



MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 21, 2018

Folsom Community Center, Activities Room, 52 Natoma Street, Folsom, CA 95630

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 1:05 PM. A quorum was declared by Chairperson Phillips. Self introductions were completed.

Members Present: Ron Phillips, Linda Conroy, Karen Ciraulo, Tom Stuart, Leighton Johe, Deborah Grassl, Lauren Ono (FFD), Aimee Nunez (City), Lorraine Poggione (City), Jamison Larson (City), Eric Brown (SMUD), Kurt Keller (SMUD), Jeff Mussell (PG&E)

Guests: Richard Nevarez (Parkway), Stuart Scherr (Parkway), Michael Marshall (Parkway)

Members Absent: Chief Rodriquez (FFD), Elizabeth Dyer (USBOR), Denali Beard (CDPR), Tim O'Shea (City)

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM January 17, 2018 MEETING

The Council reviewed the draft meeting minutes for January 17, 2018, as prepared by Chairperson Phillips. No further changes to the draft Minutes were identified.

MOTION: To approve the January 17, 2018, Meeting Minutes as prepared.

Result: Approved (Unanimous)

Motion By: Richard Nevarez

Seconded By: Karen Ciraulo

Ayes: Phillips, Conroy, Ciraulo, Stuart, Johe, Grassl, Ono, Nunez, Poggione, Larson, Brown, Keller, Mussell, Nevarez, Scherr, Marshall

Nays:

Absent: Rodriquez, Dyer, Beard, O'Shea

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Karen Ciraulo reported the following changes to the existing checking and savings accounts for the Council. Total funds available are \$ 9,182.22, with \$ 7,081.26 available in the checking account and \$ 2,100.96 available in the savings account.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. American River Canyon East VMP Draft V.2

Ron received feedback from several agencies and awaiting a few others. March 1st there will be a meeting to walk through Phase III and talk about larger concerns while looking at the big picture. State Parks and BOR have indicated that Phase III must go through greater environmental work before it is approved. This Phase is also subject to Cal Fire crews in the planning. Ron would like to move forward with the power line easement beginning work to start as soon as possible. Maintenance crews are already in the Plan area so SMUD would like to do some clearing work ahead of time that may not need a lot of environmental work. Also, may be a chance to stage some chipping equipment along some of the trails ahead of time if approval can be secured ahead of time.

Lauren said that there may an environmental review fee of \$1,500 charged by State Parks and because this work is being done for State Parks' benefit perhaps they may be willing to forgo the review fee.

Leighton said that any kind of weight-bearing traffic on the rail grade may affect this historic feature of the landscape. Sight, weather and ground conditions would need to be evaluated to give any go-ahead around this area. The State Parks cultural officer is reluctant to sign off on anything that may compromise the cultural resources.

Amy wanted to know whether a certified arborist will be on-site for Phases I & II. Ron said that it would be important to have an arborist on-site to guide the Cal Fire crews, etc., but not necessarily have the arborist on-site full time.

Lorraine said the the Fire Chief and Parks and Rec Director are not in agreement as to the defensive limbing height. Ron explained that is why the recommended limbing ranges from 6-10 feet.

Deborah asked about the missing credit for the writing of the ARCE Plan and thought it should be listed. Ron said that it was a group effort even though he actually wrote the Plan. Eric said that pretty soon other agencies will be aware of the work that the FFSC is generating, so it would be helpful to form a group of people responsible to weigh in on future projects and plans, and credit be given for the ARCE Plan to get out in front of interest in FFSC's work.

B. FFSC Social Media (Website & FB) Update Project

Tom passed out a *Web-site Content Management Policies and Procedures* draft document intended to define the content category types for the FFSC Website, update frequency, what approvals are required before content is posted and who is responsible for site updates. He would like to receive feedback by the April 18, 2018 meeting. Tom asked all to think about how involved the FFSC web-site should be, and how much time should be allotted to its upkeep.

C. May 5th Community Wildfire Preparedness Day

Ron kicked off the discussion on how to maximize awareness of Community Wildfire Preparedness Day with two optional ideas for the Parkway to consider: The Parkway admin offices could hold an educational event to improve fire safety around homes; and The Parkway could stage a community volunteer project to remove easy-to-get to dead fuel on trails. A follow-up meeting to get some kick-off ideas in the works was suggested.

Ron asked Lauren if fire-wise brochures could be handed out in neighborhoods by the Fire

Department; as a follow-up on this idea Ron will email FFSC members a print out on what other fire safe councils are doing on May 5th.

Leighton offered thoughts on staging a small demonstration project for the neighborhoods to feed into the educational event(s). Ron said that we could make the 'Ready Set Go' and other brochure materials available.

It would be good to get these events into the City's Newsletter. Ron asked Linda if we still have a volunteer waiver to cover activities. Lorraine said that the City also has a volunteer waiver that could be used; Ron said that the City's volunteer waiver was vetted by the City Attorney.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2018 Strategic Planning Toolbox

Arbor Day is April 14, 2018; Community Service Day is in September. Aimee said that the City has a few projects planned for this Arbor Day, and is looking for volunteers. Arbor Day, Creek Week and Trail Day are being combined this year. Jim Konopka is heading this up for the City. Kurt said wood chips could be dispersed free to the public on Arbor Day, if the City could find a staging place. Some of this information will be submitted to the City and agencies to see if there is any interest to participate.

B. Silent Auction Fundraiser Ideas

Linda reported that the annual Silent Auction Fundraiser needs unusual silent auction items. Think of ideas, too, that don't cost money, but would be an unusual experience that people wouldn't ordinarily be able to participate in unless they bid at our silent auction.

6. ROUNDTABLE

A. City of Folsom – Jamison reported on a new City project: a 3 year plan MAP and timeline for shaded fuel breaks. He also introduced and passed out copies of the 3 year timeline spreadsheet which described the year in which particular fuel ladder work was to be accomplished. The Draft map and spreadsheet only relate to city owned and maintained properties. The work is planned to be completed in the same fashion as the shaded fuel break. 30-100 feet from permitted structures, 10 feet from roadways, limbed 6-10 feet from the ground, dead or hazardous trees removed, underbrush cleared and or spaced as needed. JPA, State, and Federal lands are not included in this ladder fuel plan. It was asked what the City would like from the FFSC in terms of cooperation? Jamison said any suggestions or comments on the MAP or plan would be greatly appreciated: Jlarson@folsom.ca.us.

B. California State Parks – no report

Lauren is working on a grant for weed abatement of annual grasses to operate simultaneously within the 3 year cycle of the City's new 3 year plan MAP. Different aspects of plan areas on the MAP were discussed that take into consideration the flora and fauna.

Discussion ensued on defensible space behind homes in the Parkway that should be taken care of, too, even though these areas of piles of fuel are not in the new 3 year plan. Ron said that he could put together an example of an interim plan to reduce these fuels or chip them.

Eric said SMUD would like to look at any underground distribution line, electric line, or distribution center to collaborate at the same time the City's work is being done in the area.

Jeff said that PG&E would like to offer the same kind of collaborative work.

C. U.S. Bureau of Reclamation – No report

D. SMUD – No report

E. Folsom Bluffs HOA – Working with Jim Micheaels and Denali Beard to renew the contract for right-of entry.

F. Lake Natoma Shores HOA – Thinking of circulating the American River Canyon East Vegetation Plan around the neighborhood to educate and explore a plan for Lake Natoma Shores.

G. Parkway HOA – Thanked the FFSC for encouraging their participation in meetings.

7. NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 2018 at 1PM

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Phillips at 2:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Grassl, FFSC Secretary