

Minutes: 5/20/14BHTNA emergency meeting -- Firewise Presentation

The BHNA held an emergency meeting following the devastating house fire on Barrington drive that was a total loss of the property.

In our ongoing efforts to raise awareness of the fire risk to the City of West Linn due to the unmitigated, overgrown, and unmanaged high fire risk on the ODOT property bordering the Barrington Heights neighborhood and I-205, we asked Brian Sherrard from TVFR and Oregon Department of Forestry to meet with our BHTNA Fire Risk/Safety Committee members and to walk the ridge of the ODOT property on 5/12/14. Jenna Nelson from the ODOF presented the possibility of our neighborhood becoming a Firewise community.

Following this meeting we scheduled an emergency meeting for 5/20/14 of the BHTNA to have Jenna present what becoming a Firewise community would mean and how this joint effort by the homeowners, ODOF and TVFR would make our homes and all of WL property potentially safer and perhaps more defensible from the high fire risk adjoining ODOT property. Homeowners asked several very good questions:

1). Where was ODOT in the process since their property seemed to pose the highest risk?

ODOF would try and bring ODOT to the table or at least get permission to mitigate part of the top of the hillside property they own and are responsible for.

2). Were there any grant dollars available to offset the cost of replacing high risk wood shake roofs with low risk composition roofing?

There are no funds currently available but may be in the future.

3). What about the possibility of using goats to clear the brush on the ODOT land?

Goats pose a high risk of escaping the perimeter of the area they are placed which would pose a particular high risk due to the proximity of the I-205 freeway.

A PowerPoint was made for the ODOF presentation to our NA. It was very informative.

This meeting held on May 20th had a quorum of Homeowners in attendance. There was a motion by Robert Jester (seconded by Larry Jones) to proceed with becoming a Firewise community and the vote passed unanimously (10-0). Since that time, Jenna has sent out a post card notification to residents informing them of the opportunity to have ODOF conduct a free assessment of their property and steps to mitigate identified risk.

We also asked ODF to present to us the community FIREWISE assessment for feedback. This will include future steps that homeowners want to see happen.

A special thanks to Jenna Nelson from ODOF and Brian Sherrard, TVFR, and his staff in helping to make our neighborhood and the City of West Linn safer from the high risk of wildfire.

Attendees:

1.	Doug Ainslie	2951 Beacon Hill Drive	Voted in Favor becoming Firewise community
2.	Larry Jones	2067 Riverknoll Court	Voted in Favor becoming Firewise community
3.	Rick & Paula Mishaga	3320 Barrington Drive	Voted in Favor becoming Firewise community
4.	Clyde Tanita	3330 Barrington Drive	Voted in Favor becoming Firewise community
5.	Tamara Gilbert	2851 Beacon Hill Drive	Voted in Favor becoming Firewise community
6.	Steve Reece	3520 Riverknoll Way	Voted in Favor becoming Firewise community
7.	Steve & Nancy Inman	3540 Riverknoll Way	Voted in Favor becoming Firewise community
8.	Robert Jester	3475 Riverknoll Way	Voted in Favor becoming Firewise community
9.	Margaret Tolan	3410 Riverknoll Way	Voted in Favor becoming Firewise community
10.	Steve Garner	3525 Riverknoll Way	Voted in Favor becoming Firewise community