



Meeting Minutes

General Meeting – Healthwise Meeting Room, Bogus Basin Road – January 22, 2009 - 7:00 p.m.

23 CFNA members (Total includes 4 board members)

Guests: Pat Durland, Stone Creek Fire LLC; Jeff Root, Boise Fire Dept. Captain; Mark Senteno, Boise Assistant Fire Marshal; Bob Narus, Boise District BLM

1. Welcome & Introduction
 - Paul Werner welcomed the membership and guests and introduced guest speakers
2. Purpose of meeting
 - Paul Werner reviewed the purpose of the meeting as presented on the distributed agenda
3. Approval of minutes/treasurer's report
 - The November meeting minutes were approved.
4. Updates

Eyrie Canyon

- 106 homes approved by P&Z at most recent meeting; native trail approved providing trail access and sets precedents for future like developments that may happen in the area
- For now only 35 homes will be built until 36th Street issues are resolved

Plano

- Test case on Foothills Policy Plan. City Council claims that P&Z erred in their original denial to Plano Developers.
- Must go back to P&Z again. Very important precedent setting for other future Foothills developments.
- Next work session, January 26th; open to public

Hillside to the Hollow

- Michelle Cooper discussed need for more endorsements from local businesses. Video has produced by WideEye Productions to show at Foothills Levy meeting on February 4. Provides testimony by Coalition members and businesses that have endorsed the cause.

5. Other Business

Crosswalk @ Lancaster & Hill

- Motion passed for the CFNA to fund first batch of flags for crosswalk stands at intersection Hill & Lancaster to help people get across the street safely. ACHD will provide the stands. Jody Orr will coordinate getting the signs and stands.
- Mary Lou Taylor suggested we investigate speed limit signs, cones to further assist motorists with visibility of crosswalk

CFNA Monthly Meeting

- Motion to change next NA meeting to March 12th from 19th to avert scheduling problems around Spring Break.

Announcement and introduction of speaker by MaryLou Taylor. MaryLou also mentioned that any interested members that want to be on a CFNA Firewise Committee should sign the sign-up sheet available during the Firewise presentation.

Guest Speaker

Pat Durland, Consultant and owner of Stone Creek Fire LLC

Presentation on Protecting your community from Wildland/Urban Interface

- Fire is not about geography, it's about conditions that exist that determine how ignitable a property is and its potential to go up in flames do to materials and landscaping
- Home Ignition Zone—the existing structure an 100 feet around it
- Regardless if whether or not your home is touched by flames, ember showers from neighboring homes often cause fires
- Examples of fires storms: Oakland Hills, 1991—3,000 structures burned, 21 lives lost; 2007 Witch Fire Rancho Bernardo; 2008 Oregon Trail Subdivision Fire, Boise, 10 homes burned

- Weather patterns, terrain changes contributing to longer fire seasons; duration of fire seasons expanded from 8-37 days—for instance the 2007 Bugaboo Fire in Florida and Georgia burned for 17 days and 123,000 acres.

- Wildfire Suppression Capabilities: Current wildfire suppression success rate is about 98%. 2 percentile that cannot be suppressed costs are unlimited, lives are lost.

- Mega Fire Phenomenon—Fires that are resistant to suppression. We need to change our mentality from reactive to proactive. Build structures and landscape properties to mitigate fire. Take action before disasters occur. Everything left unprepared becomes a problem; every weakness comes to the forefront.

- The best intended developers often put people in harm's way by building subdivisions outside of town, surrounded by trees.

- Structural fire losses have been reduced however via the implementation of codes and ordinances.

Two key factors in ignitability of homes:

1. Combustible roofs (Witch Creek Fire—bird's nest built under terra cotta tile)
 2. Importance of keeping high intensity fire 100 feet from your home.
- Ignition is contingent on building materials, design and adjacent flammable vegetation.

 - If it's attached it's part of the house i.e. fencing, brooms left out, door mats, etc. Embers and low intensity fires jumping from nearby structures cause many structural fires.

 - Homeowners can make a big difference by getting rid of highly flammable landscaping such as juniper, trimming trees, pruning shrubs.

 - Communities and neighborhoods need to be aware and involved in wildland/urban interface and find out what they can do to mitigate ignitability.

Mark Senteno, Boise Assistant Fire Marshal

- Mentioned that Boise City is in the process of updating city fire standards. More information on the revised standards will be available at a later date.

Bob Narus, BLM Mitigation and Education Specialist

- In his 20th fire season and his main job is fire mitigation
- CFNA is perfect case study for the potential of wildland/urban interface
- Suggestions to mitigate fire: Trim trees, sagebrush; apply for grants to reduce fuel on private lands, i.e. foothills; call BFD or BLM and they will come out and assess the ignitability of your home

6. CFNA Meeting Dates

Thursday, March 12, 2009 (annual meeting)

*Additional meetings schedule if needed; locations TBD

7. Motion for adjournment, seconded, approved

Date Approved _____

Number of Board Members Present _____

Number of Board Members Who Approved _____

Number of Members Present _____

Signature of Secretary _____

Signature of President or Designee _____

Citizens Working Together for the Benefit of the Neighborhood and the Community

*CFNA is a Neighborhood Association not a Homeowner’s Association. CFNA was created to build a sense of community; provide a greater voice and open process on issues that concern the neighborhood; identify and maintain the values of our unique foothills neighborhood environment and seek funding sources and programs to improve it for the greater good of the community; and to engage in other neighborhood activities such as planning and development, charitable purposes, and education on pertinent issues that impact the neighborhood. The CFNA website is: www.centralfoothills.org