



Oakland Firesafe Council  
Board Meeting Minutes  
June 8, 2019

11140 Ettrick Street, Oakland, CA 94605  
10-Noon

Present:

Lin Baron  
Ken Benson  
Carolyn Burgess  
Ken Cohen  
Steve Hanson  
Jon Kaufman  
Jerry Kent  
Michael Kilian  
Linda Olvera  
Mike Petouhoff  
Sue Piper  
Bob Sieben  
Gary Sirbu  
Neil Srinivasin  
Nick Vigilante  
Leslie Smith

Guests:

Orlando Arriola, OFD Fire Marshal  
Lisa Jacobs, District 1 Council Aide  
Capt. Anthony Sanders, OFD  
Paul Duncan, Make El Cerrito Firesafe  
Sue Duncan, Make El Cerrito Firesafe

Called to order at: 10:04 am

Introductions:



1. Minutes Approved
2. Treasurer's Report \$18,738 in bank after final payment for study, includes the grant.
3. **Benchmark Study Update**—50 districts- some best practices that should be shared. Data on should be on website. San Diego, Ventura, Paso Robles, dedicated funding to clear a parcel where people were regularly not in compliance Intend to update over time
4. **Regional Wildfire Prevention Districts**-Jon Kaufman—in order to manage vegetation, go beyond just local jurisdictions, don't have funding or have the expertise to understand what needs to be done. Assembly Member Wood AB 38 would have established a regional approach to vegetation management with 18 regional districts throughout the state.. The bill is still somewhat alive, but provisions establishing regional management were eliminated. Gear up to talk to people around the state, to build grass roots understanding—not just in Sacramento. Ask members to think about who you know, and what organizations you are involved in that could help. OFSC can provide talking points to build regional approach support. Wood will be reintroducing the revised AB 38 bill at end of year. To really be successful, needs State money.
5. **Vegetation Management Plan**- Lisa Jacobs commented that Dan Kalb met with Chief White, and the VMP revised plan was due in June of 2019, but not coming until after the Budget process.— probably in September It would offer enough project details to identify EIR concurrent, show us the plan then launch. Conversation shifted to Oakland's 2-year Budget process with members concerned that current proposals assume that year two revenues can be found from either a March 2020 or November 2020 special district election. This is not an accurate assumption. Mike Petahouff wanted to know point of view on annual maintenance part of the plan. Not having dedicated funding



source or a guaranteed carryover source of funds put's Hills at risk in June-July- Discussion will continue at future meetings.

6. **Oakland Urban Forestry Plan**- Tabled
7. **Wildfire Priority City of Oakland Resolution**—pending with Sheng Thao—(share copy) in September
8. **Oakland Hills Community Preparedness Program-(Oakland CPR)** Sue and Ken briefed those present on the winning CalFire Grant and the possible matching grant for another \$125,000 from City of Oakland being championed by both Sheng Tao and Dan Kalb.
9. **Budget**-June 10, 5 pm need a lot of people to speak—BAC met with President—will let Administrator's analysis stand on its own. Please be advised the 2 prior districts, after 1991 fire, and in 2004—no dedicated funding from WPAD ever went to pay for inspections, always paid from 1010 General Fund; NO Sports Field Measure WW \$1 million to start Caldecott Trail—plan to use make Sports Field ADA compliant—Last January borrowed money from WW to Rainbow Trail—in Mayor's budget is back there. President Kaplan took it away. Bob's fire in the hills affects the entire community. Nick—proposed inspection fee for \$350 as substitute of WPAD—very negative response from participants—for a 5 minute inspection and this would be viewed as a money grab. Mike- getting speakers—very clear on what we are asking -
  - Inspectors
  - Veg Management Contract side- 1.1 million in Mayor's budget—she intentionally shorted that we need more money for the district Need about 2 million—argue 1.1 not enough—didn't collect the fees for 3<sup>rd</sup> inspection—680,00 forfeited income
  - \$100,000 for revolving loan fund 1.1 to 2--
  - should budget for new district-

Jon- on the idea of a 350 fee, or \$65 assessment approach—if you are going to advocate a fee, kiss of death for inspections—general fund



item—special fee for inspections – back fire such an uproar. Oppose a special fee at all costs.

### **New Business**

1. **OFD Captain Sanders presentation:** New technology for inspections—what it can do—capabilities from citizen standpoint- Accela—easy to use, residents not computer savvy some problems; register an account in – your property shows up; Neil Srinivasan offered his help to and with OFD —long history with interfaces; Walk around with Vince—identify those problems take care of them at that time. Do it in advance when you have to. Started last year to work with homeowners associations in advance. Noncompliant properties get a letter that outlines the details with PDF file with letters, photos, etc.
2. Should we join Action for Wildfire Resiliency - Yes
3. Outreach—June 20, 2019 Forum

Next Meeting

August 10, 2019 10 am to noon 1110 Etrick Street, Oakland, CA 94605

Adjourned at 12:10 pm