



Minutes from November 21, 2020
Via ZOOM

Present

Ken Benson-OFSC

Chris Cullander—in Berkeley—Fire Patrol in Hills during fire season

Sue Duncan-El Cerrito, make El Cerrito Firesafe

Barbara Goldenberg—OFSC and Diablo Fire Safe Council

Jen Grimm—OCP&R

Steve Hanson, NHCA Chair

Jerry Kent—Claremont Canyon Conservancy

Kathryn Levenson-New Group in Berkeley Hills Patrol El Cerrito,

Martin Matarrese- OFSC

Doug Mosher-OCP&R

Gordon Piper-Oakland Landscape Committee

Sue Piper- OFSC

Neil Planchon- MNC

Bob Sieben—Lafayette, Moraga

Allison Silverstein--Fernwood

Ruthie Snyder--Sonoma

Joan Squires-Lind-MNC Safety Committee

Guests

Lisa Jacobs, Dan Kalb's Office

Joe Devries, City Admin, lead Wildfire Prevention Working Group

Sadie Wilson-Student at UC Berkeley, Planning Department

Called to order at 10:05

Introductions:

1. Approval of Minutes October 24, 2020 (Attachment 1) Elizabeth's change (Jon or Jerry was the contact for Coastal Conservancy, not she) approved as amended
2. Treasurer's Report as sent in by Michael Kilian

- a. There is \$30,870 in the Bank Account. The encumbered amounts for the OCP&R include the Cal Fire Foundation Grant of \$8k (deposited Sept. 24th) and the remaining amount for the first Cal Fire Foundation Grant of \$984. Also encumbered (or restricted are the JPA Seed Money Fund contributions of \$4,350. Also the check for the invoice for the revamped website of \$2,500 is part of the bank statement reconciliation as the check will be sent out tomorrow.
- b. Still owed on the purchase of the 20 two way radios and batteries, now down to 4 two way radios and batteries is \$264.

3. Old Business

- a. Oakland CP&R--Neighborhood Organizing Update- Doug Mosher
 Website:continue to add more, guides, videos—be better prepared for a disaster, top, most important steps, do not compete with Oakland’s Core/CERT program, but complement it. Online 1 hour Zoom workshops; two way radio program, for use in a disaster when cellular communications—2 way radio Zoom training session 90 minutes with MNC; GenOak program facilitates radio communication between neighborhoods FRS radios within; GMRS radios—between neighborhoods. Shout out to Jen Grimm – our marketing guru. Facebook, Insta Gram—promote OCP&R—focus now is on promoting OCP&R
 Jen—sign up for newsletter; goal to organize neighborhoods--
- b. Regional Vegetation Management District Update-Elizabeth Stage
 Raise Seed Money to organize for JPA—Endorsements moving to individual city managers to county managers and county fire groups; rounding up some of non-municipal players, EBRP, BAAMQ, UC, PG&E—we need to raise \$\$ to hire a facilitator to bring interested parties to hammer out role of JPA, some foundations—any leads to raise funds for an organizing and planning grant.
- c. Grizzly Peak, Evacuation Routes and City of Oakland Wildfire Prevention Interagency Team—
 Michael Hunt, Joe Devries
 City migrating its system, finally done with URL of Oaklandnet.com now will be OaklandCA.gov—
 We are entering exciting phase for working group, it rained, once we get another inch of rain, risk will be lowered; moving to a monthly schedule instead of every other week. More planning associated assignments
 -JM Park Task Force—myriad issues—red flag issue—what do we do with red flag closures when there is a scheduled event—work around the code with a plan that makes sense such Music in the Redwoods
 - Firesafe Streets—reviewing streets we surveyed, looking at enforcement and education
 -ZoneHaven—evacuation planning stuff to come on line in early spring
 -CalFire will be redrawing very high severity zone this winter, want to make sure all areas are covered, especially for planning—concerned about conflict between density in the hills and desire to building more affordable housing—working with planning department
 -Boundaries for ZoneHaven, some areas below 580 and some areas further east may be included
 -- A few more things to do on Grizzly Peak, some spots Skyline and Keller (sideshow activity and shooting guns at night); having a hard time internally with what kind of parking restrictions- no parking dusk to dawn or no parking any time—

--Draft EIR is about to be presented to Planning Commission on December 2 and December 16 opening up comments—public comment phase goal to have final EIR in Spring, bring to full Council in Spring—wild card, don't know how many comments we will get could slow the process down.

Elizabeth—Chief Luby—for ZoneHaven a role out with community groups—NHCA request from city become an early adopter of ZoneHaven—email Chief, and copy Michael Hunt and Joe DeVries

- Vegetation Management Plan to Planning Commission—heretofore Public Safety – can be appealed to City Council

- Parking/No Parking—NHCA thanks the City for their responsiveness; Since rain, and cold—more parking, people more worried that parking on side of street as a traffic issue; it's really what can City patrol enforce or encourage; Her take: dusk to dawn everywhere, If opportunity for OPD, or neighboring jurisdictions to sweep area, that would help. Not to over promise things that can't be monitored. Joe—universal agreement no parking at night Continuing interagency with all the law enforcement units- presented a draft MOU to that group re enforcement—they can enforce Oakland municipal code and state law—everyone is on board Berkeley, CC Sheriff, UC and Oakland—will have MOU hammered out within next month. Dept of Transportation – asking to have their parking techs issue citations without having to get out of the car—use technology that does license identification; giving fire department hand held devices, they can issue ticket.

- Cameras—offloading of guns, all bullets being shot, around look out—any discussion of putting cameras, Joe: may be some traffic cameras, not sure. Surveillance Cameras, we have an ordinance that strictly monitors how we use cameras. Question of efficacy—cameras don't catch people in the act. More likely, Shot spotter—entertain extending it into the hills, sends an immediate info to the Police so they can act.

- Gordon Piper—potential change where adopt a spot volunteers using weed eaters in the parks that they are maintaining- is task force considering this. Joe: working on at JM Task Force—Bicycle Trails Council in JMP on-trail work-he's been navigating this, clearance from Risk Management, if Council has insurance and indemnify will allow, has to be in a planned project. It is a labor issue—careful in balance what volunteers will do and what city staff—A way to cut jobs; we're facing a bad budget cycle—all positions have been frozen—expect it will be worse. Clearly defined projects. No one else is doing the work—weed whackers must be electric.

- North Oakland Sports field—been without water for 3 years—where does it stand? If removing los of trees, need to plant more diverse, fire resistant vegetation, but needs water. Lisa-City was trying to avoid a law suit with EBMUD; following up; Dan Kalb to talk with EBMUD.

- Jerry Kent—Vegetation Management Plan EIR – structure, write your comments, 3 minutes to talk, very legal process, not very effective—outside of EIR process, is there a way to sit down around the table and talk about what 's in the plan and how it is going to be implemented. EBRP interested in getting a CalFire unit in the East Bay Hills, now in Sunol and Santa Clara—CalFire will be the key implementation source – will there be an opportunity to sit down with people have to implement how to do that will CalFire help. Multiple meetings out in the community, informally a lot of work together—Angela more than willing to talk about it. Recommend that City Council sponsor Town Hall meeting

- Discussion on Veg Management Plan on December 2, EIR on December 16th

- Allison—Firesafe Streets—will be discussed later—Lisa will respond;

d. OFSC 2020 Insurance Cancellation Survey: 473 starts, 169 submissions—35.73% submission rate

1. What company Amica, Farmers,(9) AAA,(6) Travelers(3), Sagesure (2), American Modern, Pacific specialty, Lloyds of London (2), Safeco, Allstate, the Hartford, Fair Plan (4)State Farm,(5) Stillwater/Geico(3), CIG,, CSAA, Berkshire Hathaway Guard

2. Length of time in policy before cancelled:

- a) 20% less than 1 year; 17% 1-2 years;19.5% 3-5 years; 8%6-8 years,8% 9-10 years; 44% more than 11 years
- b) Ever received non-renewal notice: 49% yes, 51% no
- c) Have you within last year 44% yes, 56% no
- d) How difficult was it in finding a new insurance carrier 52% Very, 18% difficult 11%neutral, 6% somewhat easy 3% very easy
- e) Resolution: 6% negotiated a positive result, 71% broker who found coverage, 31% California Fair Plan, 10% Supplemental,/Wraparound insurance
- f) If yes, company's stated reason: 94%-- in high risk zone, not meeting company's eligibility criteria 4%, Claims history 1%
- g) When: 2020 57%; 2019 27%, 2018 16%, 2017 3%, prior to 2016 6%
- h) Price compared to 5 years ago 55% more than 20%, 19% more than 10%; 20% the same 3% less than 10% lower, 3%less than 20% lower
- i) Coverage compared to 5 years ago 3% significantly better, 14% better, 67% neutral 11% worse 3% significantly Worse

3. 94618, and 94611, 64 previous providers wouldn't renew policy; extreme hike (5) Found better rate (11 Found better policies)

i) New Business

- a. Pros and Cons of using diesel generators during PSPSs—Nick Vigilante had a conflict—tabled until next meeting
- b. Release of Oakland Vegetation Management Plan
- c. Proposal for Town Hall Meeting in January (Attachment 2) Timely—topics will attract more community engagement Ken, Allison—relatively new Only 2 years—feel powerless and helpless, feel vulnerable with small children—to help, and spread
- d. Martin Mataresse—canker disease on Acacias- samples of cross sections of dead acacias—looks like it has been around several years, trees had grown around cankers; the recent mini drought and hot summer, tipped trees over the edge, seeing high mortality on hotter slopes and less moisture—What is City doing about the dead trees—Joe will be circling back with UC
- e. Barbara Goldenberg—are we walking into dying eucalyptus—look to be the multi-stem ones from freeze of 40 years ago—is same task force looking at those—Karen Pausell has pictures and maps—heavily in JM Park—send to Joe
- f. Gordon Piper—10 Year vegetation Management Plan, urban forestry plan—most have focused on east and west Oakland, and not on what city would do in terms of planting—more than trees, we need a more diverse landscape in Oakland hills—work on an initiative—what we want to do and collaborate and going after resources-- \$\$, trees and other plant materials, how we can enhance the fire safety on public and private properties—nothing in plan addresses replacing removed trees. Need an effort to encourage a vision of more firesafe landscape. Regional Conservation Districts—Ruthie Snyder, most of the counties in North Coast have RCDs—just diving into that. They do exist in North Coast, don't know about them in a political sense. Barbara—both have had them for a long time, traditionally focused on crop land, range

land (think Livermore) they have been encouraged to include forest. CalFire gives them small grants for local community initiatives to do a fire prevention thing. Not with Alameda and Contra Costa County yet. **Next Agenda** Fire hazard Mitigation Project Selection Grant for both counties—asking for stake holders to get involved—major stake holders along with DFSC, to do a major study of the two counties—in past in rural areas. Alameda County RCD—fire safety mitigation through Carol Rice. Planners can do plans, but needs to be an agency that can actual implement, and that needs ability to do CEQA.

CWPP do a great report, until you can deal with CEQA, can't get much done.

- j) Ruthie- working to create a model ordinance up in Sonoma—replicated our survey, North Coast Resource Partnership—similar to what OFSC did last year. CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN Santa Rosa paid 200,000 to do 3 phases over 3 years, we evacuated 4 times over 3 years. Tracking Marin County JPA—have issues coming up—bureaucratic structure using a quarter cent sales tax to fund
- k) Gordon Piper—National Urban Forestry Conference this week—Alliance for Community Trees, partnering with major corporation in planning many trees, Opportunity to go after funds to help on public spaces—Sacramento Tree Foundation, serves a regional area, JPA managing what we – grab it for our cities.
- l) Bob Sieben—Peter Coyote monitored book in Marin—helpful, Homeowners Guide to Wildfire Prevention—Santa Clara—put in an insert—1000—
- m) Allison-Reforestation—reestablishing biologically diverse habitat—city owned land, a lot of hoops, for privately owned land, EBRP, CalTrans, here's what we want to do on lands you want to hold—Ken, a complex question—27,000 parcels in Oakland in High Fire Severity Zone, 23,-24000 privately owned, by individuals; as well as not violating wildlife and city requirements and permits—we as private property owners can change; larger parcel owners are also bureaucratic. Fire safety most controversial in CA now—Jerry—need an agency to do a plan and do a CEQA and then see that it gets implemented. IN wildland areas, technical people want to use prescribed fire, in residential areas, see homes hardened with defensible space. At some point state will have to make a decision about how to implement. In EB Hills, 40,000 homes that need to be hardened, with 100,000 people. Six Pillars—Jim Woods legislation on regional –AB38 did do a home hardening section-in 2021 if you sell a house in CA, you have to let people know what you have and haven't done in terms of home hardening. SB 2025 when you sell, there has to be a list and understanding in escrow re home hardening.
- n) Doug—a lot of outreach, if you have any ideas on who we can get this out to—
- o) Next Meeting Saturday, January 9 10am Zoom

Adjourned in honor of Barbara Goldenberg's birthday