue working under joint agreement and are implementing new hiring list protocols. Working on debris removal as well.

- Newcastle Fire
- Placer County (Shawna Pratt) – Increased activity after the big storm along with COVID impacts have increased wait times to about 6 weeks. Expecting that to reduce in near future. 35 jobs in February, a majority in Colfax area. As noted, working on the “dashboard” around CWPP. Working on ways to support FSCs and FWNs. Also working with PIO on additional tools to host additional activities and host information resources. Kathy asks about mentoring program previously discussed around FWCs. Shawna notes they can provide an update next month and while there will not be wholesale changes, there will be some adjustments going forward with the County taking a more significant role. Ideas around the program are welcome and a good time to share them since adjustments are being made. Bob asks about printed materials and whether mapping data could be done better. Shawna will discuss off line.

- U.S. BOR
- State Parks
- Fire Alliance
- Firewise Community Report
- Placer County Resource Conservation District
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Other

8. Roundtable:

Discussion of items of mutual interest, introduction of new issues, and proposed future Agenda items.

9. Next Meeting Date and Adjourn: Next meeting; March 18, 2022 - 9:00 AM