

FIRE SAFE SAN MATEO COUNTY

Minutes April 11, 2007

The meeting was called to order by CO-Chair John Sims at 9:40 am. Self introductions were made. Larry Pasero from Central County Fire was welcomed to his first meeting.

Attendance: Lori Cuesta, PG&E; John Martinez, Cal Fire; Angelina Ciucci, North County Fire; Larry Pasero, Central County Fire; Lisa Guerrero, BSCFD; Pamela Noyer, SM Co. Parks; Philippe Cohen, Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve, Stanford University; Clayton Jolley, Half Moon Bay Fire District; Klaus Zalinskis, North County Fire Authority; John Sims, Cal Fire/County Fire; Guido Ciardi, SFWP; Denise Enea, WFPD; Steve Richmond, Fire Safe Coordinator.

Correspondence: Richmond had sent email information about a website regarding eucalyptus. Guido Ciaridi had obtained a very good pamphlet on eucalyptus eradication and problems associated with the plant.

Update on NPS Grant for Crystal Spring Southern Fuel Break – Members of the Fire Safe Committee, San Francisco Water Department, CDF and NPS met on site on April 5. Both ends of the project were reviewed and most of the discussion centered around meeting the intent of CEQA and the National Environmental Policy Act. Angela Peterson of Cal Fire will work on this requirement.

Ben Lomond Conservation Camp Crews – Richmond announced the crews will not be available April 9 to 27 during their fire training exercises.

Review of 2007 Goals –

- * Klaus Zalinski, Daly City Fire Department, is making a video presentation of the various agencies involved in the San Bruno Mtn. Boundary Project.
- * San Francisco Water Department is doing major fuel modification work with masticators.
- * Meetings have been held with CSA #1 homeowners and plans have been made for a fuel break around the subdivision.
- * Meetings have been held with home owners and work is in process or due to start in Belmont, San Carlos, La Honda and Woodside.
- * 10,000 copies of "Living with Fire in San Mateo County" have been reprinted.

"Living With Fire" – Copies of the latest edition were distributed.

Additions to the Agenda – Philippe Cohen announced that today there is a panel discussion at 4:00 pm at Stanford on global warming and the affect it will have on fire over the next fifty years. Philippe will have a presentation on this subject at our July meeting.

AGENCY ROUNDTABLE:

Lori Cuesta, PG&E – Crews are moving from Pescadero through Alpine Road to Skyline. Line inspectors are currently working in local responsibility areas. Next month they will be inspecting lines in SRA. There will be a Sudden Oak Symposium on May 1, 2007

Pam Noyer, County Parks –The joint project between County Parks and Daly City has gone well with the use of the Ben Lomond Conservation Camp Crews.

Klaus Zalinskis, Daly City, expressed his appreciation for the cooperation of the agencies in getting the "Boundary Project" going. Homeowners are coming together on the clearance needs and are considering using goats.

Lisa Guerrero, Belmont / San Carlos Fire Department – Ben Lomond Crews are scheduled to start brushing the Devonshire Canyon Fire Break.

Angelina Ciucci, North County Fire – Hazard letters will be sent this month to residents of Brisbane. The department will start inspecting property for compliance in May. Brisbane has hired a consultant to address fire prevention and fire.

Clayton Jolley, Half Moon Bay – There is a question on starting their weed abatement program which addresses 400 vacant lots. They plan to use the same coastal development plan as last year.

John Martinez, Cal Fire – The fire hazard severity information was submitted. SRA maps should be in the field by May 1. Public hearings will be scheduled this summer and local responsibility public hearings sometime after September.

Philippe Cohen, Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve – Stanford is having their Community Day on Thursday and there will be shuttle service from the main campus to Jasper Ridge.

Guido Ciardi, San Francisco Water Department – Using contract and their own masticators, approximately 400 acres have been cleared on ridge tops. This is effectively modified fuels in strategic locations. Disking is 60% completed on the watershed.

John Sims, CDF – Engine companies have started LE 100 inspections. CSA-1 Highlands is working with SFWD on a cooperative project on the edge of each of their properties. Work is progressing on operational plans and fuel reduction programs in Devonshire Canyon.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Richmond
Fire Safe Coordinator