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# Greater Auburn Area Fire Safe Council Minutes

**Date:** April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.

**Location:** Virtual meeting

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- 8:55 | **Join Zoom Meeting:**  
**Dial by Telephone:**  
**Meeting Access ID:** [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)
- 9:00 |     **1. Call to Order: 9:01 A**  
          **a.** Introduction of members Frank U, Rob K, Keri AB, Danielle H, Bob S, Kathy B
- 9:03 |     **2. Approval of Agenda:** M/S – Unanimous approval
- 3. Review of Minutes:** March 18, 2022 M/S – Unanimous approval
- 9:05 |     **4. Public Comment:**  
          Any member of the public may address the Council on any matter NOT listed on the agenda.  
          Comments will normally be limited to 5 minutes.
- Kathy B – Reference e-mail announcement Luana is leaving in June.
  - Jon A – Groundbreaking for new fire station in Newcastle.
- 9:15 |     **5. Old & Unfinished Business**
- GAAFSC Web Site (Frank) – Working to create resources beyond Facebook and integrate all communications. Have bids between \$60 for managed site and \$9 for DIY with only hosting fees included. We can link directly and use website as a central repository. We have 1500+ Facebook followers, but may be missing folks not on Facebook. Could also use to facilitate e-mail communications. Seems general agreement around having the website, discussion of payment mechanics. Discussion of site maintenance. Frank will reach out to Auburn Chamber to see how they manage and operate their web site. Shanna recommends CA Firesafe Council – they recently distributed a survey asking local Firesafe Councils what support and resources they need. That included questions around website issues. Deadline may be today, Rob K will get response to the survey. Frank U will continue efforts around website specific plan and proposal to operationalize.
  - City Hall Open – Do we want to go back to in person meetings or hybrid model? Discussion of benefits and drawbacks around different options. Input from public attendees and agency participants. City notes they have Room 10 set up as hybrid Zoom facility and can support that model from technology standpoint. Unanimous vote on hybrid model.
- 9:40 |     **6. New Business - Action/Discussion Items:**
- 10:00 |
  - Federal Wildfire Suppression legislation (HR 6903, McClintock) –Discussion of legislation. Auburn Fire has requested City support for the legislation. Discussion of recent fire events and shifting policies around fire response. CalFire notes State agencies do treat all unintentional fires as hostile, but also uses controlled burns. They manage differently than Forest Service. Discussion of
- 10:25 |
- 10:30 |

interagency issues. Placer Hills Fire is not taking a position given it is Federal Legislation, but they concur with CalFire on approach to unintentional fires. Motion to table until/unless we are asked for an opinion. Need additional information. No second. M/S to write letter of support. Aye – 3, N – 1, Abst – 2 (KAB incl). No majority, motion fails. Renewed M/S to table, passed unanimously (KAB Abstain). Kathy will gather additional details and Frank will reach out to McClintock.

- Financial Report (review Q1 financials) – \$2358 for Robie Point projects available. Discussion of article placement successes and plan for future articles.
- Strategic Plan Update – General suggestion to include dates, esp in accomplishments, and assign tasks to specific individuals.
  - Animal grazing project accomplished (item 1). Maintenance ongoing.
  - Volunteer work projects during WFP week (May 8<sup>th</sup>), booth at Brewfest (May 7<sup>th</sup>), metal grate project (Bob)
  - CWPP update – completed
  - Shaded Fuel Break maintenance plan – grant for phase 2 north fork (88 acres) for \$2 M with final report due today. Applied for phase 3 for additional 320 acres. Also just completed work on 300 acres.
  - Assist submission of grants in GAAFSC area – Ongoing, periodic work as opportunities arise.
  - Support FWC creation in area of GAAFSC – Planning outreach to HOAs and should be complete within 2 months.
  - Support existing FWC in area of GAAFSC – Mapping project nearly complete and will be available for educational efforts. Possibly schedule meeting with all FWC Chairs suggested to facilitate better communication and coordination. Will target 2 to 3 weeks from now.
  - Public Education – Outreach has increased, would like to set goal for additional number of outreach events. Discussion of ACTV engagement opportunities. We have engaged in Auburn Journal, social media already. Should we expand presence on NextDoor? Should we work to connect with local TV stations? Frank will reach out to all Rotaries in district, Kathy and Frank will assist in gathering additional lists.
  - Additional discussion in May around remaining strategic plan.

#### **7. Agency and Stakeholder Reports:**

- CAL FIRE/Placer County Fire – Brian Mackwood. Governor appointed Chief Tyler as new CalFire Director. Began career as firefighter. Graduating firefighters today (27). Air support resources coming on line, 3 avail now and others shortly. Hand crew program through CDCR is up and running but numbers are a challenge so firefighters deployed to augment in addition to National Guard. June 15 helio returns to HQ for exclusive use on 130-day contract (can be extended), another up in Tahoe. Burn permits required starting Monday (18<sup>th</sup>). Placer CO Fire put new truck into service. Questions around burn hours, note permits have everything outlined. With open burning, rules are less restrictive.

- Auburn Fire – Rob Zaucha. No actionable items. In City of Auburn, always require burn permits and only during daylight hours. Question about community risk reduction manager position. Process underway, no hard date.

- Penryn Fire –

- Placer Hills Fire - Mark D. Groundbreaking of new Newcastle Fire Station, completion target of October, 2022. Should hit 100 orders for reflective address signs. Grant funds holding up,

no expiration date for funding.

- Newcastle Fire

• Placer County - Shanna. Working on Luana transition issues. Provided phone number for contacts (886-FIRE) and e-mail address as well. Contact information will remain in place to become an established resource for the community. Broader marketing effort planned around transition. Already working with some Firesafe communities to ensure needs are met and support is provided. Encourages open dialogue. Accolades for Luana. Chipper grant available to communities. County program currently running on 8 week wait based on recent storms. Reference to AB 1717 (Aguilar-Curry). Request to share information on upcoming preparedness activities.

- U.S. BOR
- State Parks
- Fire Alliance
- Firewise Community Report - Shanna – 24 with 9 recognized.

• Placer County Resource Conservation District – Sarah. Chipper is 8 week wait based primarily on storm issues. New crew lead coming on board and should increase capacity. Funding approved to subsidize green waste bins for Firewise Communities and Fire Safe Council events. Applied for additional funding to expand program to all community members. Hiring program and outreach position for events.

- 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; May 20, 2022 - 9:00 AM