

OFSC Minutes Final for March 20, 2024

Attending

Elizabeth Stage, Ken Benson, Joelle Fraser, Doug Mosher, Jen Grimm, Jon Kaufman, Joe DeVries, Dale Ridsen, John Brega, Robert Myers, Louise Comfort, Nick Zamarano, Peter Reed, Nate Stalnaker, Peter Seidel, Doug Wong, and Lin Barron

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.

1. Minutes

Moved by Dale Ridsen and seconded by Doug Mosher, the minutes were approved with as submitted.

2. Treasurer's Report

Bank Balance on March 20th was \$16,451 and unencumbered was \$11,011 with \$3,555 encumbered within the MOU fund. Chair mentioned that Treasurer was continuing to work with Olga Crowe and City of Oakland EMSD on the \$12,000 still outstanding from our October invoicing and in updating City of Oakland paperwork to receive the \$6,000 for City of Oakland MOU participation. The report was received and accepted as reported through the chair for the Treasurer.

3. Old Business

a. Oakland – City update – Joe DeVries

He and the Fire Department have met with Finance and Budget Office working on the budget and options for potential November 2024 new Wildfire Prevention Assessment District (WPAD) only in the Oakland Hills and it looks like an assessment may be targeted at \$99 per parcel which can likely generate approximately 2.67 million per year for the proposed new District. He mentioned that he or Michael Hunt with OFD would likely have more information for the April OFSC Meeting. In response to a question Joe commented that there would be sufficient time for the campaign and effort for the upcoming November 2024 ballot measure. He further commented that the updated VMP should be before the Council by the City's May 7th Council Meeting. The Chair discussed that she would take the effort to get OFSC interested participants to be ready to speak before the Planning Commission, Public Safety, and ultimately the City Council and would send out an email to participants with schedule and seeking their speaking in favor soon. Chair then read Vegetation Management Supervisor Adam Balls email report and that things are on schedule for Inspection notices and process for this year and City to include OFSC website and link for wildfire prevention materials within the Flyer Notice this year. Robert Myers asked Joe DeVries for assistance with chaining and locking logs in place along Skyline to prevent parking and Joe said he'd bring those gaps to the OFD and City attention.

b. EMSD Report – No update

No report this meeting.

c. Community Preparedness and Neighborhood Organizing – Jen Grimm, Joelle Fraser, and Doug Mosher

Doug Mosher gave update that 5 GenOak Volunteers assisted with radio communications during the recent Oakland City Marathon and he asked Jen Grimm to give a communications and outreach update. Jen commented that a link was provided in the meeting chat for the latest OFSC Newsletter and reminded participants to sign-up and to forward the link to the List Serv's and networks to spread the outreach effort. She thanked Dale Riden and FOJMP for their contribution and photos from their update on work with CalFire at Joaquin Miller Park. Joelle Fraser gave the Firewise update that she had a March 26th date scheduled with the Valley View Neighborhood group and one upcoming with the Grandview Neighborhood in Hiller Highlands. Further, she reported a request from Hillsmont Group to either table or participate in the April 10th Annual Meeting. Fixed and resubmitted the Estates Fountain Neighborhood application for Firewise Certification and expects to report next month on its certification.

d. OWLS update – Dale Riden

Dale Riden of FOJMP commented that they had an excellent Trash Day recently and removed quite a bit of debris, trash, and brush from along the roadside abutting the Park. He praised the work with CalFire and thanked the City and Joe DeVries for their cooperation on that work effort. Doug Mosher asked if he could comment on Fire Pits and fires within the Park and Dale then commented on the plans to remodel the Literary Fire Pit working with other community volunteers and to possibly create a new 'stage' within the park to replace the Fire Pit.

e. Goat Grazing Contract – Joe DeVries commented

The updated Goat Grazing contract with the City of Oakland is going to the City Council for approval and should be finalized shortly.

f. Neighboring Firesafecouncil updates – Nick Zamarano – El Cerrito Firesafe

The City of El Cerrito approved the MOU and its latest meeting. This was hailed by Jon Kaufman and others as a major accomplishment. Jon and others thanked Nick and Sue Duncan and their team for their efforts in support.

g. Regional Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) update – Jon Kaufman

Reported that El Cerrito and Hercules-Rodeo Fire District have approved the MOU and that there will be a Public Meeting of the member agencies and their representatives on the morning of April the 29th and he and or Lisa Jacobs will provide details for that meeting as the date nears. Jon further commented that the City of Pinole would soon be considering and possibly approving the MOU as well.

h. Initiative on Climate Change – UC Study Group Update – Louise Comfort – Zoom problems and would submit update later via email to the Chair.

The study has moved on to the Digital Twin and the study's website is up and available at <https://geomechanics.berkeley.edu/scc/> and she and the UC Study Group has and continues to thank OFSC for participation and support.

4. New Business – Follow up from last meeting – Nate Stalnaker City of Oakland District 4-

Chair recognized Peter Reed (Nate was traveling and commented that Peter could handle the update) to update OFSC on the work that Peter has been working with Nate Stalnaker from Councilperson Ramachandran's staff to get a letter from the Councilperson to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and Peter reported. This is moving ahead and the Chair thanked both Peter and Nate for their efforts. Peter mentioned that there was the hope that Oakland and specifically District 4 could be a pilot trial site for Cellular Carrier resiliency and would keep OFSC advised on the CPUC process.

The Chair recognized Peter Seidel from Piedmont Pines Neighborhood Association (PPNA) and Peter opened a discussion about working with OFSC and Doug and Joelle for a PPNS June 3rd Workshop. Discussion occurred and Doug and Joelle committed to work with Peter and the PPNA team as PPNA plan their upcoming June 3rd event.

5. Open Forum

Chair discussed that OFSC Board would be having a meeting in Mid-April and or Early May and the she would be sending the Board Members a Doodle to pick a solid date and time.

Next meeting April 17, 2024, 7pm on Zoom

Meeting adjourned by President/Chair Elizabeth Stage at 8:36pm