

Disaster & Fire Safety Commission
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, December 4, 2019
997 Cedar Street, Berkeley, CA 94710

Present: Gradiva Couzin, Jose Luis Bedolla, Annie Bailey, Shirley Dean, Robert Flasher
Absent: Ruth Grimes, Paul Degenkolb (Leave of Absence), Toby Simmons (Leave of Absence), Toni Stein
Staff: Khin Chin, Keith May
Public: Armaan Mumtaz, Sebastian Cahill, Sarah Jones, Chris Cullander, David Peattie

Preliminary Matters

Call to Order

G. Couzin called meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Approval of the Agenda

Move Item 9 before Item 7

Approved by Acclimation

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

David Peattie from Berkeley Disaster Preparedness Neighborhood Network (BDPNN) thanked for support on the Disaster Prep Fair in October. BDPNN's next quarterly meeting topic will be energy storage options for use during emergency. BDPNN has received a grant to help seniors and people with disabilities.

Chris Cullander said the Mayor's proposals for \$550,000 funding some emergency preparedness, vegetation management, walking paths, safe passages and other measures was passed at last night's City Council Meeting.

Gradiva Couzin said that \$1.1 million siren proposal was not passed.

1. Fire Department and Office of Emergency Services Staff Report

11/11 Structure fire on 1700 Block of Virginia St.

11/26 Structure fire on 1200 Block of Oxford

11/29 Apartment fire on 2200 Block of Dwight

11/29 Apartment fire on 1200 Block of Evelyn St.

A public neighborhood meeting on Monday December 9 in the Alvarado neighborhood regarding the Safe Passages.

Through an Alameda County funded initiative, the Zone Haven application and technology will be available to the City of Berkeley to support wildfire evacuation planning. More details will come as the project progresses.

Consent Items

2. Approval of Draft Minutes for Meeting of September 25, 2019*

Motion to approve minutes as revised: Dean

Second: Flasher

Vote: 5 Ayes: Flasher, Bailey, Couzin, Dean, Bedolla; 0 Noes; 4 Absent: Degenkolb, Grimes, Stein, Simmons; 0 Abstain:

3. Approval of Draft Minutes for Meeting of October 23, 2019*

Motion to approve minutes as revised: Flasher

Second: Dean

Vote: 5 Ayes: Flasher, Bailey, Couzin, Dean, Bedolla; 0 Noes; 4 Absent: Degenkolb, Grimes, Stein, Simmons; 0 Abstain:

Action Items

4. Motion approve to schedule regular meetings of the commission for 2020 on January 22, February 26, March 25, April 22, May 27, June 24, July 29, September 23, October 28, and December 2: Bedolla

Second: Dean

Vote: 5 Ayes: Flasher, Bailey, Couzin, Dean, Bedolla; 0 Noes; 4 Absent: Degenkolb, Grimes, Stein, Simmons; 0 Abstain:

Discussion Items

5. Special Tax Assessment for Wildfire Prevention Possible Future Actions*
6. October's Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) and Plans for Future PSPS's* (Couzin)

J. Bedolla left the meeting at 820pm.

7. Report from Community Disaster Prep Fair (Couzin)
8. Public Outreach on Emergency Preparedness
9. Phase 3 Study to Underground Utilities Wires in Berkeley
10. Referral from City Council: Amending Chapter 19.34 of the Berkeley Municipal Code to Expand Automatic Gas Shut-Off Valve Requirements in Multifamily, Condominium and Commercial Buildings Undergoing Renovations and to All Existing Buildings Prior to Execution of a Contract for Sale or Close of Escrow*
11. Update on Outdoor Alerting (Sirens) and Weather Radios
12. Future Agenda Items

Adjournment

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn: Dean

Second: Flasher

Vote: 4 Ayes: Dean, Flasher, Bailey, Couzin,; 0 Noes; 5 Absent Bedolla, Grimes, Simmons, Degenkolb, Stein; 0 Abstain:

Adjourned at 9:15p