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EMIGRATION CANYON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for April 13, 2021

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom due to COVID-19 State of Emergency

Members Present: Bill Tobey, Dan Anderson, Mike Jimenez, Bryan Johansen, Greg Rudowski, Zach Posner, Stephanie Harpst, Claire Clark, Steve Borst, Kate Miyagi

Members Excused/Absent: Matt Velinder, Paul Brown

Also present: Joe Smolka, Rin Harris, Gary Bowen, Metro Township Council; Michael Conn, UFA; Jake Elsasser, UPD; Joanna Bettmann Schaefer

**7:00pm Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm. A quorum was present. Claire moved to accept March 2021 minutes as previously distributed, with the following corrections: Claire Clark and Mike Jimenez were present, and with the addition of the bank account balance from last month. The council was unanimous in accepting the March minutes with these corrections.

**Treasurer's Report - Paul was not present for the meeting.**

Stephanie sent ten checks to Paul for sign orders.

**UPD Report, Detective Jake Elsasser**

Detective Elsasser gave the UPD Report for March. Auto theft of an unlocked car. Several cars were burglarized on Standel Drive. Stephanie said quite a few more neighbors were hit than the number of reports. Detective Elsasser encouraged people to report any theft or vandalism. On March 11, UPD responded to a request from Salt Lake City to search for a suicidal person who was not found. March 14th traffic accident - single car took out the power pole. Single car traffic accident on March 24th. Suspicious activity March 25th.

April 24th from 9 AM to noon there will be a bicycle race from the mouth of the canyon to the parking lot at Little Mountain. No road closures. UPD is planning a bicycle education day at Little Mountain.

**UFA Report, Michael Conn**

Captain Conn gave the UFA report. He reported that UFA has had only one positive COVID-19 case since January and most have been fully vaccinated. He gave updates on training new recruits and supervisors. The department is working to improve its process for conducting home wildfire assessments by training local fire station crews to conduct interviews and input

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the resulting data. It is also implementing an email interface for requesting home assessments. Trying to ramp up the defensible space evaluations for 2021. Homeowners can now request an evaluation directly by email to the department at [WildfireRiskAssessment@unifiedfire.org](mailto:WildfireRiskAssessment@unifiedfire.org). Crews are driving the neighborhoods and doing a “windshield assessment” of fire hydrants, fuel types, etc and putting that into a database. 2021-22 budget has been approved and submitted to finance committee. There will be a 3.5% increase in the member fee. Bill and Captain Conn talked about integrating other sources of data e.g. from the state or other assessments that have been done, and how the data can be shared.

Steve asked if there has been a wildfire risk assessment done for Emigration Canyon for this year; Cap Conn said regional assessments have been done for the West in general which predict a high fire risk this year.

### **Metro Township Council - Mayor Smolka**

Mayor Smolka gave the MTC report:

- Planning is underway for the road repaving in Pinecrest. RMP wants to put in underground power under the new road which may delay the road repaving.
- Trailer waste removal program - each household can request a trailer from WFWRD.
- Municipal Services District -
  - Leftover funds may be used for fuels mitigation.
- Paving in Killyon’s will recommence in probably late May or June.
- Metro Township Council meetings are moving from the fourth Thursdays to the fourth Tuesdays of each month.
- Elections are this year for seats on the Metro Township Council. Candidates will need to file with the County Clerk’s office - filing dates are in early June. Two seats will be up for election.

### **House Number Sign program - Bill Tobey**

Bill thanked Stephanie for launching and spearheading the ECCC’s house number sign program over the last four years. Bill asked for volunteers to take over the house number sign program as Stephanie has signalled her desire to step down. As there were no definitive volunteers, Stephanie agreed to continue spearheading the project.

### **Update on Firewise Community Education Day - planning, date and location prospects**

The Metro Township Council requested that the ECCC hold a face-to-face fire education day as soon as possible. The Fire Station is not available for a Firewise Open House at the moment given coronavirus restrictions. Bill reported on efforts to find another possible location to hold a public event this year. Bill asked for volunteers to help organize. Bill said there is space that

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could be rented at This Is The Place on May 15th for a rental fee. Other facilities were discussed. Kate stated the public health guidelines for public events are posted at <https://coronavirus.utah.gov/utah-health-guidance-levels/>.

**Firewise update: New fire education webpage, summer fuels program, fire danger sign replacement (bottom of canyon)**

Bill announced a new fire education page on ECCC's site. Planning is underway for a summer fuels reduction program. The wildfire risk sign at the bottom of the canyon has been stolen.

**New trails crew report - Dan Anderson**

No updates at this time.

**Next newsletter content**

Bill listed proposed content for the next electronic newsletter.

- Notice on Firewise Community Wildfire Education Day Open House Date
- Promo on wildfire education page on ECCC site
- Spring roadside cleanup - date TBD likely in May
- Update on summer fuels reduction program
- Invasive plants
- House number signs
- Pinecrest & Killyon's paving projects update
- Road events that might interrupt traffic
- Home fire regulations and safety
- Appeal for contributors in the community
- WFWRD

**Community Comment Period**

None

**Other Business**

None

Motion to adjourn at 8:19 PM. Next meeting May 11th at 7PM.