

## **Firewise HOA COMMUNITY MEETING Summary**

### **April 23, 2019**

An HOA wide community meeting was held at the Auburn Presbyterian Church on April 23, 2019, to ensure all HOA residents are familiar with the Firewise Program; with their assistance to reduce Saddleback wildfire risk requested.

David Franklin, HOA Firewise Coordinator facilitated the meeting along with excellent support from Hank Skawinski who procured refreshments and coordinated communicating the meeting to HOA residents with announcements that included the HOA webpage, signage and a verbal reminder system; Kurt and Karl Simon who coordinated the venue arrangements with the church and Kurt who assisted with the audio visual technology, and Lisa Summers who provided expert fire/home insurance information. David also invited CalFire and the Placer County Firewise coordinator, Ms. Luana Dowling.

Attendees included a total of 52 HOA residents, along with Ms. Mary Eldridge, CalFire Regional Public Information Officer; and Ms. Luana Dowling, Placer County Firewise Coordinator. Ms. Eldridge and Ms. Dowling provided many different documents/flyers for residents to take regarding wildfire safety and home defense.

The meeting commenced at 7:00 p.m. with introductions of HOA Board Members, the HOA Firewise Committee members and the CalFire & Firewise representatives. A Powerpoint presentation was provided by David that detailed elements of the Firewise Program, certification requirements and benefits and the results of the Firewise survey led by Ms. Dowling with the elements of the HOA Action Plan to address the survey findings/recommendations. Several pictures of HOA properties were shown that emphasized the extent of the problem the community faces with flammable vegetation that includes tall grass, shrubs and dead trees. Ms. Lisa Summers (an HOA resident and an insurance agent) provided fire/property insurance information regarding risk ratings and insurability problems including policy cancellations. After a short break, a Firewise movie titled "Your Home Can Survive a Wildfire." Residents were reminded to track their Firewise related efforts on an HOA provided form and to submit the form to the HOA by 8/15/19 for assisting with the certification process.

Throughout the meeting, but especially after the movie, residents asked many questions regarding vegetation flammability, recommended wildfire safety practices, home hardening, etc. of Ms. Eldridge and Ms. Dowling.

The meeting concluded at 9:15 p.m.

*Prepared by David Franklin, HOA Firewise Coordinator.*