



Fire Safe San Mateo County

January 9, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Denise Enea – Woodside Fire Protection District
Guido Ciardi – San Francisco Public Utility District
Philippe S. Cohen – Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve
Todd Lando – Urban Forestry Associates
Brian Malone – Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
Christine Reed – Central County Fire Department
Andy Hubbs – CAL FIRE
Lori Cuesta – Western ECI / PG&E
Clayton Jolly – Coastside Fire
Rich Sampson – CAL FIRE
Rob Sherman – CAL FIRE Ben Lomond Camp
Pamela Noyer – San Mateo County Parks
Jim Palisi - Redwood City
Randy Amores - CAL FIRE
Brigitte Shearer - Highlands Recreation District
Joel Smith - PG&E Vegetation Management
Stephen Kraemer - San MAtteo County PARks

Call to order:

9:44 am. Denise Enea calls the meeting to order.

Correspondence:

- No correspondence noted.

Board of Directors Announcement:

Executive Board members have agreed to hold the following positions, to be re-evaluated in one

year:

- Guido Ciardi, President
- Philippe S. Cohen, Vice President
- Rich Sampson, Secretary
- Denise Enea, Treasurer

Directors:

- CAL FIRE
 - Rich Sampson
- Coastside Fire Protection District
 - Clayton Jolly
- San Mateo County Fire
 - Andy Hubbs
- Jasper Ridge:
 - Philippe S. Cohen
- Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
 - Brian Malone
- San Mateo County Parks
 - Stephen Kraemer
- PG&E
 - Lori Cuesta
- Woodside Fire Protection District
 - Denise Enea
- San Francisco Public Utility District
 - Guido Ciardi
- Redwood City
 - Jim Palisi

New Business/Correspondence

- Todd Lando has created an email distribution list with all members and subscribers at members@firesafesanteo.org.
 - This list will be used for general communications.
 - Other groups to be created are eboard@firesafesanteo.org, board@firesafesanteo.org and “committees”@firesafesanteo.org, with the relevant members.
- Discussion regarding supplying coffee and snacks at meetings.
 - Guido will bring coffee and snacks to February 13, 2013 meeting.
 - Long term policy/schedule should be developed.
- Scott Jalbert has been promoted to Unit Chief at CZU. Jalbert took over as division chief of

Ben Lomond Camp in 2010 and became deputy chief of the San Mateo-Santa Cruz unit in 2011. He was promoted to acting unit chief when Chief Ferreira retired.

- Rob Sherman is the new Division Chief at Ben Lomond.
 - Will be the FSSM liaison for scheduling and staffing Fire Crews.
 - Plans to spend lots of time initially out in the field on projects.
 - Wants to ensure that crews are effective on a per project basis.
 - Crews have been vital to the success of FSSM's mission and growth. This council would not be the same without access to the Ben Lomond crews.
 - Rob is a firesafe council board member, and has acted as CAL FIRE liaison to the South Skyline Firesafe Council.
- Palo Alto Fire Department is applying for a grant for early fire detection thermal imaging equipment.
 - Philippe will meet with Catherine Capriles from Palo Alto Fire Department and report back to FSSM.
- A list of current projects should be added to future meeting minutes.

Additions to Agenda:

- UFA to discuss modifications to the 12/12/12 Training/Membership Program concept.

2013 Goals:

At the December 2012 meeting, Fire Safe San Mateo established these goals for projects and progress in 2013.

1. Increase General Membership representation.
 - Outreach and recruitment to HOAs and business community.
2. Apply for grants.
 - Hillsborough and Burlingame proposals from December 2012 will be evaluated for funding potential.
 - Todd Lando to meet with Ed Cooney in Hillsborough on January 17.
 - Will arrange to meet with Margaret Glomstad in Burlingame.
3. Complete transition to 501 c(3) .
4. Update "Living With Fire."
 - Revision Committee appointed by Executive Board:
 - Jim Palisi
 - Christine Reed
 - Andy Hubbs

- Philippe Cohen
- Joel Smith
- Todd Lando
- Lori Cuesta (to add line-safety page)
- Inventory of current stock in progress.
- Agencies that have requested additional copies from current stock, if available:
 - Menlo Park
 - Central County Fire
 - Woodside Fire
 - CAL FIRE
- Goal is to get through 2013 with existing copies. Update content and refresh look in 2013, with an outlook to print the update for distribution in 2014.
- From 12/2012 meeting:
 - *Need to assess the need for updates and number of copies currently available, and required in 2013.*
 - *Evaluate for potential updates:*
 - *Code changes may be introduced July 1, 2013.*
 - *Look for code language references and evaluate for potential update.*
 - *UFA can manage updates to the electronic version in any pre-press format. Request an electronic copy from the printer.*
 - *Christine Reed will contact the FPOs by email to ask if they use Living With Fire, and evaluate need for additional copies.*

5. Develop a membership ~~training~~ program per UFA proposal and Board comments.

CDCR Training Update:

- January 30, 2013 at Woodside Fire.
- To use the crews in 2013, agencies and groups must have their work supervisors attend the annual training class January 30, 2013 at the town of Woodside 2995 Woodside Rd. from 0900 – 1300. Please RSVP to Steve Richmond at RCHMDCONSL@aol.com.

Urban Forestry Associates Update:

- Website update:
 - New website will be debuted at February 13 meeting in draft form.
- Fundraising
 - Discussion regarding potential for soliciting membership and donations through a mailer or fire-safety related newspaper insert.
 - Group suggested County Almanac, San MAtteo Times, the Patch, as local news sources.
 - Insurance companies may be sources for funding if needed to produce this.

- Other sources could be local insurance agents, brokers, realtors, Towns, Board of Supervisors.

Grants:

- WUI Grant Feedback:
 - Andy Hubbs has received feedback on the denial of the WUI grant application.
 - Fire Safe San Mateo did not score high enough during the scoring phase of application review.
 - The number of acres to be treated was too low.
 - Chipping programs are not considered to be “landscape level” projects.
 - Grant timelines need more detail.
 - Future projects must be “landscape level.”
 - There was no outline for a long-term commitment for maintenance.
 - In the future, do not use the term “Chipping Program.”
- Federal Fuel Dollars:
 - No new projects will be undertaken.
 - 30 days remain at Huddart Park in Woodside.
 - Wunderlich project is finished, except for a small section.
 - All reports are due by April 1, 2013.

Agency Roundtable:

Woodside Fire District - Denise Enea

- Nothing to report.

San Francisco Water - Guido Ciardi

- Picking up lots of downed trees from December storms.
- Significant tree failures - more than other recent storms.

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District - Brian Malone

- Radios are now switched to the new simulcast frequency.
- Two roads are lost to vehicle access.
 - Alpine Road is not driveable.
 - Bridge failure (location?) closed another road.

South Skyline Fire Safe Council - Dick Schwind

- 25 CDC sponsors have been trained.
- RCD and WUI grants include 1500 hours of volunteer time to-date.
- Acquired a new tool - a sled - for moving brush uphill.

San Mateo County Parks - Pamela Noyer

- Wunderlich fuels projects are wrapped up for the season.
- Huddart Park update:
 - May want to use the chipper at Richards Road in February.
 - Denise will look into availability.
- Loop trail is closed due to failure.
 - Repairs are in progress, but it is still undriveable.

San Mateo County Fire - Andy Hubbs

- See WUI grant report.

Central County Fire District - Christine Reed

- Nothing new to report.

Highlands Recreation District

- 7 members will attend the January 30, 2013 sponsor training.
- Potential to add 90 acres of new land (east of current boundaries) in 2013.
- Going to meet with Rob Sherman to discuss identifying new projects and project scopes.

CAL FIRE - Rich Sampson

- Nothing new to report.

PG&E - Lori Cuesta

- Crews are currently working in the San Mateo and Belmont area.
- Tree work will be done along Sand Hill Road.
 - No removals, but limbing and pruning.
- Would like to be involved with the Living With Fire Revision.
 - Add a page on power-line safety.

CAL FIRE Ben Lomond Camp - Rob Sherman

- Looking forward to working with Fire Safe San Mateo
- No crews will be available in April due to training commitments.

Meeting adjourned 11:44 am

Respectfully submitted by Todd Lando