Ettersburg Fire Safe Council

Meeting Minutes 4.10.23

Present: Tanner Speas, Laurel Radloff, Robie Tenorio, Linda Hansen, Kathy Weber
Meeting held via Zoom 10:00 am - 11:45 am
Minutes: Kathy

Event Planning

Map: Tanner will create the map, Trees Foundation will print, Robie will source a Plexiglas frame.

Banner: Since last meeting, Tanner designed an EFSC logo (with input and agreement from all of us). The banner has been ordered and it will be here soon.

Promo: Laurel has submitted a PSA to KMUD radio and it is airing currently. A save-the-date announcement is posted on the Chamber of Commerce website. The Indie and RHBB will be provided with news releases soon. An event poster will be designed and printed.

Contact Info List: It was decided that the info will be gathered digitally to reduce errors in data entry. (Linda reports that there has been a 20% failure rate with data entry from handwritten submissions) A printout of existing info will be used to prevent duplication, but it will need to be unavailable to the public. All efforts will be made to protect privacy. We discussed the use of a QR code for folks who wish to submit info at later time.

Educational Outreach: Kathy will provide an extensive table of handouts: Home Hardening, Defensible Space, Evacuation, and more. She will also be available for Q + A.

Address Signs: Robie has ordered sign kits to be sold at the event. We decided to sell them at cost ($15). Purchasers will be entered into the contact info database and orders can be taken for those who need help in assembling their signs. Kathy will supply an info sheet: “How to Post Your Address”.

Project Board: A list of the (now) 12 potential projects we have identified will be available to be ‘rank voted’ by the attendees. Kathy will prepare short descriptions of each project for feedback at our next meeting. Robie describes this as a “golden opportunity” to receive input from the community, but Kathy cautions that rank voting in a party environment should be taken lightly. We intend to follow up with another community meeting (probably in May) that will address this subject in more detail. The information gathered will be included in the ‘Risk Assessment’ part of the strategic plan.

EFSC Organizational Structure

- Three options are being considered: Non-Profit 501c3, Non-profit Mutual Benefit Corporation, and a “Committee” of Telegraph Ridge Fire Protection District
- Tanner researched and developed an analysis specific to EFSC for both the 501c3 and committee options. Kathy will do the same for the 3rd option. We weren’t able to discuss this in detail because Tanner’s reports were sent out just 15 minutes before the meeting. However, after a brief overview, we are leaning towards a 501c3 EZ formation at this time.
- Tanner: EFSC could help TRVFD become more compliant, perhaps even establish its’ own non-profit.
- The only other 501c3 fire safe council in Humboldt County is Willow Creek FSC. HCFSC is organized as a

government advisory commission with members appointed by the county board of supervisors (usually at the request of HCFSC). SHFSC is choosing so far to be organized as simply as possible; and therefore, it limits its' activities to education, community outreach, advocacy and planning. The projects conceived / designed by SHFSC are implemented by others: CalFire, HCRCD, HCFSC, Trees, and MRC.
- The Whale Gulch community established a FSC in 2020 and they are very interested in 501c3 formation. The Honeydew community is part of the Lower Mattole FSC whose fiscal sponsor is MRC. Crooked Prairie FSC is a mutual benefit corporation.
- Most VFDs are associated with a fire protection district. However, the volunteer fire departments of Briceland, Whale Gulch, Salmon Creek, and Honeydew are all 501c3s. Only Briceland VFD and Salmon Creek VFD have the added benefit of being associated with a fire protection district at this time.

Board and Volunteer Trainings
-Tanner proposes that we seize this opportunity to provide computer skills training, specifically for Google Drive. It will be an online workshop and could be made available to other fire mitigation groups. Kathy thinks that several members of SHFSC would be interested.

Working Group's Housekeeping
- Tanner provided a template for reporting our hours and tasks. We will submit monthly reports at the end of the month.
- Currently the contractors are Tanner, Kathy and Laurel. Linda will charge for bookkeeping services as needed. Individual W-9 forms need to be sent to the fiscal sponsor: MRC.
- We agreed that specific jobs may need to be identified ahead of time and that we proceed cautiously so as to be responsible to the goals of the grant. For instance, Kathy offers that her attendance at meetings and submitting minutes would be valued at $25/hour; but that more informed reports such as the 'EFSC Resources' would be valued at $50/hour.

Next Meeting: Monday 4.24.23 10 am via Zoom