

February 12, 2020 Special Planning Meeting

Meeting called to order by President, Joan Fuquay. This meeting is not a regular board meeting, this is primarily for us a board to discuss plans for the coming year and schedules.

I have asked Marie to take notes on the white board. I would like the conversation to be within the board members until we open for comments and questions.

Directors attending: Marie Zandona-Harger, Kevin Monsma, Dominique Smith, Bob Ritzman.

Gold Ridge Forest Fire Safe Council Update

Sherry Hawk- We were meeting at our house, Rich Wade brought up

USDA, United States Department of Agriculture, and NRCS-Natural Resources Conservation Services.

After an El Dorado County Fire Safe Council Meeting, Pat Schoggins took the initiative to go knock on the door of the office right next door at the County and talked to them about the possibility of a grant for our HOA.

They contacted us 2 days later, typically the Department of Agriculture deals with farms, but they were willing to listen to our situation here and decided to try it. We met with them to open it up grant eligibility and it continued through the process. It is a three-year grant program, they give us so much per acre, it's kind of a matching funds grant. If we have a \$1400 per acre bid, they might give us \$700-900 per acre, or maybe more.

We looked at the HOA annual greenbelt budget to decide if this was feasible. We found we should be able to finish the remaining 99 acres and still have money left over to deal with hazardous trees. We have walked our greenbelt with their RPF, Registered Professional Forester, Brandon, walking our greenbelts and making assessments. Dominique will tell you we are already starting the process to clear areas C-12, C-13, and C-14 with Gold Ridge budget monies. This grant will not start until 2021 and go through 2023 to complete it. So far everything has gone so well we now have a farm number, a farm of trees. If this works for us, they have asked us to go to the other Fire Safe Councils and other HOA's, this would benefit all of El Dorado County. They have a lot of money to spend. We just got an assessment of our greenbelt, FREE, which could have cost \$5,000 or more.

If this grant goes forward there is a lot of paperwork to be signed. There are a lot of questions, regarding payment, possible cancellations, re-payment of money. Other questions regarding stream barrier requirements, We will need another NEPA, National Environmental Policy Assessment. If all is approved, we will be approved late this year, to begin in 2021. There is also a maintenance program with this, which more than likely will give us additional funds after the three years. There is stipulation, once they give us the money, we have to agree to maintain it and follow the plan they come up with, which makes sense anyway to discourage allowing overgrowth again. Please review the agreement and discuss with Kevin Monsma, the finance director.

We will meet with them again on Friday, here at the lodge at 12 or 1:00. If you have any questions get them to me. They would like to get the paperwork signed by the end of the month.

This grant, NEPA-National Environmental Policy Act-Federal is much easier to apply for versus the state grant, California Environmental Quality Act- CEQA, which would require us to have staff to manage the money and also we would be required to pay the study that we got done for free from NEPA.

Joan-does this include cutting down trees?

Sherry, only up to 12 inches to remove understory so you do not have ladder fuel that grows up to mature trees. You have a better chance if you have a fire it keeps it from spreading as fast, as far and less embers.

Joan-we will still have to keep money in the budget for hazardous trees. How would it work?

Sherry, it is my understanding we will be awarded the money, we choose a contractor, they would do the work, it is completed, we get an invoice, we work with contractor to get a net 30 day payment, submit paperwork to them, they come and inspect, call back contractor for corrections if needed, when compliant we would have payment within two weeks by direct deposit.

You have to be a property owner to be eligible, must be submitted by the HOA, non-profits do not apply.

Kevin Monsma- discussion of benefit to apply to offset our cost of greenbelt maintenance.

Thank you Sherry and Pat.

New State Laws

Opt Out emails were sent out to members; we are getting multiple responses from the same members that will need to be cross referenced between Karen at the office and Joan Scheppelmann.

Elections and Time Line

Fidelity Bond

Small Living Units-Accessory Dwelling Units

Budget Timeline

Pool Season and Employee Hiring-Handbook

Rules & Policy Updates

CC&R

Budget

Adjunct Committee with in the BOD to work on the topics.

Communicate vacations to Karen

Compliance Committee-start with fire safe violations.

Election Timeline worked out

March 16th Newsletter-Announce Election, Call for Candidate Solicitation letters, deadline is April 27th,

Pre ballot notice May 10th.

CC&R changes need to be outsourced to type changes requested.

Next Planning Meeting Wednesday March 11th at 7:00pm at the Lodge.

Meeting Adjourned 8:47pm.