

The October 20th Wildfire Safety Commission (WSC) meeting will be held electronically. Public forum testimony must be submitted in writing by 10AM the day before the scheduled meeting. Staff will compile all written testimony into one document and send the document to Commission members and post the testimony on the agenda the day before the meeting after 10AM. Written testimony will also be included in the minutes.

Members of the public are welcome to listen or view the Wildfire Safety Commission meeting live. Please contact [brian.hendrix@ashland.or.us](mailto:brian.hendrix@ashland.or.us) if you would like to listen to this meeting live.

*Meeting protocol via Zoom: raise hand and Stephen or Brian will facilitate.*

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. INTRODUCTIONS by Chair**

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**IV. PUBLIC AND GUEST FORUM**

A. Guest List (*so far*):

1. Rachel Glass, (3 minutes) *Topic interests*: Ashland School District preparations for a large-scale evacuation; Representing Firewise neighborhoods' interests, along with WRAP, within ongoing wildfire mitigation discussion.

**V. ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA:**

**VI. CITY COUNCIL CHECK-IN with Tonya. Possible Topics, Work-In-Progress:**

1. Legal reviewing of Nuisance Ord. expansion. (Hopefully can put on Look Ahead for 1/22 first reading?)
2. Tonya has again pinged Sen. Golden staff regarding wildfire resources (likely in reference to FEMA's 25% match rule)
3. Cell tower backup power discussion
4. USDA regarding Climate related zero interest loan application > Council (~similar home hardening loans)
5. Citizen engagement in budget process — will affect wildfire related and AF&R funding

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Working Group List

1. Nursery/Landscaper Education (CS, BH)- (*report on CS/BH meeting*)
2. Nuisance Ordinance Expansion (DD, CS, CC, BH)
3. Wildfire Risk Assessment Program (KR, CS, PB) *New Advertising materials?*
4. [*awaits In-service discussion*]- Fire-Safe Business License Program for Landscapers, Contractors (BH, SG)

*[SG Including comments here from CC: regarding a related issue involving Steve Matico, who reached out to CCB regarding a continuing ed. class, or maybe the Homebuilders Association for a class on the new code, etc) Chris Chambers: "Community Development had a scheduled zoom meeting with contractors on September 30<sup>th</sup>. It went well. The building code is now in effect on all new home construction coming through planning. (The new code is not enforceable on homes already under construction)."]*

5. Electric Utility Risk Assessment (SA, BH) (*CC's awaiting reply from Christina Krüger*)
6. Firewise Garden Tour update (CS, DD)

B. Farmer's Market (DK)

C. Evacuation Planning (Homeland Security Grant)

1. Zonehaven – (CC)
  - a) *Chris Chambers: "Zonehaven got sidelined for the balance of fire season due in part to their messaging not being consistent with Oregon's evacuation protocols (they've only worked in CA and CO). There will be another team leader meeting (I'm one of them) so we'll get more info soon. The evaluation period is only one year, and we've had it for several months, so it will be interesting to see if Jackson and Deschutes counties recommend to Oregon to keep it and expand. The price tag is not cheap."*

- D. Real Estate Engagement Program (SG, BH)
- E. FEMA PDM GRANT update. (BH)
  - 1. Discussion: How to help homeowners fund FEMA 25% match requirement
- F. Drone update – (CC)

“Drone season is done in order to save budget for next season. I’ll be contracting with the drone operator directly to clean up vacated campsites that we’ve located this season. I’ll give an update on how many, and costs, in November.” CC

### VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Resiliency against wildfire & related issues vs proposed wastewater treatment move to Medford
- 2. Cell Towers: backup power investigations (JS)
- 3. Steve Asher: Any new developments regarding his work?
- 4. In-service:
  - a) Meeting Format Question: Will breakout rooms be needed during In-Service? (*still Zoom?*)BH
  - b) Preparation Check-in, (1<sup>st</sup> draft):
    - (1) Review existing working group list and status of each vs need in the next 12 months, culling as needed.
    - (2) Brainstorm potential new working group topics and AF&R workload considerations
    - (3) Finalize new working group list, determine who’s on what, and then prioritize them.
- 5. RV COG: Alert Wildfire cameras program to install in S. Oregon: CC:
  - a) 1st camera was installed in Cave Junction. ODF has protection cameras. But Infrared doesn’t go very far. FEMA grant requires 25% match from participating cities. (\$10k per yr. per camera.)
  - b) The ODF camera system is more than adequate for Ashland and ODF will be installing another camera, likely on Mt Ashland. This will more than blanket our area and there is no need for the expense of the Alert Wildfire system.

### IX. REPORTS AS TIME ALLOWS

- A. 2021 Wildfire update (CC: *absent*)
- B. Chamber Wildfire Task Force (CC: *absent. Soon being renamed, to encompass broader emergency preparedness*)

### X. TWO NOVEMBER MEETINGS — Both on Wed., Nov. 17:

- A. Regular WSC meeting *11:00 am -1:00 pm* — *AND* — In-Service *2:00-6:00 PM*
  - 1. Dr. Marni Kooperman is now scheduled to present in November, exploring possible WSC involvement and coordination with other climate change related Commissions in town, and related issues.

### XI. ADJOURN