

Mono Basin Fire Safe Council (MBFSC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 19, 2022, 5:00pm
Remote/virtual meeting via Zoom/conference call

Attendees: Glenda Bayless, Robbie Di Paolo, Annamaria Echeverria, Margaret Eissler, Bob Gardner, Lenore Twomey, John Warneke

Call to order: 5:03pm

Annamaria (USFS):

Mono City fuel break update:

- The skid steer, an essential piece of equipment, has not arrived. The goal will be to mow north and south sides of Mono City before April 1, 2023. Contracting this job might be the easiest option.

Mill Creek fuel threat:

- Annamaria recommended a riparian restoration project. This would enhance Mill Creek's fire resilience. The project would require NEPA. Partnering with Whitebark Institute, the Fire Coordinator once hired, USFS, and others would be helpful in making this happen.
- Proposing a multi-faceted project package would be ideal and most effective. Note that it is important to not include too many projects in the package. Have to find the sweet spot.

Bob:

- The Fire Coordinator position has been approved by the Board but has not yet been filled. Waiting on funds still.

Robbie:

Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP):

- Robbie learned our CWPP was updated in 2019. Since it has been within ten years, we do not need to officially review the plan to apply for grants. However, Robbie and Paul McFarland, in an outside discussion, agreed it would be important to further update the plan to include, for instance, Highway 167 communities. The new Fire Coordinator will be helpful in this process.
- As we move into winter, the goal will be to consider how we can enhance our CWPP and, in the process, gather project-ready ideas in preparation for grant opportunities.
- Members of the Council and others in the community have grant-writing skills and experience.
- The question is who could implement and administer projects if the Council received a grant. Managing requires a lot of time and work.

Whitebark Institute Grant:

- Whitebark Institute was awarded a CAL FIRE Wildfire Prevention Grant for education and outreach, focusing primarily on visitors.
- MBFSC had offered to donate volunteer time. We are waiting for the tracking form.

Adjourned: 5:38pm.

Minutes by Margaret Eissler