

OFSC Minutes Final for July 17, 2024

Attending

Elizabeth Stage, Ken Benson, Joelle Fraser, Jen Grimm, Dale Risdien, Jessica Feil, John Brega, Lin Barron, Lynn Derderian, Michael Hunt, Peter Seidel, Bob Mon, Kyle Trambley, Carol Haberberger, Amelia Marshall, Jocelyn Mapp, Joseph Dashiell, Michael Langan, Jacque Long, John Brega, and Robert Myers.

Meeting called to order 7:03pm

Chair asked if there were any changes to the Draft Agenda and there were no changes made from the participants. Chair mentioned several new participants this month.

1. Minutes

The Draft minutes for May 15th were accepted without correction unanimously as were the June 19th minutes.

2. Treasurer's Report

Bank Balance was \$28,264 and the Chair recognized the work by our Treasurer, Jessica Feil EMSD, and the City in getting our overdue invoices paid. OFSC had \$7,500 invoice it had paid related to the regional workgroup effort and thus a balance of \$20,790. OFSC Treasurer continued his efforts to encourage the city of Oakland to make their contribution of \$6,000 for the regional workgroup membership and Chair and Michael Hunt from OFD expects payment likely in the August timeframe. Treasurers Report accepted as read.

3. Old Business

a. Community Preparedness and Neighborhood Organizing – Jen Grimm, Joelle Fraser, and Doug Mosher (absent)

Jen provided the link to the latest OFSC newsletter in the Chat for the latest OFSC Newsletter, reminded participants to forward the link to their List Serv's and networks, and encouraged everyone to send her newsworthy items at outreach@oaklandfiresafe.org. She also mentioned that OFSC Board Emeritus Sue Piper was raising donations for OFSC on her Facebook for her birthday.

Joelle Fraser reported that there's continuing strong interest in Firewise recognition. She is working with 5 recognized Firewise neighborhoods and 1 additional neighborhood on their potential application needs. She submitted a grant to CalFire Foundation for Firewise efforts and our October 5, 2024 Preparedness Day event with Supervisor Keith Carson's office.

b. OWLS update – Lin Barron

Lin mentioned that Kathy Kramer would be giving a presentation about Bring Back the Natives and that she would provide information to Jen to use in the OFSC Newsletter and to add to our OFSC Website concerning her presentation. Peter Seidl of Piedmont Pines Neighborhood Association Board mentioned that their Board had voted unanimously to support the Wildfire Prevention Special Tax Initiative coming on the November 2024 Ballot. Chair thanked both Lin

Barron for her update and Peter Seidl for the PPNA Board support for the November Ballot Initiative.

c. Oakland – City update – Michael Hunt

The City's Budget situation for now has been settled and the Goats are in fact grazing now. He gave kudos to EMSD for their efforts in working with OFSC to get City past invoices paid and recognized the consistent work and help from Jessica Feil of EMSD in the effort. OFD avoided station closures or brown outs with the recently passed 2 year City Budget. He thanked OFSC and citizen groups for their support during the budget hearings. Update on the Wildfire Prevention Special Tax is forthcoming for the City Council by August 8th. Those updates and subsequent City Council approvals should allow timing to get ballot information to the County of Alameda in time for the November Ballot process.

d. Initiative on Climate Change – UC Study Group Update – Chair

Chair mentioned that in August she would meet with Louise and that Louise would have a further update on the initiative and evacuation simulation efforts for the next OFSC meeting.

e. East Bay Wildfire Coalition of Agency Groups Update – Jerry Kent

Jerry gave a brief update on the Public Meeting and efforts by the Agency to date and thanked OFSC and the other Firesafe Councils for their hard work in building regional support.

4. Open Forum

Chair welcomed back Jocelyn Mapp from Council District 7 offices and then Jocelyn recognized Jacque Long of South Hills in keeping both Wildfire Prevention and Preparedness a focus for District 7. Chair mentioned that she would set up a follow up meeting with Jacque in August to discuss efforts in support of the November Wildfire Prevention Special Tax ballot initiative. Jocelyn mentioned that Councilperson Treva Reid has always been a strong Wildfire Prevention advocate, supporter of OFSC, and is in support for the November ballot initiative. Discussion continued around the November initiative and that timing was short for building the infrastructure to support the ballot initiative. Chair would work with those community members and groups that support the initiative with the next steps once City approves and submits to the County the Ballot information.

Next meeting August 21, 2024, 7pm on Zoom

Meeting adjourned by President/Chair Elizabeth Stage at 8:41 pm