

Coalition of Firewise Communities

December 4, 2018 – 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Our Mission: The coalition promotes fire safety through advocacy, education, and community involvement with other stakeholders interested in working toward stronger fire safety practices.

Coalition Secretary Jeff Peach was not able to attend this meeting. The minutes are a compilation of brief notes taken by the other two officers, Bob Long and Susan Rogers.

Welcome & Announcements

- Training Dec 5th for “in training” communities – at least one representative of each non-certified “in training” Firewise Community should attend the meeting tomorrow from 3pm to 5pm at the Rood Center Empire Room, before the Town Hall
- Continuing Survey re: Homeowners Insurance: Bob is continuing to accept replies
- Reminder – complete you requests for those shovel ready projects and send them to the FS Council

Bob reported on a few things learned at the Fire Safe Council board meeting:

- Dates for the fire drills have been set: April 6, 7 and 8, and April 21, 29 and 30. Communities participating will be: (North) Lake Vera/Round Mountain; Greater Champion, and Greater Cement Hill and (South) Lake of the Pines, and Marty Main’s community. Expectations are that homeowners will be there during the drill, and participate in the lunch at the end.

Reminder: keep urging your residents to get the **green reflective address signs**. These are equally (if not more) important so that medical responders (ambulances) can find your house, especially at night. Responders actually LOOK for the green signs, and report when such a sign is not present, they typically drive back and forth three times before finding the house, wasting precious minutes.

Speaker – Katie from Allstate Insurance, William Witze Agency on So. Auburn

Allstate stopped writing new policies in Nevada County in 2007 because “they saw this coming.” They have been able to renew most clients who were with them before that, as long as they pass an inspection and meet Code.

The William Witze Allstate agency works with seven OTHER insurance companies to write policies currently – all are Admitted carriers except one (see document on Coalition website about what Admitted means). At least one of them, Northlight, uses Allstate for its claims process, which make it easier for the homeowner to make a claim. All of them want defensible

space, no Manzanita. Juniper is OK if landscaped. Climbing vine is OK if not under eaves. Every insurance company will inspect.

The Subcommittees gave brief reports.