

**MINUTES FOR A MEETING OF THE
WILDFIRE MITIGATION COMMISSION**

Wednesday, April 19, 2017

11:00AM to 1:00PM

Training Room, Ashland Fire Station #1
455 Siskiyou Blvd

In attendance: Tim Bewley, Vicky Sturtevant, Tracy Peddicord, Stephen Gagne, Bruce Moats, Doug Kay, Alison Lerch, Chris Chambers

Not in attendance: City Council Representative

I. CALL TO ORDER: 11:00am

II. INTRODUCTIONS

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 17, 2017

Stephen made a motion to approve the minutes from March 17, 2017, Bruce second. All in favor.

IV. PUBLIC FORUM

V. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

VI. BUSINESS

A. New Business

a. City Council Presentation - May 16th

- i. Tim put together a document for everyone to review. Everyone is welcome to attend.

B. Old Business

a. Commissioner's emails on City website

- i. Barbara changed the email addresses using (at) instead of the @ symbol.

b. Insurance Letter

- i. Chris handed out a draft letter with comments from Stephen and Interim Chief Shepherd. The Commission agrees that the letter should be from the Fire Chief, Mayor and Commission. Chris will outreach to the Mayor ASAP and add letterheads from the City & Ashland Fire & Rescue. The Commission will consider sharing this letter with other larger more influential City Fire Departments in Oregon including all of Deschutes County and Bend. Alison will share this with Kris Babbs with Keep Oregon Green.

ACTION ITEM: Chris will ask the Mayor to be a signatory.

ACTION ITEM: Tim will email a draft to Brian and offer a hard copy to be dropped off.

Stephen Motions to approve the letter, Vicky seconds, all in favor.

c. Committee Updates: (5 minutes each)

i. Plant List Subcommittee

- Updated draft handed out with pollinator and drought tolerant information. Suggestions to change the * for deer protection to a footprint or antlers.

ii. Wildfire Mitigation Ordinance

- Met and things are moving forward. A more detailed plan of action

was presented but it still confidential.

iii. Smoke Marketing

- Smoke marketing is being launched forward quickly. A meeting with the Chamber of Commerce and Ashland Forest Resiliency partners took place the first week of April. The desired outcome of the meeting was to have key messages to desired audiences. The videographer who made the 6 minute controlled burning video is going to make a 30 second version. Mild Fire vs. Wild Fire. One message is targeted to health care providers and Ashland Community Hospital. A subcommittee will be formed to create this messaging. Chris will send a final draft of the smoke marketing

iv. Wildfire Task Force (Smoke, Evac/Com, Business Resilience)

- The Chamber has invited Alison and Terri to speak at the Visitor Convention Bureau meeting in May. The Evac/Com group would like to see forward movement on evacuation guidelines and instructions. Ashland Fire & Rescue is evaluating how to rebrand Ready, Set Go!

v. Community Wildfire Protection Plan Subcommittee (Risk Assessment)

- Tim, Vicky and Alison are meeting regularly. They will meet at the end of April to review the Fire Adapted Communities section of the plan.

vi. Farmer's Market

- Crowds are increasing. Alison and Doug will go next Tuesday to the market. Alison will print out business cards. Alison will make a google doc for sign-up sheet.

vii. Firewise Update

- Annual Firewise Clean-up Day is May 6th! Recology will have handouts at Earth Day and will be making an announcement during the event.

viii. AFR Update

- Helicopter operation is in full swing and the contractor is finishing up above 4 corners.
- Burning brush piles at the Horn Gap Area and at Acid Castle Rocks. Lomakatsi Restoration Project is doing swamper burning at Acid Castle Rocks. Swamper burning is where you cut the material, and burn the material immediately. This reduces the number of burn piles sitting around in the summer.
- TREX is happening in Ashland the first 2 weeks of May. Three "Bomberos" from Guanajuato are coming this year.

C. Parking Lot Issues

- a. Branding the WMC
- b. Wildfire Commission Collateral
- c. Firewise Website

VII. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

VIII. REVIEW AND SET COMMISSION CALENDAR / NEXT MEETING

- A. Shooting Star Nursery Firewise Class: April 22, 2017

- B. Mayors Brown Bag Lunch: April 28, 2017, 12:00pm (ComDev)
- C. Wildfire Task Force: May 3, 2017 (Station 1)
- D. Ashland Firewise Clean Up Day: May 6, 2017 (Valley View Transfer Station)
- E. Firewise Expo: May 12-13, 2017 (JCFD3 White City)
- F. WMC Report to the City Council: May 16, 2017
- G. Next WMC Meeting: May 17, 2017, 11:00am (Station 1)
- H. Next WMO:_____

IX. AGENDA ITEMS FOR May 17, 2017

- A. Firewise Website

X. ADJOURN:

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Public Works Office at 488-5587 (TTY phone number 1 800 735 2900). Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).