



P.O. Box 6748, Folsom, CA 95763

MEETING MINUTES  
August 15, 2018 at 1 PM  
Folsom Community Center, Activities Room  
52 Natoma Street, Folsom, CA 95630

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The FFSC meeting was called to order at 1:05 PM. A quorum was present. Chairman Phillips lead us in a few minutes of silence recognizing those who recently lost their lives fighting California wildfires.

**Members Present:** Ron Phillips (Chair), Linda Conroy (Vice Chair), Deborah Grassl (Secretary), Karen Ciraulo (Treasurer), Michael Marshall (Parkway), Jamison Larson (City); Leighton Johe (At-Large); Kurt Keller (SMUD), Eric Brown (SMUD), Lauren Ono (FFD), Tim O'Shea (City), Chief Rodriguez (FFD),

**Guests:** Scott Schafer (SMUD), Art Starkovich (Govt Affairs); Gary LaGree (Independent Parkway HOA member)

**Members Absent:** Lorraine Poggione (City), Elizabeth Dyer (USBOR), Jeff Mussell (PG&E), Stuart Scherr (Parkway), Aimee Nunez (City), Richard Rodriguez (PG&E), Denali Beard (CDPR), Richard Nevarez (Parkway), Tom Stuart (At-Large)

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM July 18, 2018 MEETING

The Council reviewed the draft Meeting Minutes for July 18, 2018, as prepared. No further changes to the draft Minutes were identified. A motion was brought and seconded to adopt the Meeting Minutes as submitted.

**Result:** Approved (unanimously)

**Motion By:** Karen Ciraulo

**Seconded By:** Linda Conroy

### 3. TREASURE'S REPORT

Treasurer Karen Ciraulo reported the following changes to the existing checking and savings accounts for the Council: total funds available are \$ 8,894.63; \$ 6,793.30 is available in the checking account; and, \$ 2,101.33 is available in the savings account. There were no expenditures this month.

#### 4. OLD BUSINESS

**A. American River Canyon East VMP – Next Steps**

Lauren got the Right-of-Way permit signed by the Fire Department and sent it back to be signed by State Parks. The permit will go into effect this November. It is valid for one year.

**B. Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser on October 13, 2018**

The Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser will not be staged this year.

**C. Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update / Sub-Committee Formation**

Leighton says there is a lot of talk on promoting new legislative elements or requirements for community CWPPs. He is following up on those.

Chief Rodriguez, Lauren Ono, and/or ~~Kent~~Ken Cusano will be the representative(s) from the FFD on the CWPP Committee.

**D. Community Service Day Project / Parkway Humbug Creek Fire Safe Project**

There are 35 volunteers for the Project Event. The volunteers will complete those smaller projects that were started last time. They need gloves, rakes, water, first aid stations, etc. The volunteers will work in teams. It would help if the City could do some early limbing-up before the volunteers come in. Tim will get with Michael to see if it is possible to combine these efforts as they did last time. \$2,000 total was requested from the City of Folsom's Community Service Day for costs. ~~\$200~~\$500 is asked for in matching monies from the FFSC for the event.

A Motion was made to authorize Michael Marshall of the Parkway, in advance of the Project Event and on behalf of the FFSC, to buy equipment for the Project Event not to exceed \$2,000, with the understanding that FFSC will be reimbursed the advanced funds by the City of Folsom's Community Service Day.

**Result:** Approved (unanimously)

**Motion By:** Ron Phillips

**Seconded By:** Linda Conroy

A Motion was made to authorize a \$500 expenditure from FFSC to Michael Marshall of the Parkway for completing ground ladder fuel work in advance of the Project Event.

**Result:** Approved (unanimously)

**Motion By:** Ron Phillips

**Seconded By:** Leighton Johe

**E. Cal Fire Prevention Grant Application Update**

The Grant Application period is currently open until the end of the month. The application is in the process for \$10,000 and is going through.

#### 5. NEW BUSINESS

**A. SMUD Presentation on ARCE VMP/Phase 3 Utility Line Clearing Project**

Kurt Keller gave an audio-visual presentation of SMUD's completed Phase 3 of the ARCE VMP. The Project started in Spring 2018, and was completed up to the State Powerhouse the second week of August.

The area was weeded first to reduce fire risk in work area. A large crane was brought in to help with work along the historic spillway embankments. The crane saved the levies a lot of wear and tear, assisted in difficult areas to reach, and pulled a lot of wood out of the area as well as.

The vegetation clearance was accomplished along the Upper Powerhouse Loop Canal Trail. The ladder fuel above and below the power lines was reduced. Also, the substation fence and perimeter, a very sensitive environment serving a lot of customers in the surrounding area, was cleared of vegetation. There was one historic artifact recovered, documented by the City of Folsom, and then reburied.

Eric suggested members find the time to go down to the worksite and take a look now, because the vegetation is already recovering. There are specific, targeted and exotic species still at the Project site that SMUD has made a long-term commitment to remove. Eric introduced Scott Schafer, who was down at the Project every day. Scott guesstimated that approximately 500 trees were removed plus another 200 shrubs.

Kurt said that he made an inventory of the number of trees and shrubs that were removed and would bring in accurate numbers to share with us. And, SMUD is continuing to plant good shade trees where appropriate.

At the end of the presentation the FFSC was thanked for its support in this phase of the ARCE VMP, *“Through your collaboration, we were able to complete extensive vegetation clearance which enhances public safety by eliminating fuels and reducing fire risk in this historic area and around our electrical infrastructure.”*

Now that the FFSC collaboration exists to get the vegetation management work done, SMUD is making the contacts for work that needs to be done soon. A mention was made of the completed the project down by Nimbus Dam that was facilitated by this forum.

Mr. LaGree was very supportive of SMUD's report and said he would like to get more involved and volunteer.

### ***B. Public Messaging of Wildfire Risk in Folsom***

Deborah will create a mock-up of a public service announcement, a list of newspapers, radio stations and HOAs to disseminate a Fire Safe Council message to. She will bring in this info for next meeting.

### ***C. Folsom General Plan Update / Safety Element / Wildfire Risk***

Discussion ensued on the wildfire safety element of the proposed 2035 General Plan, whether the information needed to guide future development was accurate and complete. Deborah posited a fire safety hazard issue with allowing an 'F' Level of Service (LOS) traffic on Folsom Blvd that didn't seem to have a remedy for emergency vehicles. Ron noted there were additional suggestions that could be triaged that were not already in place. Karen felt this could be a traffic issue instead of a wildfire issue and didn't think it was appropriate for the FFSC to comment on. Chief Rodriguez said that signal light pre-emption equipment at intersections on Folsom Blvd would serve to mitigate a wildfire emergency response and time. Ron suggested perhaps the Cal Fire - *Fire Hazard Severity Zone* map should be tied to the General Plan instead of the inarticulate map that was representing areas in the City. Ron asked Board members to review the sections of the General Plan on Wildfire Hazard that was sent in the Board packet and said he would get a letter in if need was spotted. The FFSC had until August 23<sup>rd</sup> to get any written comments into the Council packet for the upcoming City Council meeting.

## **6. ROUNDTABLE**

### **A. City of Folsom –**

Jamison said that the City is through using goats to mitigate weeds on City property for the year. In the future the City will inspect properties and protect vulnerable saplings and other sensitive plants before letting the goats into an area to be weeded. But the goats did a great job. City weed abatement is almost finished. The Sacramento Conservation Corps will be starting on Phase One of the City's new landscaping plan soon.

There is an unidentified gentleman walking the trails and stacking wood behind people's homes. Karen is riding the bike trails to report in to the City on anything that is out of the ordinary in this area, but hasn't seen anything yet.

Gary LaGree says that the home-inspection performed by the FFSC at the Parkway's **May 5th Community Wildfire Preparedness Day** event was fantastic. This was how he found out about the FFSC.

Chief Rodriguez reported that the City has had a few fires but the Fire Department quickly responded and the fires never reached a critical stage. There have been 109 fires so far this year. The Department has firefighters strategically placed to respond rapidly and is ready to partner with the community to keep everyone fire-safe. Also, the Fire Department is expecting to inaugurate a new fire station next month at Empire Ranch. Lauren reported that the Local Hazard Mitigation Grant application is going forward.

**B. California State Parks -no report**

**C. U.S. Bureau of Reclamation – no report**

**D. SMUD – gave an earlier report under New Business**

**E. PG&E – no report**

**F. Folsom Bluffs HOA –**  
Still waiting for the right-of entry papers from the State Parks.

**G. Lake Natoma Shores HOA –**  
Deborah thanked Jamison, Lauren and the Chief Rodriguez for pursuing the clearing of the former Figueroa Street property owned by the Lakeside Lawn Memorial Cemetery (behind the twenty-one Young Wo Circle homes). The vegetation clearing was accomplished by the Cemetery owners in June and they are aware of their annual maintenance obligation.

**H. Parkway HOA – no report**

**7. NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 1 P.M.**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Phillips at 2:50 PM.

**\*NOTE:** *Italics* represent agenda items added after the Draft Meeting Agenda was distributed.

Signed Original on File with Secretary

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Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Grassl, FFSC Secretary