



Fire Safe San Mateo County

October 9, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Guido Ciardi - President. San Francisco Water
Denise Enea - Woodside Fire Protection District
Todd Lando - Executive Director. Urban Forestry Associates
Doug Tolar - BAAQMD
Stephen Kraemer - San Mateo County Parks
Lori Cuesta - PG & E

Call to order

Guido Ciardi calls the meeting to order at 9:39 am.

Approval of Minutes

- *Motion to approve August 2013 meeting minutes (Cuesta) seconded (Kraemer). All in favor. Motion carries.*
- *Motion to approve September 2013 meeting minutes (Cuesta) seconded (Kraemer). All in favor. Motion carries.*

Treasurer's Report

- Denise Enea updated group on status of 501(c)3 application and account balances held by San Mateo County. No response to date from IRS.
- Account balance is \$146,460 at last reporting.
- Discussion regarding billing and payments, including Fire Camp billing, SMC Fire Department accounts, and potential changes when non-profit status is received.

Announcements

- Nothing to report.

New Business

- Half Moon Bay Pumpkin Festival.
 - Consider a booth in 2014.
- MPROSD is still accepting public comment on the draft Vision Plan.

Correspondence

- Email correspondence with San Mateo County Resource Conservation District..

Non-profit status

- No update. Application resubmitted earlier this year by Denise Enea. Awaiting response from IRS.

Grant Updates:

- Fire Safe Council advised that application review had been halted due to government shutdown, and potentially long delays are expected.
- Funding of existing grants halted due to government shutdown.

Committees

Grant Committee:

- Update on Hillsborough:
 - Town has turned down all days awarded to them, after initially turning down half or the 88 days awarded.
 - Project is going forward, but without Cal Fire grant days.
 - Enea and Lando will contact CCFD (Reed) to see if there is any reason, or if any further assistance from FSSMC is required.
 - Some disappointment expressed due to FSSMC and Cal Fire's work committed to securing these funds.
 - Andy Hubbs believes the unused days can be applied to other projects, most likely Burlingame or County Parks.
- Discussion about Los Trancos and potential for projects and/or grant funding.
 - Tracy Sherman has been invited to FSSMC meetings.
 - Work is being done near bottom of the hill, funded by water district.
- BAAQMD may have funds available to supplement chipping programs.
 - Doug will bring info to an upcoming meeting.
 - John Martin at BAAQMD would be out contact.
 - Group expresses interest in purchasing an upgraded chipper, and supplementing existing chipper programs.
- SF Water has a bid out for purchase of a new tracked chipper, \$186,000.
- Committee members:
 - Denise Enea
 - Andy Hubbs
 - Todd Lando

Public Relations Committee:

- Denise is preparing a PR distribution email list.
- GGNRA attendance is important. Let's reach out to them!
- Membership increase needed.
- Todd Lando is preparing membership recruitment letter to be mailed post 501c3 status.
- Discussion about potential for folding street signs like Fire Safe Marin uses.
- Look into Cal Trans signage on Red Flag days.

- Ask members for photos and videos. Lots of images available in media.
- Denise has a good structure protection video from Colorado. Will share with group.
- Committee members:
 - Denise Enea
 - John Romandia
 - Todd Lando

Living With Fire Update Committee:

- Cal Fire provided “Are You Ready” brochures and artwork for adoption.
- Todd Lando will consider incorporating the updated theme and artwork into the LWF update for consistency in messaging.
- Consider scheduling a meeting with LWF committee members in February 2014 to finalize update prior to printing (May 1, 2014).
- Anticipate delivering printed product at May 2014 meeting.
- Update suggestions currently requested for defensible space pages.
- Committee members:
 - Andy Hubbs
 - Jim Palisi
 - Christine Reed
 - Philippe S. Cohen
 - Joel Smith

Website:

- Significant traffic increase related to recent fires in the media.
- Agency/Group pages have been added for each regular attending member.
- Please review content for your group or agency, and submit corrections or content to Todd Lando at toddlando@firesafesanteo.org.
- Weekly newsletter is being distributed by email whenever new content is added to the website.
- Detailed reader statistics are being recorded, and will be available for future presentation to the board and analysis.

Agency Roundtable:

San Mateo County Parks - Stephen Kraemer

- CDC Crews are working at Wunderlich.
- Majority of trees removed have been chippable at less than 8” DBH.
- Richards Road: AT&T is being approached, will contribute to the work being done there.
- Bear Gulch Road: Neighbors are very happy with work. Work will continue to Skyline.
- CCC Crews will resume work this month.
- PG&E pipeline work on Edgewood Road underway.
- SMC Parks may be able to offer sponsors to assist other projects that are in need. Contact Stephen Kraemer if interested.
- Parks will be pulling logs tomorrow under the PG&E tower near the archery range.
- San Bruno Mountain fire rehab work is underway for completion prior to rains.

Woodside Fire Protection District - Denise Enea

- Chipping program has been underway since June.
- Crews are used at least one day per week.
- Private contractor has been used when very busy.
- Local fire code adoption underway.
- Considering adding a vacant lot vegetation clearance amendment to code.
- Report submitted to the two towns to consider a wood shake roof ordinance.

SF Water - Guido Ciardi

- Crews are working at Rim Fire, removing hazard trees.
- PG& E working at Riverton.
- Lots of cooperative work underway with SMC Parks.

PG&E - Lori Cuesta

- Inspectors are currently working in Half Moon Bay.
- Tree Crews are working in Portola Valley.
- Reliability Crews are working at multiple locations in the county.
 - Riverton work is underway by Reliability Crews.
 - Reliability Crews are working out well, with lots of flexibility to work in places where they could not operate before.
 - Projects are being ID'd by looking at common outage locations.

BAAQMD - Doug Tolar

- BAAQMD may have funds available to supplement chipping programs.
 - Doug will bring info to an upcoming meeting.
 - John Martin at BAAQMD would be out contact.
 - Group expresses interest in purchasing an upgraded chipper, and supplementing existing chipper programs.

Urban Forestry Associates - Todd Lando

- New office manager to be hired this month.

Open Forum

- Executive Board meeting will be held prior to the October meeting.

Meeting adjourned 11:22 am

Respectfully submitted by Todd Lando.

Next meeting will be held at Woodside Town Hall Wednesday November 13, 2013 at 9:30 am.