



Fire Safe San Mateo County

May 8, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Guido Ciardi - San Francisco Public Utility District
Denise Enea - Woodside Fire Protection District
Phillippe S. Cohen - Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve
Clayton Jolley - San Mateo County Fire Department/CAL FIRE
Stephen Kraemer - San Mateo County Parks
Scott Lombardi - San Mateo County Parks
Brendan Downing - Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
Doug Tolar - BAAQMD
Lori Cuesta - PG&E
Andy Hubbs - CAL FIRE

Call to order

President Guido Ciardi calls the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes

Motion (Hubbs), Seconded (Enea) to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2013 Regular Meeting of Fire Safe San Mateo County without corrections. All in favor (Philippe abstained because he has not read them). Motion carries.

Treasurer's Report

- Denise is still having trouble with SM County obtaining financial records. This affects obtaining non-profit status and paying Urban Forestry Associates.
- By end of year a real working budget is needed. Executive committee to meet in June to workout budget; a date needs to be set. Executive committee meets quarterly.

Announcements

- Nothing to report.

New Business/Correspondence

- Public hearing notice sent by BAAQMD. Doug distributed copies to everyone present. Further discussion of proposed fees took place with Doug and Fire Safe members, see below.

BAAQMD

- Doug Tolar: Next Wednesday first of public hearings for open burning notification fee proposals; June 19 the next hearing.
<http://www.baaqmd.gov/Divisions/Planning-and-Research/Rule-Development/Current-Regulatory-Public-Hearings.aspx>
- APCD estimates impacts to Santa Clara and San Mateo to be quite small. No exemptions for any agencies because impacts not expected to significant. Estimated \$4,000 cost for everyone participating in burns in San Mateo County per year. District says fees for other services increases compliance, so they reason this will not impact potential participants.
- District has discretion to “extend” notifications if a prescribed burn cannot be accomplished, however, the cost incurred to the District would make an extension unlikely; also refunds are not given for burns that do not happen.

Living With Fire Update

- Updates currently requested for updating fire codes, defensible space.
- Distribution of Living with Fire from CAL FIRE.
 - Guido needs one box.
 - Clayton wants two.
 - County Parks one box.

Grant Updates:

- Andy anticipates funding will be finalized in June for CAL FIRE funding in Hillsborough, Burlingame, and SMC County Parks.
 - Denise suggests Steve (retired Fire Captain) could be available for Sponsoring in Hillsborough/Burlingame through FS SMC for \$50/hr if they need it.
- Andy to meet with Ed Cooney of Hillsborough this afternoon.

Committees

Grant Committee:

- Members are encouraged to participate. Contact toddlando@firesafesanmateo.org if interested.
- No updates.
- Committee members:
 - Denise Enea
 - Andy Hubbs

- Todd Lando

Public Relations Committee:

- No updates; goal to get the word out about FS SMC mission: flyer, website, newspaper insert, Living with Fire, bulk mailer. Non-profit status needed to accept non-profit status.
- Committee members:
 - Denise Enea
 - John Romandia
 - Todd Lando

Living With Fire Update Committee:

- Updates currently requested for updating fire codes, defensible space.
- Distribution of Living with Fire from CAL FIRE. Guido needs one box. Clayton wants two. County Parks one box.
- Committee members:
 - Andy Hubbs
 - Jim Palisi
 - Christine Reed
 - Philippe S. Cohen
 - Joel Smith

Agency Roundtable:

San Francisco Water - Guido Ciardi

- Sawyer Ridge completed, now working on Portola Ridge (5 months) 200-500' wide using a masticator.
- Eastern fuel break; disking and mowing started.
- Annual wildland environment training for staff held; general fire safety topics.

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District - Brendan

- Pumpers being put on the pickups. Rich and John Martinez to meet with rangers to discuss fire history and wood poaching.

PG&E - Lori Cuesta

- Crews continuing inspections. Reliability projects underway in all areas.

San Mateo County Fire Department/CAL FIRE - Clayton Jolley

- 2 wildland fires in San Mateo County from lightning strikes. Green vegetation did not burn well on the Scarper Peak fire, mostly duff and litter. Guido said lightning strike info assisted in locating the burn.

Woodside Fire Protection District - Denise Enea

- Chipping program season began today.
- Fire season is early so chipping program/defensible space inspections are starting off behind schedule this year.
- Wildland Fire was reported in Los Trancos already.

Meeting adjourned 11:45 am

Respectfully submitted by Todd Lando from notes taken by Andy Hubbs