



Gold Ridge Forest Fire Safe Council

Minutes of the meeting on September 10, 2020 GRF Clubhouse

1. Roll Call & Sign In: Rich Wade, Sherry Hawk, Pat Schoggins, Dominique Smith and 14 GRF residents

2. Approval of Agenda: Board Action Item Approval motioned by Pat Schoggins & seconded by Rich Wade. Motion carried.

3. Consent Minutes: Board Action Item - Approval motioned by Rich Wade & seconded by Pat Schoggins. Motion carried.

4. Public Input: Due to the large number of attendees, public input was added to the agenda to allow residents to ask questions and express concerns.

- Concerns were expressed about the greenbelts. Attendees were notified that the 100' Good Neighbor Policy project would commence as soon as the high fire danger for the year had diminished, likely after the first good rain. The hired contractor is fully licensed and insured as well as very experienced and respected for his work in the county.
- Concerns were expressed regarding the EDC Defensible Space inspections such as times of day allotted for visits, inability to meet 30 day deadlines, fines and so on. Sherry stated she would reach out to the program director and express those concerns.
- Vacant lot and residential property concern. Members expressed concerns regarding property owners that were not doing their part. Vacant lots can be reported to the POA. Letters have been sent out to all vacant lot owners to let them know they are responsible for the good neighbor policy as well as keeping their property fire safe for themselves and the community. Residential properties can be reported to the county through the EDC Defensible Space webpage by clicking on the complaint form link. <https://eldoradoems.seamlessdocs.com/f/VegetationComplaint>

5. Chairman Report: Sherry Hawk

- Resource Conservation District C-20 Greenbelt - Project will commence as soon as fire danger has passed and weather permits.
- Stevens Grant - Gold Ridge Forest may be included in this grant applied for by the county to complete one of the CWPP recommended projects for our area. Would not be granted until 2021.
- Forebay Playground - CEDAPP is holding a rummage sale on Sept. 12th to raise money for a new playground with a western theme at the park across from Forebay Lake. New bike trails are also planned, and the ground-breaking will happen as soon as the high fire danger diminishes. The community and a few its businesses are volunteering to make that happen.
- CCI grants - Grants will likely open in Sept. and be due in Dec.
- Senior, Veteran, Low-Income program - GRF had 14 of the 50 available applications for free defensible space work to be completed.



Gold Ridge Forest Fire Safe Council

- Meeting recordings and/or live - To be on the EDC FSC agenda next month. GRF FSC is a satellite of the EDC FSC and must get permission first.
- CWPP (Community Wildfire Protection Plan) Need to submit greenbelt maps with dates and updated work to the east of us, to complete our portion of the plan.
- USDA Grant- Grant to be resubmitted in Sept to clear the remaining greenbelts not cleaned in the last few years. To date it has been submitted 3 times without approval. We look to possibly downgrade in the future after the 100' Good Neighbor policy project is completed, in hopes the lower amount will give us a better chance of funding.
- Free Chipping program is now open. Go to <https://www.edcfiresafe.org/chipper-program-fall-2020/> to apply.
- Unlimited green waste day is coming up if you have garbage service! Be sure to call and schedule right away.
- GMRS radio communications - The EDC Amateur Radio Club will be coming to the Sept 13th event to demonstrate how the radios are used and how effective they can be for our community.

6. Treasurer' Report: Pat Schoggins

- Beginning balance - \$690.60
- Donations - \$500 donation from CEDAPP for event
- Reflective sign fundraiser income - \$140.00
- Expenses: \$96.05 (Supplies for event)
- Ending balance \$1,264.55
- EDC FSC Grant balance = \$200.00

7. Greenbelt Report: Dominique Smith - Report on Good Neighbor project- Besides what was discussed earlier in the meeting, Dominique requested that you mark your property lines if you are able to save time and money. There may be some dust involved but please be patient. The project will start with Greenbelt C-6 and C-10. Hope to have completed within 6-8 weeks. After contractor is completed, steeper areas and areas not easily accessible may be completed by the CCC.

8. Rich Wade & Dominique: Hiring a Forester and Harvesting - Next step after Good Neighbor policy in the greenbelt, would be to consider harvesting (not moon-scaping) greenbelt areas. The plan is to set up a demonstration area to show the residents what this would like before we proceed. Harvesting would help assist in slowing down a canopy fire. This has been highly recommended to us by the USDA. Forester and included in their vegetation management plan. No work will be completed until the community has been allowed to give their input. After greenbelts are completed a maintenance program/plan will be needed.

9. GRF Community Appreciation event - Sept. 13 - Noon - 4:00 PM - Includes BBQ and adult beverages, raffle, home hardening and GMRS communications education, pinata and other games for kids, DJ and more.

10. Good of the Order: Rich Wade motioned to adjourn the meeting. Pat Schoggins seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:32pm. The next meeting will be October 13 @ 7:00 pm, GRF Clubhouse