

**Minutes - Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Fire Safe Santa Cruz County (FSSCC)**

Thursday, February 7, 2019

10:30 AM - Noon

Location: Santa Cruz County Office of Emergency Services

5200 Soquel Avenue

Santa Cruz, CA 95062

1. CALL TO ORDER: At 1035 by Paul Horvat

2. INTRODUCTIONS & WELCOME

Directors Present: Paul Horvat, President
Ed Hayes, Vice President
Joe Christy, Vice President
Andy Hubbs, Secretary
LizAnne Jensen, Treasurer
Ian Rowbotham
Chris Berry
Lizzy Eichorn
Becky Steinbruner
Tim Reilly
Jen Michelsen
Felix Sorrentino

Directors Absent: Bob Loveland

Attendees: Leigh Wunce
Sharon Simas
Betsy Stiefelmaier
Kevin McKinney
Steve Stewart
Jennifer Straw
Mike Filbin
Ken Jensen

3. AGENDA REVISIONS/APPROVAL

3.1. No changes made to the agenda.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

4.1. Review and approve 12/6/2018 meeting minutes. Chris moved approval of the minutes, LizAnne seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

- 5.1. Paradise Park residents - have 501(c)(7) standing. They would like more information about coming up grants and possibilities for collaboration. They are interested in participating in a fuel reduction grant.
- 5.2. Kevin McKinney (Villa Del Monte). His neighborhood has a 501(c)(3) non-profit that they organized in the past to prevent a logging company from logging near their neighborhood. There is a high need for approximately 25 acres of shaded fuel break surrounding the neighborhood. Kevin has gathered a list of committed individuals that will participate in the project and has submitted the request for assistance form via the FSSCC website.
- 5.3. Mike Filbin- vegetation management and land clearing professional with Central Coast Land Clearing. He lives in Day Valley and is interested in participating on a FSSCC committee to help facilitate projects.
- 5.4. No other public comments.

6. REPORTS

6.1. Executive Committee report

The Executive Committee met and discussed the feasibility of the CAL FIRE Forest Health grant and potential future organizational structures for FSSCC. No application was submitted for the Forest Health grant as proposed work was overwhelming in scope and it was decided that the RCD would continue to serve in an administrative capacity.

6.2. Treasurer's report

LizAnne has written donation thank you letters as donations have come in. We have approximately \$2,400 in the bank account.

6.3. Education and Outreach Committee report

The education and outreach committee has been working on developing the concept of having a Firewise Community certification program coordinator and crafting and editing informational articles to be published in local news outlets.

6.4. TAC report

The TAC team met and discussed projects that have been submitted to FSSCC and how to prioritize them. Suggestion from board: develop a Google Drive project spreadsheet that can inform other board members of proposed projects. The website and CAL FIRE has been getting a number of requests including pile burning assistance, neighborhood-scale project development, and chipping requests.

6.5. Development Committee report

Ian and Ed could use additional help with developing fundraising strategies. More board participation is needed. LizAnne volunteered to participate on the Development Committee.

6.6. RCD report

CA FSC Subaward is in process. Scope of work has been reviewed by the Education and Outreach Committee. Santa Clara County FireSafe Council has matching funds to revise their Living with Fire in Santa Clara County pamphlet as do we under the CA FSC grant. We plan to join forces to make it available in both Spanish and English. RCD submitted invoice for first two quarters to the County today and paid for Directors and Officers liability insurance. The insurance plan is now current through February 2020. RCD hosting an event on 3/10/19 on defensible space, ingress/egress route upkeep, benefits and logistics of shaded fuel breaks, and animal/livestock evacuation preparations.

No other committee reports.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

7.1. Review Business Plan

7.1.1. Review the yearly Business Plan for accomplishments, items in process, and what else remains to be done

All agreed upon actions are being met in a timely fashion. Determining the long-term organizational goals of FSSCC largely remain.

7.1.2. Establish long-term organizational goals:

It was agreed that the Executive Steering Committee would work to develop long-term organizational goals to be presented to the board at the next board meeting. A key function of FSSCC is to connect people with resources and empower them to work to make their own homes safe.

7.2. Discuss County-wide Firewise program possibilities

7.2.1. LizAnne presented on the work she has been doing on developing the concept of a County-wide Firewise Community program. Suggestion from the board: develop job description, timeline, specific tasks, qualifications. Lizzy gave an update on Firewise Community Programs already up and running here in California, and Becky reported on the status of local Firewise efforts within the City of Santa Cruz. It was agreed that LizAnne would work with others to develop the Firewise Community Coordinator job description.

8. ADJOURN At 1202 by Paul Horvat

The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be Thursday, April 4, 2019, at the Santa Cruz County Office of Emergency Services building, 5200 Soquel Avenue.