

Silverado Property Owners Association Firewise Council Meeting
September 4, 2018
Meeting Minutes

16 Community Members and 6 guests attended the meeting.

Susan Deringer for Bill Senske called the meeting to order at 16:35. Bill should be back to lead our next meeting in late October or early November.

The meeting objectives were stated as the following:

- To understand the process of becoming a firewise community
- To define our next steps and SPOAs involvement
- To increase the motivation and knowledge of the Council members

Tom Vreeland, the president of the Napa Communities Firewise Foundation gave a presentation on the role of the Foundation and the relationships among CalFire, the NFPA and SPOA. He stated that funding through the foundation was possible for our firewise projects. In addition to funding, the foundation will support Silverado in areas such as information on best practices, education, etc.

Barry Biermann, our Napa County Fire Chief, reviewed the special dynamics of the October fire, their mission foremost to save lives then structures, the water pump accountability by the City of Napa, and hose connection size issues in the more rural homeowner hydrants. He fielded numerous questions from the council members.

Andy Kirmse, President of SPOA, stated that SPOA was in full support of this initiative and would be working with the council as we progress. Joe Russoniello has accepted the position of the liaison between SPOA and the Council.

Al Pedroza, Supervisor, spoke regarding the water pump issue and the new PG&E weather monitoring systems being placed on Atlas Peak and Soda Canyon. He stated that the water pumps were being funded by FEMA and there are plans to protect them in process.

Carol Rice, our consultant who is a fire prevention and vegetation management specialist, provided a review of the assessment process she will be performing. Individual homes will not be assessed; however, each area of Silverado will be assessed for overall issues/opportunities. Area Council representatives are welcome to go with Carol in their area/unit. Carol took a moment to review how creeks should be handled to stay compliant with the California Department of Fish and Game and how to identify plants that are a fire hazard such as juniper and manzanita.

Next Three Steps:

1. Carol will perform her assessment in October
2. Carol will generate a report for each area of the community
3. A council meeting will be held to develop an action plan from Carol's assessment

The council members recommended that Vanessa Braun be asked to also communicate information to the club members about Carol's upcoming assessment.

It was requested that Carol be given gate codes to avoid delays in the assessment process.

The meeting adjourned at 18:25.