



FIREWISE USA
RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS

LACC Firewise Committee Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting - OCTOBER 13, 2021

Minutes:

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am.

Committee Members in attendance (in-person and ZOOM): Penny Leinwander (Chair), Michael Daly, Cliff Shelton, Randy Wright, and Leslie Prindle-Klein. Scott Devereaux was available by ZOOM.

- September 13, 2021 meeting minutes were approved unanimously with the following change: DELETE “Someone asked if owners could maintain their ROW section, and Scott said that is not legally allowable.” This was incorrect as verified by the GM. Notify the LACC office if you do plan on planting, etc., in the Right of Way.
- FW member/Public Comments
 - a. Larry Klein made a statement suggesting that the FW Committee set up “Firewise Block Parties” where neighbors get together and discuss home hardening, Go-bags, defensible space, etc., and possibly review each other’s properties and how they can reduce hazardous fuels and make their home safer. FW Chair took this as an Action Item for further investigation/discussion.
 - b. Bill Redding discussed that PG&E has programs to move electrical utilities located above ground to below ground. He suggested that we contact PG&E on these programs and advocate for our community. FW Chair took this as an Action Item for further Investigation/discussion
 - c. Michael Price mentioned concerning the underground utilities issue, that because our zip code is in a FEMA Disaster Declaration location that it might be possible to apply through FEMA. Added as Action Item.
 - d. Leslie Prindle-Klein recommended that the FW committee prepare a letter to members through the nabrnetwork, as a communication tool. Added as an Action Item.

OLD Business:

- a. Shaded Fuel Break Tony Taylor gave an update that he was in contact with a Registered Professional Forester, John Pickett, that has planned and constructed Shaded Fuel Breaks. We briefly discussed whether a Request for Proposal would be issued to have several companies apply. Scott said that even finding a Forester in the current environment is near impossible and that the forester’s credentials speak to the qualifications. Tony and Scott continue to work out the details. Rose (name on ZOOM screen) asked what a shaded fuel break was and where it was going to be. Tony Taylor gave a brief explanation but because we had spent time in past meetings, the Chair asked Rose to contact us to get information she is requesting. Additionally, nabrnetwork has three locations where Firewise information can be accessed. Agendas and meeting minutes for the FW committees for July 22 and September 13, 2021 had been forwarded, but follow-up is needed.
- b. Workshop for changes to LACC Governing Documents The following LACC members volunteered to conduct the workshop: Ed Organ, Tony Taylor, Scott Devereaux, Cliff Shelton, and Eric Thaden. The

volunteers met and many issues were discussed about the CCRs, By-Laws and Member Handbook. More work is needed before a Workshop date can be set. The Workshop will be open to all members and hopefully provide enough information that a practical, fair, and fire safe enforcement program can be easily understood and found reasonable. There was concern that many trees would need to be cut down to be Firewise. It was clarified that there are other options under the Continuous Canopy option in the Board of Forestry Guidance document.

- c. DSI Program – In the October 13, 2021 BOD packets, there is a letter from FIREWISE dated October 6, 2021. The letter discussed possible Department of Insurance regulations for Insurers that may be enacted. The letter requested that the BOD endorse FW to work on a DSI program. After discussion, a motion was passed to present this at the board meeting. Additionally, Tony Taylor presented wording for a motion that he will make to the board and it was also approved by the committee.
- d. 2022 FW Budget Proposed A copy of the proposed FW budget for 2022 was reviewed again. This budget will be reviewed by the board on Friday, October 15, 2021, around 2 pm. The Chair will be available for questions at this meeting.
- e. Road Clearing ROWs by LACC A draft memo dated October 11, 2021, subject of Recommended Fuel Reduction Goals for Association Properties – Roadways used for Evacuation (Rev 1) was reviewed. There was an attached procedure for HOW TO DO FUEL REDUCTIONS IN THE RIGHT OF WAYS. After discussion, it was agreed that the letter and attachments were not ready for board review. At the board meeting I will clarify that the letter and attached procedure was not approved by the FW members, however, it would be helpful to get feedback from the GM and his staff as to their thoughts on how to proceed. Randy Wright pointed out that there is a very tight corner on Peninsula Drive that could seriously hamper evacuation. This was added as an ACTION ITEM.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Status of Dead/Diseased Tree Program. Section 4.4 of the Member Handbook was handed out, however, there was not enough time to discuss in depth. The GM mentioned that he has hired a person and some trees have been evaluated. This will be on the agenda for the November meeting for Scott to provide an update and also to forward to Scott the dead trees of concern.
- b. Vacant Lots Time did not allow for this subject to be discussed in depth, however, the GM will bring an update on the vacant lot at 815 Lake Ridge to the November meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:04 pm.

ACTION ITEMS

1. “Firewise Block Parties”
2. Contact PGE about utility burial grants/activities
3. Prepare a letter from FW Committee to be put on nabrnetwork and also mailed
4. Peninsula Drive Potential Hazardous Corner (location tbd)