



KENSINGTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MEETING OF THE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Thursday, May 26, 2022 3:00pm-5:00pm
Via Zoom Teleconference

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Directors: Larry Nagel and Kevin Padian

Public Members: Katie Gluck, Peter Guerrero, Peter Liddell, Danielle Madugo, Paul Moss, David Spath

Staff: General Manager Bill Hansell

Consultant: Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Johnny Valenzuela

Members of the Public: None

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul Moss noted that he was approached by a neighbor who indicated she had spoken with a few residents who didn't realize that the EPC and Board meetings were recorded. The neighbor suggested including this information in a short note (e.g., Outlook Monthly Safety Reminder, Next Door Kensington) might alert more residents of the recording option if they can't join for the live meeting.

Larry Nagel congratulated Johnny Valenzuela for running three successful neighborhood meetings last weekend.

3. ADOPTION OF CONSENT ITEMS

Items listed below are consent items, which are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion. Reports and recommendations prior to assigning consent item designations to the various items have been received and considered. Copies of the reports are on file in the Fire Protection District Administrative Office at 217 Arlington Avenue and are available to the public. The disposition of the item is indicated. There will be no separate discussion of consent items. If discussion is requested for an item, that item will be removed from the list of consent items and considered separately on the agenda. (Supporting material)

a. Approval of Minutes of the regular meeting of April 28, 2022 (Approve)

MOTION: Nagel/Spath to approve the minutes.

Motion adopted by consensus.

4. OLD BUSINESS

a. Update on status of RFP and survey plans for EWAs

Kevin noted that Bill agreed to attempt to locate an RFP for an LRAD system and that the survey was postponed until the RFP has been circulated. Bill Hansell noted that he is still

working on locating an RFP. David Spath asked if we would send the RFP to several vendors. Kevin noted that the Board may want to do this.

b. FireWise Communities: Plan to report to KFPD Board on potential action

Action = Discuss and make decisions about related issues, including (1) whole community vs. neighborhoods, (2) house hardening to resist fire vs. retaining insurance, and (3) efforts that the District could vs. should potentially take; appointment of members to research certain issues further.

Kevin stated that in bringing this topic to the Board there are the three issues as stated above.

(1) Whole community vs neighborhood. Johnny noted that we can have Kensington become a Firewise Community. Johnny thinks that having only one would be easier. We could target the entire ridge line as the starting point. David Spath noted that there is a lot more outreach that needs to be done. More important, we need to get individuals engaged. Peter Guerrero noted that a community wide plan reduces the administrative overhead and will make it easier to get volunteers. Johnny noted that not every single home has to be on board to obtain the Firewise designation. Peter noted that Berkeley has staff to help with the compliance, and suggested that if the Firewise community begins to take hold, the KFPD should allocate resources to assist Johnny. Paul Moss noted that Orinda has 30 Firewise communities while Berkeley has one, and it isn't clear which approach is more effective. Dave Spath noted that Chief Winnacker did not suggest that there was any advantage to consolidating the 30 Firewise communities, and that having contiguous homes in smaller communities also had advantages. Danielle Madugo noted that Firewise communities can be as small as 8 homes and as large as 2500 communities and that a community requires a board of neighbors to file the reports.

Peter Guerrero noted that all of the Firewise communities will have approximately the same applications. Paul Moss and Peter Guerrero volunteered to speak with Chief Winnacker to determine how much of an administrative burden Firewise communities are.

Paul Moss asked Johnny Valenzuela how difficult it was to establish a community in Mosquito, El Dorado County. Johnny noted that there was a lot of effort by the neighbors because the Mosquito Fire District was not supportive of the program. Johnny believes it will not be as much of a problem here because of the resources provided by KFPD.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Measure X Funding and PG&E undergrounding (Supporting Materials)

Action = Recommend to the Board to send a letter (or ask Bill or the Chief) to Supt. Gioia asking about the potential availability of funds from Measure X for vegetation reduction and removal along the WUI, and to ask him about the possibility that PG&E could underground their high-risk power lines and other lines in the Wildcat Canyon vicinity.

Action = forward a draft letter to the KFPD Board

Kevin suggested that we draft a letter to Supervisor John Gioia to pursue funding from Measure X for fuel reduction projects as well as undergrounding PG&E undergrounding projects. Peter Guerrero suggested that this might be better handled by having our Chief contact the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District (CON Fire) regarding Measure X funds. Bill Hansell agreed that we should ask Interim Chief Jose Castrejon to pursue this

matter. Peter Guerrero noted that being a Firewise community might expedite obtaining Measure X funds. Peter also noted that we need to work with EBRPD on fuel reduction.

b. Brief report on new developments from Berkeley's recent wildfire preparedness meeting

Peter Guerrero noted that they inspected 7,644 homes and 5,784 homes passed. An architect noted that 90% of the fire risk is from embers. This compares to Kensington where 98% of the properties pass inspection. Bill Hansell noted that the Board will be considering mitigation at the June Board meeting.

6. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Johnny Valenzuela gave a report on the Block Parties that were held recently. The slides of Johnny's presentation are attached. Johnny noted that it is important to have the Fire Department at these parties as well as members of the Emergency Preparedness Committee. Danielle Madugo asked if Johnny will be sharing various neighborhood projects and Johnny said that information would be available to the entire community.

7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Peter Guerrero reported on sudden oak death in East Bay Regional Park District parklands.

8. CALL FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

9. ADJOURNMENT

The next regular meeting of the Emergency Preparedness Committee of the Kensington Fire Protection District will be held on June 16, 2022 at 1:00pm via Zoom Conference, unless noticed otherwise per the Brown Act.

MINUTES PREPARED BY: Larry Nagel

These minutes were approved at the Emergency Preparedness Committee Meeting of the Kensington Fire Protection District on June 16, 2022.

Attest:



Emergency Preparedness Committee Member