

Firewise Group Meeting Notes
April 28, 2021
Via Zoom at 1:00 PM

Call to Order: 1:05 p.m.

Attendees: David Hubbell, Dan Dodson, Paul Ohlenbusch, Don Davidson, Petra Garren, Doug Lane, Melissa Lane, Carlton Mathis, and Judy Whitmore

Welcome & Comments: **David Hubbell**

Approve Meeting Notes from March 24, 2021 Meeting: **David Hubbell**

The Meeting Notes from the March 24, 2021 meeting were distributed via email. They were approved unanimously via hand vote without modification.

Safety Moment: **Ron Thompson**

Ron was not in attendance and no safety moment was given. Petra commented that folks should be careful if out walking, especially in the wind as there are limbs broken and falling after the freeze.

Resident & Neighborhood Rep Firewise Rep Comments:

Residents or Neighborhood Firewise Reps in attendance: no comments.

Liaisons:

Landscape Supervisor -

Carlton Mathis

- Carlton was present and stated they are cleaning Level 3 now and will work towards cleaning up Level 4. Because of the storm damage he anticipates that work on Level 4 could continue into 2022. When asked what the plan is to remove and replace trees that died, he stated they will remove the trees. Replacement will occur but how extensive that will be will depend on the budget.

EMC –

Don Davidson

Don was in attendance and stated they are working on updating the Emergency Management Plan at this time.

Reports from Work Groups:

Education/Training Work Group:

Dan Dodson

The committee continues to meet and monthly communication continues. Dan reported that they are looking at submitting forms on the website. Melissa is writing articles and has one proposed to be covered later in the meeting.

Training:

Paul Ohlenbusch

The date has been set for the next HIZ Training: October 29, 2021. However because there are three people waiting to be trained, they are considering also doing a training sooner. The

problem is securing the location that has proper AV capabilities. The training lasts about 3 hours.

October 5, 2021 is the Town Hall.

HIZ Work Group:

Ron Thompson

Ron was not present, however there was some discussion about HIZ evaluations (see Other Topics).

Renewal Work Group:

Paul Ohlenbusch

Paul reported that the renewal process will begin in September, and at this time data is being accumulated in that regard.

Firewise Clearing Crew:

Petra Garren

Petra Garren stated there is not much to report as the Clearing Crew has only worked 4 out of 9 possible dates due to either weather or the CA maintenance crew being too busy with cleanup of the grounds from the storm. They will be starting back up on May 4th.

Other Topics:

HIZ Evaluations: Dan is attempting to get information from Ron and start evaluations back up. There was some discussion about the backlog of evaluation requests and the need to manage those. When people request Level 3 cleanup, they need to go directly to Carlton Mathis as the HIZ evaluations are limited to homes and Level 2.

There was some discussion in conjunction with the role of the NFR (see below) about HIZ evaluators not being up-to-date on training, many not being active, and for some not having enough work for them to do. Paul has a form set up to survey the HIZ evaluators and see if they want to continue to be active.

NRO Neighborhood Firewise Reps (NFR's): Melissa, Petra and Judy had met earlier to draft a description of the roles and responsibilities of the NFR's. This document had been passed around for comments prior to this meeting, and there were additional suggestions made. There was some discussion about what the extent of the expectations of the NFR should be. Paul stated they should read and understand Firewise publications and actively share the information with their neighbors. They also need to be familiar with what Firewise does (HIZ, Education, Clearing, etc.) and should be encouraged to attend the HIZ Training. Melissa will update the document based on the comments and return it to the group.

Firewise Article: Melissa had written an article "Around Your Home" to be distributed in the NRO Bulletin which was approved. Paul suggested adding a link to the articles on the Firewise website and will send Melissa the linking information.

Discussion about "how to get the word out" about Firewise: During from the previous discussions, the group discussed whether more could be done to spread the word about Firewise. One idea is to attend the NRO meetings and thus have more of a presence there. Doug stated he would find out when the meetings are and will share the information.

Drought Monitor: Paul stated that there is a website that tracks the drought situation in the country. He said one can access local information on this site and encouraged members to look at it. It is updated every Thursday.

Internal Operations:

- None reported.

Upcoming Events:

Town Hall, October 5
HIZ Training: October 29, 2021

Next Meetings: Group

May 26, 2021, Mesquite Room

Education

May 20, 2021, Mesquite Room

Adjourned: 1:58 PM