

Report on Agenda Item 11a at KFPD Regular Meeting Report on the May 25, 2023 Emergency Preparedness Committee Meeting Larry Nagel June 21, 2023

The last meeting of the Emergency Preparedness Committee was held on May 25, 2023. There were six members present in addition to Interim General Manager Mary Morris-Mayorga, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Johnny Valenzuela, and EC/K FD Fire Prevention Officer Traviss Crumpacker.

The first agenda item was Fire Prevention Officer Traviss Crumpacker. Traviss first reported on CERT. The CERT held a sale of water barrels and fire extinguishers and it was very successful. The Kensington/El Cerrito CERT program will be modeled after the Lamorinda CERT program where citizen volunteers handle most of the organization work, leaving fire staff to deal with instruction. Chris Hilliard is organizing the CERT program for EC/K FD.

Traviss then reported on Fire Prevention. He has driven every street in Kensington and the high-hazard areas in El Cerrito. The citations have been mailed out and there are no more than a few dozen violations. Traviss noted that most departments have a third of the department working on fire prevention, and yet EC/K FD has only one sworn officer.

The second agenda item was a discussion on how to move forward on procurement of and Emergency Warning System (LRAD). The EPC needs to give a presentation to the KFPD Board along with a recommendation of a plan of how to proceed in the future. Co-chair Larry asked if we can be ready with a presentation by the June or July KFPD Board meeting. After lengthy discussion, the consensus was that the subcommittee can have a rough draft of the presentation by the next EPC meeting in preparation for a KFPD Board presentation at the July KFPD Board meeting.

The third agenda item was a report by the subcommittees including the tasks for the subcommittee and progress made on accomplishing these tasks.

• Volunteer Recruitment Subcommittee (Katie Gluck, Peter Liddell, Danielle Madugo, Paul Moss, Johnny Valenzuela)

Johnny Valenzuela reported that he sent a report to the subcommittee and then had a meeting with Chief Saylors to discuss the CERT recruitment effort. Johnny has created a press release for Chief Saylors to use for CERT recruitment. This will allow developing a plan for reorganizing CERT to align CERT areas with Zonehaven zones.

• Door Hangers Subcommittee (Paul Moss, David Spath, Johnny Valenzuela)

Johnny Valenzuela reported that door hangers are in process and distribution should begin as early as June 15. Lisa Caronna asked if we could recruit some help from the various other K groups.

• Subcommittee to Identify Community Wildfire Preparedness and Prevention Projects, particularly those that would be eligible for grant funding, possibly from Cal Fire. (Peter Guerrero, David Spath, Johnny Valenzuela)

Johnny Valenzuela reported that he is working hard on establishing Firewise communities. The first Firewise Community was established by Alan Siegal up on Kensington Court and they held a very successful launch party on June 4.

The ext item was the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator's Report by Johnny Valenzuela. The material is basically the same as in Johnny's Emergency Preparedness Coordinator's report given at this meeting.

The last item was reports from Committee Members.

 Lisa Caronna reported on the need for vegetation management along evacuation routes. Lisa wrote to Fire Marshall Chase Beckman. Chief Beckman asked Lisa if anyone was interested in contacting residents to encourage residents to do fuel reduction work along evacuation routes. Danielle Madugo noted that the County will assist in enforcement of fuel reduction.

The next meeting of the EPC will be June 22, 2023.

Respectively submitted,

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Laurence W. Nagel Co-chair Emergency Preparedness Committee Kensington Fire Protection District