

Firewise Committee Minutes
02/15/25

Scheduled Time: 1:00 PM– 2:00 PM

Meeting Location: 5937 Tommys Trail, Connelly Springs, NC 28612 (Thorpe Residence)

Opened at: 1:05 PM

Attendance: Gary Thorpe, Ruth Robertson

Not Present: Ed Hallyburton

Old Business:

- None ... New committee with no personal interaction or formal transfer of materials or responsibility from previous committee

New Business:

Review provided communications from previous Committee

1. 2023- NFS Fire Risk Assessment; modified every 5-years conducted by the Forest Service. 2024 assessment delayed due to difficulties with NCFS availability. Unknown status. Ruth/Gary to contact local Firewise coordinator for clarification of identified assessment items, projected/actual completion dates, responsible person, training, current status
2. 2024 Firewise Community in good-standing (Certificate) is current as issued.
3. 2024- Disaster Plan; modified when new facts arise or once yearly, published with Action Plan and to Members on website. Validate and expand POA EAP to incorporate Firewise disaster plan.
4. 2024 - Action Plan; modified every 3-years 2027 (effective 2025-2028) ACTION Item - Ruth/Gary to contact local Firewise coordinator for clarification of identified action items, projected/actual completion dates, responsible person, training and validation of plan
5. Firewise Report July 2024 is located in Firewise file.
6. 2025 Renewal Certificate; due yearly (Calendar entry) To be determined during training with coordinator
7. Firewise equipment must be validated with Brian's assistance. Inventory and prepare preventative maintenance actions where needed.
8. Committee historical data, schedules, documents, minutes, plans, events, actions, etc., is planned to be maintained on the PMPOA shared Google Drive

Open Discussion:

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1. Retain burn pile until a better method of debris collection/disposal is available.
2. Residents/volunteers deposit debris in positions along roadway near residence/property. Pile neatly to allow for hand removal and/or feeding of chipper.
3. Schedule bi-annual debris collection and/or chipper event. Chips either collected and piled for community access or dumped at a location requested by a resident.
4. Burke County Debris cleanup status
 - a. First Pass: Remove sizeable vegetative debris (e.g., trees and branches). Last available Burke County pickups 03/18/25. Notification to County NLT 03/10/25 for new/additional debris locations.
 - b. Second Pass: Collection of construction and demolition debris (C&D). (unscheduled)
 - c. Final Pass: Pickup of smaller vegetation and residual debris. (unscheduled)
 - d. Collect debris data from County coordinator and present to members as well as documenting in Firewise reports/database.
5. Acquire and place pamphlets and flyers on bulletin board, Info posted on IPM and PM web sites, FB pages, etc. to reach new members and explain Firewise and timesheets.
6. Schedule Firewise event for annual requirement (May). Tabled...
7. Present and discuss # 5 and #6 above with Community Events Coordinator.
8. Burke County debris coordinator's office (Heather @ 828-764-3088 or alt. 828-764-9071. Provide gate codes to Heather as needed.) Nov-2024 Debris update: https://content.getrave.com/content/5959802/17109f08-06f8-406b-b990-504eef87f08f/471f9659-2d2e-4b7f-9c9e-2688af495e14/11.20.24_-_Debris_Update.pdf
9. Establish communication with current hotel/restaurant owners (Sean?) for Firewise/community information sharing.
10. Provide guidance to residents of the recommendation for hardscape applications around their homes. Include the recommendation in new building plans and a point of inspection for the PM Environmental Committee checklist.

Other discussion? None presented.

Schedule next Firewise Meeting - Poll committee for recommendations

Closed at: 2:24 PM