

Firewise Group Meeting Notes

July 26, 2023

Mesquite Room at The Oaks

Call to Order 1:00 PM

Dan Dodson

Attendees: Dan Dodson, Mark Marino, Doug Lane, Don Shawhan (NRO Liaison), Petra Garren, Ed Butler, Blair Thompson, Melissa Lane, Rich Theis, Brian Richard (EMC Liaison), Paul Ohlenbusch, Carlton Mathis (CA Liaison)

Approval of Meeting Notes from previous meeting

Meeting Notes of the June 28, 2023 meeting occurred online.

Safety Moments

Be safe and stay hydrated in the heat. Be careful of sparks at all times; foliage is very dry. Clean up dead leaves under shrubs and near house foundations. Use caution when grilling; move BBQs away from the house while grilling.

Resident and Neighborhood Firewise Partner Comments – no report

Landscape Supervisor – Carlton reports that crews continue doing Level 3 mowing. Conditions are dry and dusty.

EMC – Brian stated that planning continues for flu shot clinics to take place in September. A recent accident with a small plane led the EMC group to research flight plans and flight schools operating out of the Georgetown Airport. EMC is also working on an annual update of the Risk Assessment.

NRO – Don and Paul report that NRO Firewise Neighborhood partners' training will occur in August.

Reports from Work Groups

HIZ – Doug Lane reported that 7 HIZ requests were received in 2023; 9 HIZ evaluations were completed (carryover of 2 requests from 2022). A surge of HIZ requests is often seen after Town Hall meetings.

Website – Melissa Lane reported that all normal updates were completed since the previous month.

Education/Training Work Groups

The Firewise Town Hall will be held 10/10/2023. Paul shared drafts of communications that will be used to advertise the event. The audience shared comments and suggestions for improvement.

Training for neighborhood Firewise partners will occur in August; two sessions will be offered at different times of day to accommodate volunteers.

Renewal Work Group – Work will begin in the next month.

Firewise Clearing Crew – The crew is on summer hiatus; work will begin again in September.

Executive Session – Firewise members discussed the proposed changes to the Firewise Display Board. The proposed design was created by a subcommittee composed of four team members.