

**Firewise Group Meeting
March 23, 2022**

Call to Order: Meeting commenced at 1pm at the Mesquite Room

David Hubbell

Attendees- David Hubbell, Paul Ohlenbusch, Brian Richard (EMC), Dan Dodson, Carlton Mathis, Petra Garren, Judy Whitmore, Jim Van Cleeve, James Branham, Blair Thompson

Welcome & Chair Comments:

David Hubbell

Approve Minutes from February 23, 2022 Meeting:

David Hubbell

- All approved with no changes.

Safety Moment:

Petra said she has noticed that many people need to pick up dead leaves and debris around homes. Paul pointed out that the Drought Monitor for our area shows that we are experiencing exceptional drought. It was noted that even the rain we had Monday with the high winds and nearby tornado(s) did little to change the situation. One person commented that they could not hear the emergency warning sirens. Petra noted those are intended only for people outside and are not intended to be heard from inside houses.

Resident & Neighborhood Firewise Rep Comments:

At the end of the meeting a resident stated that it would be good to have a Firewise pamphlet available at the monitor desks. He also asked about USAA insurance deduction for Firewise and it was discussed. The USAA deduction is for the community as a whole and has nothing to do with individual HIZ evaluations.

Liaisons:

- **Landscape Supervisor –**

Carlton Mathis

Carlton reported that they are working with the Firewise Clearing Crew clean-up. They have finally addressed all issues from the winter storm last year by finishing the last of over 300 requests. They are also working on the disc golf course.

- **EMC –**

Brian Richard

Brian reported they continue to work on the upcoming EMC Town Hall which begins at 9 a.m. on March 25th with a focus on the Sun City Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). On April 6th the EMC will conduct a “table top” exercise of the Sun City EOP, and the Firewise Group will be invited to have subcommittee representatives participate.

Reports from Work Groups:

Education/Training Work Group:

Dan Dodson

Paul Ohlenbusch

Firewise Wildfire Preparedness Day will be May 6th. Work is underway on this event. This is an opportunity for any Sun City resident to learn about reducing fire fuel in the common areas. Sign up will begin April 29th. Paul has updated pictures on some of

the Firewise literature. The group discussed the design for the t-shirts that will be distributed. Petra will assist Paul with getting the required notices out at the proper time.

HIZ training will be the last Friday in October, October 28th.

HIZ Work Group:

Doug Lane

Doug Lane was absent. Paul reported that there have been 1059 requests received, 1048 completed, 1 new request, 11 remain open.

Renewal Work Group:

Paul Ohlenbusch

Work on the Renewal will begin in September.

Firewise Clearing Crew:

Petra Garren

- Petra reported they have finished in N64. They had a good size crew of 14 volunteers and worked hard. They will be working in N48 next.

Other Topics:

David Hubbell

- David requested from Dan and Paul that they begin/continue scripting what they say and do since they have been the backbone of the Firewise Group since inception, and if something happened to them it might be difficult to continue the group without their expertise. Paul said they have done some of this and will continue. Paul uses "Publisher" for the Firewise Trumpet which makes updating and changing easy. Publication text and photos plus guides will be moved or developed and added to a limited access site on the CA web site. Dan and Paul will compile training information over time.
- Paul stated the need to update the table cover for the display as well as the display itself. The current display is 3 years old (last updated 2019). He requested some new pictures, in particular an ash juniper tree, limbed up, single trunk which are those requiring protection for the golden-cheeked warbler.

Upcoming Events:

EMC Town Hall: March 25, 2022, 9 a.m. Ballroom

EMC Table Top exercise: April 6, 2022

Firewise Community Preparedness Day: May 6, 2022, 9:00 a.m.
Cowan Creek Amenity Center Pavilion

Next Meetings:

Education: April 21, 2022. Mesquite Room, The Oaks, 1 p.m.

Firewise Group: April 27, 2022, The Oaks, Mesquite Room, 1 p.m.

Firewise Town Hall will be October 5th, SCB.

Adjourned: at 1:45 pm