

Firewise Group Meeting Notes
January 24, 2024
Mesquite Room at The Oaks, 301 Del Webb Blvd

Call to Order: 1:00 pm

Dan Dodson

Attendees: Dan Dodson, Paul Ohlenbusch, Mark Marino, Doug Lane, Melissa Lane, Carlton Mathis (CA), Judy Whitmore, Brian Richard (EMC), Don Shawhan (NRO), Brian Kelly (N12), Rich Theis (N68), David Tanner (N35).

Welcome & Chair Comments:

Dan Dodson

Approval of Meeting Notes from last meeting

Approval occurred online for the December meeting notes.

Safety Moments:

Open

With the rains, be aware of the low water crossings. Although there are none in Sun City, there are many in the Georgetown area and beyond to be aware of and to avoid.

Resident & Neighborhood Firewise Partner Comments:

Judy Whitmore stated this would be her last meeting before moving. She thanked the members who work so hard and wished them the best for the future.

Liaisons:

- **Landscape Supervisor:**

Carlton Mathis

Carlton said they are working on continuing clearing the creeks and are addressing Level 4 concerns. They have removed 15 trees from creeks and have cleaned up the dam area. He said there are many more trees to be removed. The Level 4 concerns are mostly to address aesthetic concerns rather than Firewise, as neighbors complain about downed trees, etc. Sun City CA has approved of the addition of 3 more workers to his crew. Once the right people are found, having a larger crew will help them work and address needs more quickly.

- **EMC:**

Brian Richard

The EMC hosted a two-day Point of Dispensing (POD) training on January 11 - 12, 2024. Of the attendees about half were from Sun City. A POD is a community location at which state and local agencies distribute medical countermeasures to the public. A POD table top exercise is scheduled for May 2, 2024.

- **Property and Grounds:**

Melissa Lane

Melissa Lane is the new liaison from P&G to Firewise. Bill Corbett is the new chair of P&G, Mike Muldoon is new vice chair.

- **NRO:**

Don Shawhan

Don reported that the NRO is working on soliciting names of the Neighborhood Firewise partners.

Reports from Work Groups:

HIZ Work Group:

Doug Lane

Doug reported there were 44 HIZ requests in 2023 and 45 were completed. That compares to 37 requests in 2022. There are no outstanding requests at this time.

Firewise Website:

Melissa Lane

Melissa reported that the website has been updated with previous meeting notes for October and December, the Renewal documents, assessment notes, and other usual documents.

Education/Training Work Group:

Paul Ohlenbusch and Dan Dodson

Publications: Dan reported that the quarterly report for Firewise goes to the EMC which goes into the Board of Directors report. Paul reported that the Firewise page for the Sun City Directory needs to be updated. He passed out copies and will send out a PDF of the page and asked members to comment and send suggested edits back to him by no later than middle of next week.

Landscape Vendor Training: to be held January 26, 2024 at 1:30. Paul reported that 4 companies have signed up and SC two staff members will attend. At least 10 companies have gone out of business or have no contact number. Mark Marino and Rich Theis volunteered to help set up on Friday.

May 3, 2024 Community Wildfire Preparedness-Appreciation Day: Paul reported that one person has volunteered to help organize the event, however one more person is needed. Paul is not able to take charge of this event anymore. Please volunteer!

Renewal Work Group:

Paul Ohlenbusch

Paul reported work on the Renewal is done. Paul said one person is needed maintain the records and spreadsheet for it. Please volunteer!!

Firewise Clearing Crew:

Petra Garren

Petra was not present but Melissa Lane reported for her. Due to the holidays, poor weather some Tuesdays, the Clearing Crew has not been able to work as much as they wished. We hope to have at least one more work day before the end of January.

Old Business: none

Paul Ohlenbusch

New Business:**Dan Dodson**

Election of Officers is at the next meeting!! People are needed to step up to the officer positions. We need a Chair, Vice-Chair and Recorder. Mark Marino stated he would move up to be the Chair. Please consider seriously volunteering for an officer position!!

Next Meetings:

Education and Training: February 15, 2024 - 1:00 PM - Mesquite Room at The Oaks

Firewise Group and Election of Officers: February 28, 2024, 1:00 PM - Mesquite Room at The Oaks

Upcoming Events:

Landscape Vendor Training: January 26, 2024 - 1:30 p.m. at the Atrium

New Resident Orientation: February 15, 2024 - 8:30 a.m. SC Ballroom

Community Wildfire Preparedness – Appreciation Day: May 3, 2024

Adjourned: 1:32 pm**Dan Dodson**