

Edelweiss Firewise Committee Meeting Minutes
November 22, 2019

Those present: Maryann Timchalk, Chuck Timchalk, Gregg Strome, Steve Ralph, Alex Hall, Bill Huff by phone.

The meeting began at 5:00pm

Agenda

1. Review of Agenda
2. Ideas for 2020 –
 - a. Gregg: road widening and thinning will continue in conjunction with the water improvements. He requested that a certain amount of funding come from the Firewise budget but he did not feel it would be a large amount of funds. Plans would include pullouts.
 - b. Alex asked about outside funding sources for any efforts we pursue. All members will be needed to keep our ear to the ground to find out what is available. It was agreed to keep District 6 in our communication loop as we improve. **Action item: Chuck will see if Marian is interested in helping to explore funding sources.**
 - c. Chuck reminded that we need to track our time/money for our Firewise certification.
 - d. Alex would like us to think about the cut trees being given to those who need the firewood, even down valley. Bigger trees could be processed for milling (Aaron Boley and Ian (owns milling business)).
 - e. Gregg shared that on Dec 4th Edelweiss will be coordinating with OCEC for 2020 work, so we can identify the trees that will come down ahead of time. **Alex will talk to Ian and Aaron.**
 - f. Bill mentioned the Biochar project in the future. Steve will be meeting with them in a few weeks.
3. Spreadsheet of Firewise Plan – Chuck reminded the group of the spreadsheet identifying what work has been done, what is in process, and what remains to be done in the future.
4. Architectural Guidelines Recommendations –
 - a. Gregg: currently in the checklist there is the flagging of trees, but no guidelines. Suggest that properties be assessed for Firewise (OCD) before building so that trees that come down make the property as defensible as possible. Education about building materials would be included. Challenge: contractors are not always in tune with this, let alone property owners. **Chuck will draft the Firewise section, Alex will review/edit. Draft to Gregg before January 5th.**
5. Firewise Budget has leftover money from 2019 which will carry over in addition of the \$5000 2020 budget. Earmarked is \$800 for Dial My Calls, and a small amount for website updates. Overall good feedback on Dial My Calls system. Chuck would like to include some standard messages saved to the system.

6. Communication – establish 2 bulletin boards one at the pool, one at the garbage area. Firefighting maps, evacuations routes. Location: most visible is on the garbage door and only hung seasonally. Bill: make it highly visible with large lettering.
7. Identifying Safety Zones – meadows, campground. Would require mowing or beating it down. Can an attachment be added to Bella? How to maintain. Gregg will look into options for equipment. Primary could be campground area, secondary being the meadow. Suggest contacting community outreach person from District 6 for advisement in the spring.

Next Meeting January 2020

Meeting adjourned at 6:10pm

Minutes taken by Maryann Timchalk