

Coalition of Firewise Communities: MEETING NOTES

Monday Feb 11, 2019 – 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Our Mission: The coalition promotes fire safety through advocacy, education, and community involvement with other stakeholders interested in working toward stronger fire safety practices.

Welcome and announcements --

Susan Rogers

- Reminders –
 - Sign up for CodeRed (see mynevadacounty.com – button on home page):
 - Dial “211” if you need help signing up.
 - Add the two CodeRed Phone numbers to your “Contacts” list in your phone so that you know who is calling (and don’t mistake it for a sales call).
 - Complete requests for shovel-ready projects, send to Fire Safe Council.
 - Contractors must be licensed and insured.
 - The Fire Safe Council bundles grant requests for communities and applies for grant requests.
- Fill out Survey: “Most Asked Questions from Your Community”: turn in tonight
- Illegal camping in your area? See Susan for referral for advice
- YubaNet.com – see “25 Weeks to Prepare for High Fire Season” weekly articles.
 - Send website link to your residents: www.YubaNet.com click on Ready for Fire season in top black navigation bar
- Renewal of **existing** NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) Firewise Communities Hazard Assessment and Action Plans due no later than 2023.
 - NOTE: Nevada County Hazard Assessments to be completed/Submitted in 2022.
 - FSC has requested grant \$ to cover Coalition of Firewise Communities.
- Bitney Springs first meeting: need existing rep to attend, answer questions.
 - Pete Williams accepted.

Wild Fire Resistant/Self Closing Vents: Attic & Foundation Vents. When they get hot, they close up to prohibit fire ember intrusion. Available at Hills Flat Lumber, “Vulcan Vent.” More info: <http://www.vulcantechnologies.com/allProducts.php>

- Possibly get Hills Flat to give NFPA NC Firewise Communities a discount.
- Jamie/FSC said another Self Closing Vent vendor would like to make presentation to CFC meeting.

Hazard Assessments for Firewise Communities Dr. Jo Ann Fites-Kaufman

- Dr. Jo Ann Fites-Kaufman is a fire scientist, 15 years active wildfires. PhD Forestry Research. Volunteer for San Juan Ridge FD.
- Process: Firewise Certification Form

- There's a lot we can do in our own communities:
 - Form your community committee
 - Map: Allen Doerr will draw GIS map for In-Training Coalition Communities
 - Work together in your community **NOW** for Defensible Space for ingress/egress for evacuation routes. Defensible space around homes. Firewise Hardened Homes. Hold educational events: Ideas on NFPA.org website and areyoufiresafe.com.
 - On Firewise Certification Form, fill out any information you can obtain. Keep track of your project, # hours, # people, other resources used.
 - 1 or more community reps at Defensible Space Advisory Training
 - Your Community's Risk Assessment – fill out as much as you can. At the assessment time, Jo Ann, a Registered Professional Forester and Cal-Fire will complete assessment with you.
 - Develop Action Plan = Key outcome of your assessment.
 - The community's and your Primary & Secondary evacuation routes are key/priority. Ingress for first responders and egress for evacuees.
 - Structures – vulnerability of homes to embers, surface fire & crown fires
 - Forests
- Nevada County – 15 – 16 zones (tbd).
 - Have In-Training community's assessments done first, hopefully by June.
 - Zone Mapping/Zone Assessments: by fire/fuels Risk Hazards. Zone priority is where fires most likely to happen.

Change in Secretary Position /ByLaw Wording

- It was moved and seconded to change the bylaws as follows, with Virginia Gompertz as the new Secretary and Jeff Peach the Tech Manager:

<i>CURRENT SECTION 7</i>	<i>PROPOSED CHANGE to SECTION 7</i>
A. The Coalition annually selects a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary and other officers as needed at a Coalition meeting. All officers must be a resident of a Firewise community (certified or in training).	A. The Coalition annually selects a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Tech Manager and other officers as needed at a Coalition meeting. All officers must be a resident of a Firewise community (certified or in training).
D. The Secretary takes brief meeting minutes summarizing the Coalition's actions and decisions. The Secretary sends out the minutes no later than 14 calendar days after each Coalition meeting; maintains copies of all Coalition correspondence; maintains	D. The Secretary takes brief meeting minutes summarizing the Coalition's actions and decisions.

<p>the membership roster (including contact information) and makes Coalition records available, upon request, to members within a reasonable time.</p>	
	<p>E. The Tech Manager sends out the minutes no later than 14 calendar days after each Coalition meeting; maintains copies of all Coalition electronic correspondence; maintains the membership roster (including contact information) and makes Coalition records available, upon request, to members within a reasonable time.</p>

Motion was passed unanimously.

Upgraded websites for wildfire preparedness

- Susan reported that the County is in the process of creating a new, comprehensive part of their website to support the **Ready Nevada County** theme for emergency preparedness. Also, the Fire Safe Council website will be completely re-built in the spring when their funding arrives.

Stakeholders meeting report

- Susan gave a brief report on the County's quarterly meeting of stakeholders in the emergency preparedness effort.

New recommendations on defensible space: Virginia reported on information received from Joanne Drummond, PG&E Vegetation Program Manager:

- For 30 feet within the Home Ignition Zone: IBSH and NFPA 2018 recommendation is to have 15 - 18 feet between tree crown spacing to keep wind driven embers from spreading. Cal-Fire is 10 feet between tree crowns.
- PGE is moving to a Risk-Based model for driving our wildfire mitigation efforts. They hope to treat about 406 miles in 2019 in Sierra north Division which is a portion of Yuba County, but mostly Nevada County. The fuels reduction efforts depend on securing the qualified contractors to implement the work safely and efficiently. And, this depends on the voluntary participation by the landowner.

Support the Fire Safe Council: promote to your residents

- Every house should have a reflective address sign. This helps first responders find your address quickly when precious moments matter.
- Join FSC as a member - \$49 gets chipping priority

- **Straw Poll by hands raised:** support a County ordinance re: require defensible space by close of escrow?
 - Majority would be for this.

Subcommittee and Partner Status Reports (as available)

- **Cal Fire – Jim Mathias**

- Atmospheric conditions may mandate whether there is a “No Burn” date. Examples are if the smoke can’t be disbursed or very high winds.
- 2018 Fire Season in NC:
 - 115 veg. fires, down 15 fires from 2017
 - 62 acres total burned, down 1400 acres
 - Inspections (EDUCATION most important) – 4,143 total for year (including Defensible Space Auditors, Fire Engine inspections & OES)
- Nevada County will benefit from a conglomeration of grant funds. Some were awarded to the Fire Safe Council, some potentially to NC OES, and some to various other entities in both western NC and the Truckee area.
- Cal-Fire/CA State Grant Funds include:
 - \$10M - Bulldozer operators = more coverage
 - \$10M - 10 Fire Crews – Forester/Fuels Modification
 - \$40M – 13 Fire Engines in Calf-Fire System
 - 13 - Helicopter replacements (haven’t been replaced since ‘70s)
 - 7 - C-130 Replacement/Rebuild
 - \$10M – Landscape fuels reduction
 - \$165M – Forest health
 - \$9M – Forest management/fuels reduction
 - \$3M – Fire Hazard Severity Zone: Research and updates. This is what CAL FIRE uses to adjust response levels and the way they assess how bad fires can be in a certain zone. The insurance industry and PG&E have both accessed this information and are also using it to make some of their decisions.
 - \$4.5M – Enhanced Intel/Technology. Some systems are still on DOS.

- **Fire Safe Council -- Jamie Jones**

- County Library Series/Events on Fire Preparedness = 1/month including “Wilder Than Wild” (Film Festival) and School Assembly.
- Grants – more opportunities for funding in Spring.
- For Now, Communities should implement the following:
 - Dr. Fite’s Zoned Approach – Fire Hazard Risk assessments
 - County has agreed to fund 10 In-Training communities now in next 3 months. Other communities will be covered by other grants.
 - Green Waste Drop Sites: 14 throughout county. 4-6 consecutive weekends. Local community provides volunteers to oversee site.
 - April 4 & 5: Defensible Space Advisory Training. Free. SIGN UP. Call 530-272-1122.

- WUI Drills: April 7 = LOP/Dark Horse. May 19 = Lake Vera/Champion/Greater Cement Hill
- May 4: Community Fire Prep Day & Child Safety Day
- March 5 & 12: School Safety Day

- **Evacuation** – Chris Reilly (no report)
- **Enforcement** -- Dario Davidson (no report)
- **Real Estate** – Susan Rogers (no report)
- **Fire Adapted Communities** -- Jackie Mason. (no report)

**Next meeting: Mar 5th, 2019 -- 5:30 – 7:00 PM Madelyn Helling
Library**

NC Coalition of Firewise Communities - Meeting Attendance - Feb 11, 2019

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>FWC</u>
	Allen, Scott	Bitney Springs
	Archbald, Greg	Nevada City - In Town
	Auld, Pam	Sherwood Forest
	Babiarz, Charlie	Mt Lakes Estates HA
	Baldock, Ray	Forest Knolls III HOA (FBM)
x	Becker, Bill	Darkhorse HOA Auburn
	Beesley, Peter	Alta Sierra POA
	Bell, Kevin	Bear River Ranch
	Bleile, Nancy	Greater Champion
	Bottomfield, Marlene	Tumbling Creek (FBM)
	Bowman, Sue	
x	Boykin, Chris	
x	Boykin, John	
x	Branstrom, Bob	Wolf Creek Lodge
	Browning, Steve	Bitney Springs
x	Bryant, Nathaniel	Foxwood Estaticd
	Buschman, Gena	Greater Cement Hill
	Cameron, Sheila	
x	Chandler, Steve	Lake of the Pines
x	Coe, Pat	The Cedars
x	Cook, Kristen	
	Corless, Lana	6B's
x	Cuccia, Mike	Mt Lakes Estates HA
x	Cunnighham, Trish & Rob	
	Curtin, Ed	Darkhorse HOA Auburn

	Dary, Raymond	
	Davidson, Dario	Lower Colfax
	Davis, Dennis	Toller Ridge Ct
	Davis, Jim	Fire Safe Council
	Diamond, Eve	Owl Creek/Jones Bar Neighborhood
	Dodge, Charolette	Wolf Mountain
	Dover, Lynne	
x	Dow, Georgia	
	Drummond, Joanne	Alta Sierra POA
x	Drutz, Lauren	6B Ranch Estates
	Ellisor, Jim	Rattlesnake Ridge Estates
	Emery, Jack	Echo Ridge Neighborhood
	Emlaw, Christy	
x	Enoch, Beth	Greater Cement Hill
	Ericson, Krista	Wolf Creek Lodge
	Ericson, Laura	
	Fautz, John	
	Feiler, Larkyn	Wolf Mountain, Orbit Road
	Fish, Cathe	Squirrel Creek HOA
x	Fites, Jo Ann	East Sages - Salmon Mine
x	Fleming, Nancy	
	Forbes, Lynn	Thoroughbred Loop
	Freeman, Chrissy	Lower Colfax
x	Frizzell, Randall	
x	Fusshoeller, Pascal	Lake Vera-Round Mtn
x	Gardner, Scott	Sierra Knolls HOA
x	Gardner, Suzanne	Sierra Knolls HOA
	Gilbert, Ames & Nancy	Lower Colfax
	Gitchel, Sam	Greater Champion
x	Gompertz, Virginia	Lake Wildwood HA
x	Gotham, Rorie Lin	
	Guerwitz, Phyllis	Lake Wildwood HA
	Gulserian, John	OES
x	Guthrie, Lynda	
	Hall, Helene	Banner Mountain Neighbors
x	Hanna, Bob	Forest Knols III HOA (FBM)
x	Hardy, Joan	Cascade Shores HA
	Hawkins, Vicki	Darkhorse HOA Auburn
	Hedman, Jan	Dalmation Drive
	Hertzler, Pam	NRCS
	Hofeling, Russ	Forest Knolls Estates (FBM)
x	Hoff, Barbara	Tumbling Creek (FBM)
	Hood, Dave	Stonebridge HA
	Houdyschell, Bill	Tahoe-Donner Assoc

	Israelian, Thomas	Dalmation Drive
	Jansen, Sandy	You Bet Community
	Jeffrey, Nancy	The Gazebos
	Johnson, Ryck	Buck Mountain Rd Assoc
	Jones, Jamie	Fire Safe Council COO
	Jorgensen, Frances	Greater Champion
	Keyes, Joan	Alpine Lane GV
	Knox, Christine	Red Dog-You Bet Community
x	Kosinski, Grego	
x	Kruger, Barbara	
	Leach, Pat	Salmon Mine East Sages
	Lee, Bob	Lodestar HOA & FWC
	Lee, Rick	
x	Litton, Alice	Otting/Myrna
	Long, Bob	Chair – Sherwood Forest
x	Main, Martin	Bear River Ranch
	Mann, Gordon	Lake of the Pines
	Mason, Jackie	Lake Vera-Round Mtn
	Masters, RuthAnn	Cole Country Estates
x	Mathias, Jim	CalFire
	Mazorra, Debbie	Lake Wildwood HA
	McGillicuddy, Paul	Lightening Tree Rd Assoc
	McLean, Mike	Ridgeview Woodlands HOA
	McMahan, Terry	Nevada County Consolidated Fire
	Merritt, Scott	
x	Mezzetta, Jim	Rough & Ready Estates
x	Miller, Allison	
	Mills, Martha	Gazebos
x	Minett, Erin	
	Minett, Peter	Nevada City
	Muldord, Steven	Friends of Banner Mountain
x	Novak, Gloria	Lake Vera-Round Mtn
x	Peach, Gale	Friends of Banner Mountain
x	Peach, Jeff	Friends of Banner Mountain
	Peach, Justin	Friends of Banner Mountain
	Peck, Tom	No Affiliation
	Perreault, Adrienne	Scott Flat Pines
	Pettis, David	Wolf Mountain
x	Pierce, Anna-Maria	
x	Pierce, Jonathan	
	Porter, Debbie	Golden Oaks HA
	Porter, Laurie (Greg Zaller)	
x	Pridemore, Karen	6B Ranch Estates
	Proano, Robert	6B Ranch Estates

	Reeder, Vicki	Greater Champion
x	Rees, Kent	Cascade Shores HA
	Reilly, Christopher	Alta Sierra POA
x	Rekers, Bonnie	Scott Flat Pines
	Resk, Christina	
	Rigdon, Dusty	The Cedars
	Roberts, Moana	Jumper Hills FWC
	Rogers, Susan	Glenwood-Maidu-Charlene
	Russell, John	Rattlesnake Ridge Estates
	Scarmon, George	Lake Vera-Round Mtn
	Scarmon, Jeanne	Lake Vera-Round Mtn
x	Sims, Gopal	Ananda
	Small, F.Mac	Alta Sierra POA
x	Smiley, Michael	
	Smith, Evan	NRCS
x	Smith, Mike & Dana	
	Smith, Vern	Ranch Rd HOA
	Staetz, Chuck	Friends of Banner Mountain
	Tamo, Jenn	County Administrative Analyst I
	Taylor, Marilyn	Lake Vera-Round Mtn
x	Taylor, Wendy	Darkhorse HOA Auburn
x	Thane, Donn	Fire Safe Council
x	Thrush, Greg	Sierra Fund
	Timmer, John	Peardale
	Van Arsdale, Rhonda	Lake Wildwood HA
x	Walters, Jim	Thoroughbred Loop
	Warner, Michael	Alta Sierra POA
x	Wetzel, John	Upper Rough & Ready
	Williams, Curt	Foxwood Estates
	Williams, Mike	The Cedars
x	Williams, Pete	Greater Champion
	Wilson, Bill	Lake Vera-Round Mtn
	Wolfe, Taylor	County Communications Specialist
x	Woods, Kenneth	Altair Property Owners Association
x	Yung, Pam	Wolf Creek Lodge
	Zaller, Greg	
	Ziebron, Michael	Alta Sierra POA