



Promoting Wildfire Safety Through Education and Action

**Santa Barbara County Firesafe Council
Board of Directors' Meeting
March 4, 2021**

Directors Present: Ted Adams, Kevin Varga, Nic Elmquist, Phil Seymour, Rob Hazard, Ray Smith, Paul Van Leer, Supv Joan Hartmann, John Powell, Rolf Larsen, Max Moritz, Chris Smith

Directors Absent: J. Ahlman

Meeting has a quorum as identified in Article IV. Section 9 of the Bylaws

Call to Order

09:00 AM- N. Elmquist calls the meeting to order and confirms quorum

Minutes

Previous minutes approved over email and are available on the website under "Meetings"

Treasurers Report

*See attached profit and loss statement.

The \$10,000 from SB Foundation will be spent as follows:

\$7,650 toward 2020 website renovation/expenses, the remaining \$2,350 toward the Ethan Turpin Defensible Space Video. The \$10,000 from PG&E will be spent as follows: \$2,000 toward the Burn Cycle Buellton exhibit, \$7,116 (max amount) to cover remaining costs of Ethan Turpin Defensible Space Video.

\$884 of restricted PG&E funds remain. With those expenses, as well as the \$884 remaining on the PG&E grant, taken out we have currently have \$8,966 of unrestricted funds in our checking account.

New Business

1. Membership Management Discussion – Abe reinforced the importance of recognizing when a person becomes a member and providing a receipt of their donation. Although the donor/member may not request a receipt, it is good practice. Payment through the webpage uses Paypal which automatically responds to the person who donates. A. Powell will draft up a thank you letter and send to N. Elmquist which can be sent from sbfiresafecouncil@gmail.org when a membership due is received. N. Elmquist is exploring the option of highlighting a local artist on the front of a card that can be snail mailed out. Another outreach idea is to provide an annual newsletter that highlights the work the FSC has completed and reminds people of the organizations mission and how they can support it. We will make this a topic at the next meeting.
2. 2021 Annual Spring Meeting / Director Elections – T. Adams updates on the process that has been used in the past. The process is outlined in the by-laws available here: <https://sbfiresafecouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Bylaws-Rev-21-February-2019.pdf> . The by-laws identify that the Board can have up to 4 additional members for a total of 17 Directors. However, T. Adams recommends keeping the number at an odd number so there is always a deciding vote. A. Powell highlights the need to outreach try to increase diversity. J. Ahlman will contact Lilliana

from the Listos organization. The election process will be put on next months agenda, but the Board will outreach to make people aware of the coming elections. R. Smith provided information about how to conduct polling over zoom.

3. Regional Wildfire Management Program – M. Moritz updates the Board on the status of the RWMP and grant. The plan includes funding for education and outreach. This will provide funds to the FSC to hire 1-2 people for 2-3 years. The focus for these individuals will be to organize and facilitate groups of “neighborhoods” and assist them with wildfire mitigation using the established NFPA FireWise program. There is flexibility built into the grant to include additional wildfire educational efforts. S. Coffman discusses the need for neighborhood chipping programs and M. Moritz explains how the RWMP can possibly help facilitate a program like this. There is consensus that there needs to be a timeline established and information provided of the FSC responsibility in the RWMP process. M. Moritz will schedule a meeting for the subcommittee to address these issues.

Motions:

1. K. Varga makes motion to allocate the FSC restricted funds as follows:
The \$10,000 from SB Foundation will be spent as follows: \$7,650 toward 2020 website renovation/expenses, the remaining \$2,350 toward the Ethan Turpin Defensible Space Video.
The \$10,000 from PG&E will be spent as follows: \$2,000 toward the Burn Cycle Buellton exhibit, \$7,116 (max amount) to cover remaining costs of Ethan Turpin Defensible Space Video. (P. Seymour seconds, all in favor).

Action Items:

1. Print out a membership list to review at the next meeting. (N. Elmquist)
2. Draft up a member thank you letter acknowledging membership/donation that can be emailed out when we get notified of a donation/membership. (A. Powell)
3. Outreach for upcoming Board elections. (All)
4. Research how to conduct polling on zoom for elections. (N. Elmquist)
5. Schedule a working group meeting for the RWMP subcommittee. (M. Moritz)

Identified Subcommittees:

1. Gaviota CWPP – R. Hazard, J. Ahlman, N. Elmquist, P. Van Leer (P. Coffman as Project Manager)
2. Regional Wildfire Mitigation Program – M. Moritz, R. Hazard, K. Varga, P. Seymour
3. Next Door Video – Supv. Hartmann, C. Smith, N. Elmquist
4. Membership Management – A. Powell, Supv. Hartmann

Future Meeting Schedule and Guest Speakers:

1. April 22nd - Board Meeting/Membership Meeting
 - Guest Speaker- Stephane Ma (UCSB Post Doc studying local wildfire recovery)
2. May 6th - Board Meeting (Virtual Annual Meeting???)
3. June 24th - Board Meeting/Membership Meeting
 - Guest Speaker- TBD
4. July 1st – Board Meeting
5. August 26th - Board Meeting/Membership Meeting
 - Guest Speaker – TBD
6. September 2nd – Board Meeting
7. October 28th – Board Meeting/General Membership Meeting
8. November 4th – Board Meeting
9. December – No Meeting

April 22nd Agenda Items:

1. Membership Management (A. Powell)
2. 2021 Elections (N. Elmquist)
3. Others??

Guest Speaker:

None

Board Adjourned at 11:30 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted: Nic Elmquist