

FIREWISE COMMITTEE

Minutes of November 11, 2020

Members present: Randy Wright, Penny Leinwander, Tony Taylor, Cliff and Lynn Shelton, Tom Ortez (via phone), Barbara and Bob MacArthur, Cal Fire Chris Christopherson and Ryan Danielson, Peninsula Fire Andrew Courtright, and guest Jack Montgomery.

Brief update on Firewise projects and activities: Verizon Cell tower: all work complete including Cliff weed whacking the seedling trees inside the fencing, and large hazard tree next to tower has been removed!

LACC evacuation drill went well on November 4th. All the agencies did a great job of organizing and guiding the 30 households who participated, with a follow up program at the Snow Mobile parking area, by Cal Fire, Sheriff and PenFire of lessons learned in other emergency evacuations and how to be prepared.

Chief Pini sent the locations of the terminal points in LACC to the GM to be inspected and cleared if needed. Waiting to hear if they have been done. Andy reported the ones outside LACC have already been checked.

Barbara completed obtaining all signatures for the updated 2020 LACC CWPP and submitted to Cal Fire Unit Chief Packwood.

Barbara submitted the completed 2020 Firewise USA application for LACC, which was accepted and approved. We were recognized for having done over \$550,000 worth of work this year which includes over 8,000 unpaid hours by our members! Will send the certificate to Jessie to post on Nabr network.

- 1) Tom Ortez contacted Deer Creek Resources to see how they can help with a hazardous fuel assessment, planning, and removal on LACC HOA property. Tom asked Paul Lackovic if he could give a rough estimate for the cost. This time we wouldn't be requesting an inspection of each lot. Paul will get back to Tom next week. Tom asked that the committee review the Deer Creek GIS website. Chris also suggested we search the Plumas County Wildfire Protection Plan updated in 2019 to see how much data they cover about our community/peninsula. Also Paul suggested we should check out the South Lassen Watershed Group. The idea is to leverage data these groups have already collected.

- 2) Grant writing application – Penny Leinwander and Tony Taylor have begun the grant show-of interest application process with FEMA through CAL OES by creating an online account. They are still collecting as much documentation as there already is regarding the previous grant application through Fire Safe Council for a shaded fuel break on Almanor Associates land to the north of LACC. Tony will contact Hannah Hepner to see what he can find out what documentation she has. Chris advised we include in the application everything they are looking for.
- 3) New CA 2020 laws pertaining to fire mitigation. CalFire Chris Christopherson is working on this. He explained there are 197 new proposed bills pertaining to fire, many are redundant. He is going through the new laws in effect to see which ones affect our community.
 - a) Change in the CA civil code, Home Hardening Disclosure required before selling home.
 - b) Effective 2023, for the defensible space requirements in 4291 process, there will be an ember reduction zone of 5 feet around the home. We should start educating our residents to start working on this fire resistant barrier now. He also explained the new title for Title 14, 4290-4291 will be “Fire Safe Regulations”. Roadways will focus on driveways and setbacks.
 - c) There are home hardening consultation programs being made available to residents to train volunteers to be consultants to residents who request it. This is one of our six CWPP priorities we will participate in.
- 4) Bob recommended we develop a portfolio of LACC Firewise progress for our members to make use of, in dealing with insurance providers. We also discussed having a Firewise website for this purpose so that we can publicize and make information accessible to members and insurance companies and general public. Right now our Firewise information is internal on the NABR network. Penny will look into that. We discussed possibly making it a Peninsula/Lake Basin wide site in the future to include the other local Firewise communities.
- 5) Chris will send us the regulations covering tree removal on private land and structure protection exemption application.

Barbara MacArthur
Chair