

## Firewise Resource Task Force Meeting Minutes

Meeting: September 23rd, 2024, at 1 P.M. on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81479601766?pwd=b985y4NFgOYDdKQwgp16LBKY5BrMm.1>

Meeting ID: 814 7960 1766 Passcode: 367746

Voting Members In Attendance: Dave Watts, Iris Harrell, Lesli Lee, Pat Parson

Non-voting Members: Jeff Neuman, Jerry Gladstone, Louisa Knabe, Danielle Hannigan, Christel Antone

1. Call to Order and Determination of a Quorum: Quorum met, meeting called to order at 1 PM
2. Adoption of Agenda- Additions or Deletions: Adopted with removal of duplicate New Business items C&D.
3. Approval of Minutes for Meeting on July 8th, 2024: Approved as submitted.
4. Continuing discussion of "Where do we go from here? What should be our priorities going forward?"

### I. Events for 2025:

1. Firewise Fair: Scheduled for Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup> from 1-4 PM.
2. Firewise Home Tour: Date tentatively set to September 2025, repeating best homes from previous Tours along with a 9 unit sub-HOA, using assessment information to help show positive actions that have been taken, and incorporating MYN members as volunteers to help host the tours.
3. Other suggestions: Committee discussed incorporating a speaker panel or town hall for the Architectural Committee and Firewise Resource Task Force. Decision made to roll this into other firewise oriented events below.

### II. Speakers:

1. Repeat a speaker such as Steve Quarles or David Shew: Iris will ask Christel for recommendations. Strong suggestion from Firewise team: ask Christel for a workshop of showing movie "Elemental" at a town hall with a panel for questions after: Roberta McIntyre of Firesafe Sonoma, AC rep Jeff Neuman, Firewise Team-Iris Harrell & Dave Watts.
2. Other possible speakers: Iris will be speaking on Sunday, October 27 at 10:30 AM for the Sunday Symposium on how to prepare to keep/find home insurance in light of today's changing requirements & costs.

### III. Keep firewise issues on the minds of residents by doing articles in the Oakmont News and blurbs in Inside Oakmont: (Copy for September 28th issue of O.N. is due on Monday September 16th.)

1. The article "Small Actions Can Reduce Wildfire Risks" appeared in the Oakmont News July 27th issue and Inside Oakmont. Kudos to Dave Watts, author of the article; the committee discussed repeating this article twice a year as a reminder to residents.
2. Future articles of no more than 400 words with general information that pertains to Oakmont and aligns with solid sources.
  - A. Article on the certified IBHS "Wildfire Prepared Home" in Oakmont with a tie-in about obtaining home fire insurance by meeting IBHS standards will be published by Press Democrat by mid-October. (Task completed by Iris Harrell-Paulina Pineda is journalist.)
  - B. Suggestions for another article to appear in the O.N. before the end of the year. Committee discussed running informative article on how to request an assessment at the beginning of the

2025. Other discussion on helping journalists in the future with technical details by giving them something in writing during the interview.

#### IV. Reports:

1. Assessment updates: Pat - Assessments are up to date, no new requests. Discussed 4 cancelled or postponed requests for assessments. Iris to follow up.
2. MYN meeting talk by Dave held on July 25<sup>th</sup>: Dave presented a summary of the key points from Dr. Stephen Quarles' latest work "Retrofitting a Home for Wildfire Resistance" to put into perspective home-hardening and defensible space actions. There was discussion on how the Firewise Resource Task Force and Meet Your Neighbor can work together to help spread each other's message.
3. Jeff Neuman shared what an A.C. inspector tells residents about trees growing above or near a home. We want to be able to tell residents what the A.C. is looking for on this topic during our educational firewise assessments. AC must stick to written policies, Jeff discussed tree regulations from Firewise Policy and Landscape Maintenance Policy.
4. Report on the first meeting of all OVA Task Force committees to give an overview of how task forces will function and to discuss goals and expectations moving forward. (Iris attended the meeting.)  
Moved to next meeting

#### V. New Business: *Item 6 was discussed. Items 1-5 moved to next meeting on Monday, Oct. 14 @ 11 AM.*

1. Future report on home mitigation requirements based on IBHS certification standards and the direction that home landscape design is headed based on a UC Berkeley, IBHS and CSAA Landscape Design contest that Reduces Wildfire Risks. Moved to next meeting - Include the different entities varying and changing regulations: Oakmont, city, insurance companies
2. Iris is a voting member of FwRC (approved before the July 8th Board meeting) is another voting member needed? – Committee currently has 5 voting members; no new voting members are needed at this time.
3. Who should be on the FirewiseTeam@OakmontVillage.com email list? Moved to next meeting
4. 1/8 inch vs. 1/16-inch vent discussion. Moved to next meeting
5. Outside AC cover that opens/closes when in use like a dryer vent to keep leaves out of the unit - Pat Parson. Moved to next meeting
6. Ember Stomp report & IBHS Report: Jeff discussed his attendance at Ember Stomp and made video footage available regarding the in-person Juniper and home flammability demonstrations that occurred. Committee discussed sharing this footage at the Firewise table at the 2025 Fire Fair in short clips- junipers burning and the 2 small bldgs. by IBHS burning.

#### To Do List:

1. Subcommittee for 2025 Firewise Home Tour-Louisa Knabe, Dani Hannigan, Iris Harrell
2. Dave Watts to send Iris & Christel a word copy of the article "Small Actions can Reduce Wildfire Risks"
3. What articles do we want to focus on in 2025-need 3 volunteers to write 3 short articles
4. Iris to report on the 4 delayed assessment requests (Levy, Fatcher, & 2 Singing Brook sub-HOA homeowner requests)
5. Iris to talk to Christel about having a workshop with expert panelists and showing movie "Elemental"/Jeff to confirm with producers that he can show it...maybe invite the producer?

Next Meeting 10/14/24 at 11:00 PM