

Alpine Fire Safe Council

Approved Minutes
October 26, 2009
6:00 pm, Woodfords Fire Station

The meeting of the Alpine Fire Safe Council was called to order by Steve Yonker, Vice-Chair, at 6:00 pm at the Woodfords Fire Station, Markleeville, CA 96120.

Present:

David Griffith	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident
Jerry Andrews	FSC Board	Markleeville Resident
Kris Hartnett	FSC Board	Markleeville Resident
Dave Mills	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident
Shirley Taylor	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident
Steve Yonker	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident
Jeff Brees	Coordinator	Markleeville Resident
Kerry Radelfinger	Admin	Woodfords Resident

Absent:

Al Moss	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident
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I. Call to order

II. Introductions

III. Approve corrected minutes of September 28, 2009 meeting.

Motion to approve.

Motion: Jerry Andrews

Second: Shirley Taylor

All ayes. Motion carried.

IV. Volunteer Time Sheets

V. Old Business

- a. Review entries from the Diamond Valley School Poster Contest.
Brees said that the posters from the Diamond Valley School Poster Contest needed to be judged with a first and second place to be awarded for each grade level. Taylor reported that Joyce DeVore had coordinated the project and distributed the posters for judging. Taylor added that the theme for the contest was "If the Forest Could Talk." After the posters

were judged, Taylor mentioned that DeVore would submit an article and picture to the newspaper.

- b. Update on Defensible Space Inspections by CALFIRE.
Brees reported that CALFIRE performed 88 inspections this summer and would be making a presentation to the Board of Supervisors in December or January. Brees added that he had not received information on those homes needing follow-up inspections. Hartnett questioned if a disk or report would be made available so there would be a starting point for next year's inspections. Brees said that the information should be given to the County, but that the FSC should be able to get a copy of the report. Griffith mentioned that the BLM has large billboards regarding wildfire and defensible space on 395 south of Reno and suggested sending a letter to the California and Nevada BLM stating that the billboards are effective.

Motion to approve.

Motion: David Griffith Second: Kris Hartnett

All ayes. Motion carried.

- c. Update on the next RAC meeting.
Brees reported that the October 28th RAC meeting was postponed until December 2nd. Brees added that the Carson District Ranger called to ask that the FSC alter the applications to create a nexus between the Coordinator position and the benefit to the Forest. Brees said that he renamed the application Community Fire Safe program and changed the focus towards enabling property owners to keep structure fires from spreading to the forest. Brees mentioned that the next RAC meeting would be Wednesday, December 2nd at 6:00pm at the Early Learning Center and requested that everyone who was available to attend. Brees added the first portion of the meeting would include procedural items of electing a chairman and adopting the bylaws before beginning review of the applications. Griffith suggested everyone arrive about 6:30pm.
- d. Update on Curbside Chipping Program, fall edition.
Brees said that the chipping contractor had completed two weeks of curbside chipping in October. Brees added that there were more grant funds remaining so an additional week of chipping was planned. Brees said any residents interested in participating can still contact him to sign up. After some discussion on issues with the chipping jobs at two residences on Chambers Lane, Brees said he would speak further with the chipping crew regarding the matter.

VI. New Business

- a. Review third quarter financial statements.
Radelfinger distributed the third quarter financial statements for review. Radelfinger reported that the insurance premium was paid in the third quarter, and the check from the County was just received to cover that expense. Yonker questioned if that was the yearly insurance expense.

Radelfinger confirmed that it was the yearly premium for the insurance coverage. Hartnett questioned if any penalty was incurred for late payment on the insurance. Radelfinger said that there weren't any payment penalties.

- b. Discussion of budget priorities for the remainder of the year and direction to staff.

Brees distributed a worksheet outlining current funding sources and grant balances. Brees said that with the failure of RAC to meet and make a decision on the grant funding there may be a shortage in funding for day-to-day administrative costs. Brees added that currently administrative funding is coming from the 2008 Title III Administrative line item, but that funding will run out before the RAC meets. Brees mentioned that they can go back to the Board to request another revision of the budget to cover administrative costs and wanted the Board to think about how money can be reallocated. Hartnett questioned what projects funds can be moved from. Brees said there is some money in the evacuation plan and pre-planning line items that could be reallocated and added that it was not something that needed to be decided at this meeting, but will come up soon. Griffith suggested that the Hot Springs Road evacuation plan and the community meetings should have priority over the school education program. Griffith mentioned that the school program was an important project in the long term, but he felt it could wait until RAC funding was available. This item will be discussed further at the next meeting.

- c. Staff reports.

Brees reported that the school education program has been difficult to schedule as the Lake Valley educational trailer had not been available. Brees said he will continue to check into the availability of the trailer as it will be brought back up to Alpine County when they are finished with it in South Lake Tahoe.

Brees said he received the draft of the winter newsletter from Radelfinger and will send it back with comments. Brees added that a draft of the newsletter will be emailed out to FSC Board for review.

Brees reported that the insurance premium was paid as a result of a loan from the County.

Brees said that the thank you letters for the September 19th community meeting were drafted and are being sent out.

Brees mentioned that he is still waiting on feedback from Terry Woodrow for the Bear Valley component of the CWPP. Brees added that Knorr had authorized payment on the project.

Taylor questioned if the Burn Pile was finished. Brees confirmed that it was now closed, but it had been open for four weekends in October. Brees said that he will measure the pile. Brees said that Sean's Tree Service will be going back to Turtle Rock Park to finish a project there and will also be chipping the mixed vegetation and limbs into the dumpsters for the prison. Brees added that the pine needles remaining will be hauled by the Alpine County crews to Bently. Brees said that he will do a cost analysis on this method of treatment to determine how it compares with the other methods used in the past.

Hartnett questioned the possibility of getting together with the county to distribute fire extinguishers and smoke detectors. Brees replied that FSC does not have to be involved with the county to do so, but grant funding would be needed. Andrews suggested including it with the Community Meetings this spring. Griffith agreed that it would be a good service to make available at the conclusion of the meeting.

VII. Adjournment

Set next meeting at the Markleeville Fire Station at 6:00 pm on Monday, November 30, 2009.

Motion to approve.

Motion: Jerry Andrews

Second: Dave Mills

All ayes. Motion carried