

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

Wednesday, June 20, 2018

11:00AM to 1:00PM

Training Room, Ashland Fire Station #1  
455 Siskiyou Blvd

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

**II. INTRODUCTIONS**

Hazel Wheeler: add [hazelw@osfashland.org](mailto:hazelw@osfashland.org) or [c.d.wheeler101@gmail.com](mailto:c.d.wheeler101@gmail.com) to the email list

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 16, 2018**

-Add information about how Tonya helped with the Firewise Clean Up Day by having Marni Koopman attend as a morning volunteer

*Tonya motioned to approve the May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 minutes, Bruce seconded, all in favor.*

**IV. PUBLIC AND GUESTS FORUM**

**V. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

Snack sign up

Add CEAP Report under New Business

**VI. REPORTS (2 minutes each)**

A. Report on Wildfire Mitigation Ordinance Open House from May 31<sup>st</sup> –Stephen

- a. About 15 people attended the Open House. It was equally divided by people who wanted a stricter ordinance and people who wanted less restrictions. There was also a clear sense that the City is lacking staff for code enforcement for more wildfire restrictions. Could there be a volunteer enforcement group that did the field work? There is still concern trying to figure out the rumors and provide actual factual information. Tracy received an email before the meeting advocating against the ordinance.

B. Chamber Wildfire Task Force (Smoke/Evac/Business) – Alison

- a. There is a spot on the Wildfire Task Force for a WMC Commissioner.
- b. The Task Force is working on updating the Smokewise Ashland website ([smokewiseashland.org](http://smokewiseashland.org)).

C. Plant List Subcommittee (Waterwise/Firewise) – Alison/Tracy

- a. The Plant List is in final draft. A man contacted Tracy from Landscaper Architecture to talk about the Wildfire Mitigation Commission and would like to forward Firewise Plant List. Alison will forward the plant list to Commissioners.

D. Community Wildfire Protection Plan – Alison quick update

- a. The Risk Assessment is still in process. The fuel models are being reclassified are a link to what the vegetation is outside the city to how it burns.
- b. Next Commission meeting Chris will show the components of the risk assessment.

E. Farmer's Market – Doug

- a. New management change at the market. We will start off with our old set up with a table and umbrella. We will start in July.

F. FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grant – Alison quick update

- a. The federal PDM budget is 2.5 times what it was last year. Can we link a multi-state provision in the PDM that allows states to work together on projects that make sense across landscape? GEOS was a part of this provision. This provision is the highest priority, and they are looking for some multi-state projects. Is Oregon at the state level about a Fire Program that could be multi-state. Tonya asked Alison to talk about this multi-state possibility of a grant with her contact.

G. Firewise USA – Alison quick update

- a. Doug would like to have an annual Firewise meeting. The fall will be a good time for an annual gathering. The Emergency Preparedness Guidebook was a great pamphlet. Chris

- has some administrative funding that can pay for a part time Firewise Coordinator.
- H. Firewise Landscaping – Alison quick update
    - a. Alison will start the process July 1<sup>st</sup>. Tonya is willing to help with the verbiage on the interpretive signs.
  - I. WMC members attending other committees- anything pertinent to report?

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Firewise Demonstration Trailer – Doug
  - a. The purchase order is at Hardcastles LLC. Firewise USA has supported and branded the trailer. Where else the trailer go beside the Farmers Market? Schools, County Fair, Earth Day, OLLI Open house.
- B. WiRE (Intterra) Public Portal Update – Alison quick update
  - a. Alison and Chris met with the WiRE group while in Wenatchee. They are willing to partner with Ashland Fire & Rescue to create a user interface portal for the Intterra data. This process will start in August/September.
  - b. Is there a fee for reassessment for Firewise? Are the wildfire profiles a part of the real estate packet when someone wants to buy a home? Alison will ask Western Colorado Wildfire Council and Jon Riley about this. This could be 3-5 years down the line. How do you update your information in the database? There needs to be a streamlined process like a meter reader, that once a month, a person goes and drives/reassesses the home in an efficient manner. Alison will talk about this with WiRE about this. This effort is a part of the CEAP umbrella showing a wildfire risk reduction metric throughout the city. In addition, Medford has a new campaign claiming that it is a safer place to live than Ashland.
  - c. Send the link to Missoula Climate Smart website.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. SmokeWISE Ashland - Alison, 3 min plus questions
  - a. SmokeWISE Ashland is being rolled out. This will be a combination of the information on [Ashland.or.us/smoke](http://Ashland.or.us/smoke) and [ashlandchamber.com/smoke](http://ashlandchamber.com/smoke). Ashland At Home group was given masks, and taught them how to create a safe room for smoke. Chris and Alison will present at the YMCA.
- B. CEAP Ad Hoc – Tonya
  - a. Tonya is meeting with Stu Green tomorrow. Stu asked Tonya if there was an equity analysis in the Wildfire Mitigation Ordinance. He has offered his framework for this calculation. There may be a way to fold in equity work/analysis in the FEMA grant.
- C. Council advising for additional staffing for FAC/Firewise Work
  - a. Present to the budget committee. The citizen members are listed on the City's website. Tie wildfire work to CEAP goals. Send an invitation to budget committee members for a firewise assessment.

## **IX. REVIEW AND SET COMMISSION CALENDAR / NEXT MEETING**

- A. Mayors Brown Bag Lunch: June 22, 2018, 12:00pm (CommDev)
- B. WMO Planning Commission Hearing: June 26, 2018, 7:00pm (Council Chambers)
- C. WMO City Council First Reading: July 17, 2018, 7:00pm (Council Chambers)
- D. Next WMC Meeting: July 18, 2018, 11:00am (Station 1)
- E. WMO City Council Second Reading: August 7, 2018, 7:00pm (Council Chambers)

## **X. AGENDA ITEMS FOR July 18, 2018**

CWPP Risk Assessment

WiRE Portal

Invite the new City Administrator to a Wildfire Mitigation Commission meeting

## **XI. 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).*