

Boynton Florida Neighborhood steering committee

Feb 24, 2025

NEXT MEETING March 31, 2024 (meetings now to be last Monday of each month)

In attendance: Robin Beauchamp, Phyllis Fetto, Rhonda Gray, Hans and Maria Ritter, Kathy and Krehe Ritter, and Terry Tan

Next party/general meeting will be in May. If the dates work, we will be at Michael Oddo and Jennifer Hyde's house. I think **Phyllis is contacting them to firm up a Sunday afternoon time in mid May.**

We plan to ask for dues from the neighborhood at next party. In the meantime, we should try to spell out what we will need money for. As of now, most money in the last couple years has gone to website development and maintenance, replenishment of supplies in caches, additional supplies for caches and party supplies.

BFN still owes Phyllis for party supplies. This brought up a discussion of how much money we have. The balance as of the meeting was \$844.11. Several attendees contributed for the 2024 calendar year.

[UPDATE] As of Feb 28, 2025, Krehe has updated the Mechanics Bank account so we have 3 current signatures

on file, and after recent transactions we have \$938.26 on hand. A new account number (and new checks) were done as well.

We discussed the large Firewise meeting that is happening Mar 8, 2025, 1 to 3 pm, at the Lutheran church at the intersection of Spruce and Grizzly peak. All are invited. The topic is evacuation routes and how neighborhoods (that is, individual Firewise groups) can plan their own routes. We had a discussion as to how difficult it is to plan a particular route, since the size and direction of the fire will be important to our response. I believe this meeting will be repeated at later dates and different places as well.

Robin outlined a new website which will have separate pages for each of the Berkeley Firewise groups. Robin is dealing with how we will be able to post to our sub page which covers our new enlarged Firewise group, renamed North Berkeley Hills Firewise Community (includes all of Boynton Florida Neighborhood). We all hope this will make the flow of information between Firewise groups more efficient.

New maps from Cal Fire (see recent SF Chronicle article) show most of our Firewise group in the lowest of the 3 hazard zones (as far as wildfire is concerned). Maps will be subject to revision based on input from local authorities (e.g. City of Berkeley Fire Dept. which is quite engaged and active in this project).

Parking laws will probably change, especially on Red Flag (high fire danger) days. Nothing firm is known yet.

Besides fund raising, we thought to focus on fire safety and preparation at our next meeting.

Submitted Feb 28, 2025

Kathy Ritter