

BLOCK CAPTAINS MEETING

February 16, 2023
MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

City Manager Elaine Jeng started first Block Captain meeting of 2023 by introducing the Fire Department and Block Captain's Leadership team: Marian Visco, Debra Shrader, Marita Geraghty.

In attendance were:

Arlene Honbo	Mark Grindle, RHCA	Danielle Puhl
Gene Honbo	Melissa McNabb	Baker Smith
Lt. Mike White, LASD/Lomita	Marian Visco	Doris Tse
Louie Medrano, LACFD	Judith Haenel	Marita Geraghty
Shawn Peconil, LACFD	Jonathan Beutler	Bill Ruth
Elaine Jeng	Kathy Patman	Laura Riccio
Debra Shrader	Kathleen Hughes	Leslie Stetson
Carol Marrone	Leah Mirsch	Arty Beckler, RHCA
Maureen Hill	Colton Terry	Nadine Bobit
Dorothy Vinter	Nancy Hoffman	Christopher Linton
John Butoralch, LACFD	Alex Villalta, LACFD/Forestry	Ron Singleton, LACFD.
Haddee Hammond, LACFD	Alfred Visco	Laura Riccio

There were 3 people who listened in remotely.

2. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

2.A. INTRODUCTIONS

Block Captain Lead (BCL) Marian had block captains to introduce themselves, introduced guest speaker Arminia from the California Department of Insurance, and requested members of the RHCA, Fire Department and Zoom guests introduce themselves. BCL Debra Shrader spoke regarding the first goal for the year: to get block captains for areas without representation and consider social events to gain more block captain support, including a get together at Don Crocker's Art Farm. BCL Marian mentioned the annual brush clearance notices to address living in a high severe fire zones and summer inspections of properties. She encouraged Block Captains/residents to watch the Home Hardening and Canyon Management video series located on the homepage at

www.rolling-hills.org. She also mention residents can access the Canyon Wildfire Community and Wildfire Protection Program there as well.

2.B. IMPORTANT UPDATES

BC Arlene Honbo discussed the delay of the Siren project by City Council until after the Peninsula Safety Committee Meeting scheduled on March 9th via Zoom at 7:30 a.m She noted that access information is posted on the city's website a week prior to the meeting. Mayor Wilson, Elaine Jeng and Councilmember Bea Dieringer will provide updates at the meeting on the Siren project and to try to solicit interest from other cities to join this project. The City Council has not decided if whether they want to move forward on this project or not. She recommended that everyone at the meeting sign a drafted letter requesting the City Council finish the HQE sound propagation analysis and verify implementation costs. Residents do not want this outdoor siren project to be similar to the backup generator project, with no decision over four years. BC Gene Honbo mentioned working with BCL Marian, regarding role of the RHCA in the Demonstration project to assist seniors who live in canyon areas that need to be managed. They are looking for some people to ask other residents if a senior in their area needs the following: clearing services, financing help, or other services. He stated a database will be created (should be finished in April) for of all the Canyon areas and residents with canyons in their backyards whether clears or not. He mentioned there is a focus group in April that involves Block Captains, to set plans on addressing issue of clearing the canyons.

2.C. PRESENTATION FROM DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE - SAFE FROM WILDFIRE FRAMEWORK

BCL Marian introduced guest speaker, Arminia, a Representative from California Department of Insurance. Marian mentioned the difficulties that some residents are having with having their policies canceled, rates increased, etc. Arminia stated that the California Department of Insurance is the largest consumer protection agency in the nation protecting against unreasonable pricing; setting standards for pricing of premiums; maintains insurance solvency; ensuring funds to pay claims; setting standards for licensing Brokers; and the coordination of regular market conduct reviews to make sure all insurance companies are in compliance of all laws and regulations of the state. Since 2019, they prioritized meeting with Wildfire survivors in their communities all over the state to hear directly about the insurance availability needs of wildfire survivors. She provided handouts with information that from the presentation.

BCL Marian introduced the First Responders from the Fire Department and mentioned having questions on what to do regarding the new regulations for brush clearance. Alex Villalta spoke about the notice for this year. He noted that changes in the public resource code created modifications for inspections necessary to inspect residences in the high and very high with the LRA and SRA. As of January the Ember Resistance Zone (clearing all vegetation within 5 feet of the home) is not going to be enforced this year,

but still being clearly defined by the Board of Forestry. He mentioned the Defensible Space Program, inspections are annual and if violations are found, a resident has 30 days do the work. The goal of code enforcement for brush clearance is to work with residents to gain compliance and avoid administrative penalty fees of \$500 and/or \$908. He stated moving forward they will assist residents to understand what needs to be done year after year. He asked if they were any questions and they were various discussions regarding fire prevention for residents.

City Manager Elaine introduced Lt. Mike White, LASD/Lomita Station

Lt. White was impressed with the robust Neighborhood Watch program and wished more residents were involved. He mentioned a recent burglary in Rancho Palos Verdes where the residents did not feel the need to have a safe. He recommended having a safe bolted to the floor to store valuables even if there is a low crime rate in the community. He reminded attendees to call the Police Station or watch command if you see any suspicious activity.

BCL Marian introduced Haddee Hammond who is conducting the Home Hardening and Canyons inspections for this year. He went into detailed guidelines and steps to receive these inspections.

Next meeting is May 18th.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No additional public comments were received.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:16 P.M.