



Promoting Wildfire Safety Through Education and Action

**Santa Barbara County Fire Safe Council
Executive Committee Meeting
January 3rd, 2024**

Executive Committee Directors Present: Paul Van Leer, Kevin Varga, Rob Hazard, Nic Elmquist

Executive Committee Directors Absent: Victoria Cooper

Others Present: A. Parkinson, C. Harris, P. Seymour, T. Adams, K. Pananides, J. Tobin, S. Edner

1. Board Development Tasks

- a. Creation of New Board Member Welcome Handbook
 - i. Assigned different tasks to each EC member / AOP on the shared google doc "Kim-Draft Santa Barbara County Fire Safe Council – New Board Member Welcome Handbook"
- b. BOD will review draft documents individually and we will discuss at next week's meeting.

2. Evacuation Workshop Outline

- a. Combine the Evacuation Workshop with a community barbeque
- b. Initial meeting will focus on the general public and involve several different communities and fire departments
 - i. Focus on inviting community leaders
 1. Reach out to Firewise leaders
 2. Reach out to at risk communities who are not Firewise certified
 3. Contact HOA's. The Board of Supervisors should have community contact lists.
 - ii. Have fire departments promote the event as an additional avenue for marketing
- c. Record the event and post on the FSC website so community members can access and share at their leisure
- d. Event Structure
 - i. Start the event with presentations in a group / audience format
 - ii. After the larger presentations wrap up break the crowd into smaller groups and have them attend tabling activities that are more hands on
 1. Ex. learning how to use a hand radio (etc...)



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- iii. End with resource fair tables with additional information / prizes that the audience can bring home
 - 1. Involve a raffle and hand out blankets / ready wise to go bags / backpacks as prizes
- e. FSC will be taking on much of the responsibility for event planning and promotion. FSC will coordinate with different fire departments to have them help and pick up some of the work for the event
 - i. For future events similar to the evacuation workshop the FSC plans to shift the responsibility of event planning and promotion onto fire departments

3. CFSC Defensible Space Grant Timeline

- a. Funds start and expire in 12 months,
- b. A. Parkinson will work closely with Jessie Tobin on setting up FireAside so staff can complete home evaluations. The software would also be more efficient for contractual crews to use to complete the defensible space work.
 - i. County fire will not be starting the defensible space evaluations until May, but Rob will consult with Fred about using their prevention staff, likely just Charlotte, to assist with evaluations for this program in March
- c. SBCFSC will purchase iPad and FireAside software in order to have county fire conduct evaluations
 - i. County fire cannot purchase the software in a timely manner because of security concerns
- d. Montecito Fire is willing to try the FireAside software for their home evaluations that are associated with this grant

4. County Fire Ambulance Update

- a. Rob may know more next week regarding a rough timeline for FSC potentially moving into County HQ in 2024.

5. Community Alert Radio Show

- a. T. Adams has found a new resource to help with podcast / program (Patrick)
 - i. C. Harris will also become involved with the Community Alert Radio Show to help pick up extra work / tasks
- b. T. Adams and partner M. Williams will need to narrow the scope. They will need to provide estimates on costs and a more finely tuned direction for what they expect out of the show before it can continue.



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- i. This type of program will ultimately fall to C. Harris, but being a relatively new employee he currently has higher priority tasks and training to complete
- ii. Once the scope of the show is narrowed and a plan is structured, tasks can be delegated to C. Harris
- c. T. Adams expresses concern about needing direction from the EC
 - i. EC is available to help where they can, but this responsibility primarily falls to T. Adams

6. General Notes

- a. Paul Van Leer will miss the next EC meeting

[motions: none]

Minutes Submitted Respectfully: Charles Harris