

City of Dunsmuir
Disaster Planning Advisory Committee (DPAC) Meeting
Held via ZOOM

Agenda

August 27, 2020 6PM

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Purpose: To advise the City Council on how to prepare for, mitigate, respond to, and recover from natural disasters that could impact the City of Dunsmuir.

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Approval of Minutes – July 23, 2020**
- 4. Public Comment**

Welcome to the Disaster Planning Advisory Committee meeting. This time is set aside for citizens to address the Committee on issues **not** listed on the agenda and that are within the Committee's subject matter jurisdiction. If your comments concern an item noted on the Regular Agenda, please address the Committee when that item is open for public comment. The public has a right to address the Committee on any subject within the Committee's jurisdiction; however, the Committee may limit public comment on matters that are outside of its jurisdiction. Each speaker is allocated three (3) minutes to speak. Speakers are asked to provide their name and address for the public record. We greatly appreciate your active participation.

- 5. DPAC Member and Staff Comments**
- 6. Old Business**
 - A. Dunsmuir Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) Update (Lynda)**
 - B. COVID-19 follow-up**
- 7. New Business**
 - A. Public Service Message**
 - B. Public Education Forum**
- 8. Future Agenda Items**

The items listed are tentative and can be subject to change due to staff availability and committee readiness. Items may be added to the list as the committee sees fit.

- a. Emergency warning/horn system and potential grant monies
- b. Flooding Safety and Insurance Information

9. **Set Next meeting:** Next meeting is scheduled for September 24.

10. **Adjournment**

Copies of this agenda were posted at City Hall, Dunsmuir Recreation and Parks District Office and at the Post Office on or before 6:00 pm July 20, 2020.

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Minutes
July 23, 2020 6PM

1. **Call to Order:** Scheben called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.
2. **Roll Call:** Blackwell, Cutting, Dellabona, Scheben and Shirley all present.
3. **Approval of Minutes – June 25, 2020:** Motion by Cutting to approve minutes of June 25 and seconded by Blackwell. Ayes: All. Noes: None. Motion passed 5-0.
4. **DPAC Officers for 2020-2021 and New Chair Handoff:** The new slate of officers decided at the June 25th meeting was agreed to by Shirley who will become the new Chair for a one-year term. Cutting will remain as Vice-Chair and Blackwell will be Secretary. It was discussed that the term is generally a calendar year but it's most likely flexible as the committee didn't start until end of March 2019 and Scheben served as Chair through June 2020. Scheben reviewed terms of office as set by the City Council: Blackwell, Scheben and Shirley have 4-year terms; Cutting and Dellabona have 2-year terms. Scheben handed over the virtual "gavel" and Chair duties to Shirley.
5. **Public Comment:** No public comment.
6. **DPAC Member and Staff Comments:**
 - A. Shirley thanked Scheben for a great job as first DPAC Chair and commended her for her work on the DPAC Newsletter, green waste, website, Wildfire Safety Guide and the Fire Safe Council.
 - B. Scheben noted that Shirley brings new energy and a skill set that will move us forward with disaster preparedness and response efforts. Scheben is looking forward to helping Shirley transition and will make sure he has contact information for City staff.
 - C. Cutting shared he is working to improve disaster planning and preparedness for the Dunsmuir Recreation and Parks District. He shared concerns regarding earthquake damage to the pool and potentially bringing the 800-foot bridge down leaving north Dunsmuir isolated. He questioned the need for a more substantial fire station in north Dunsmuir. Scheben noted that north Dunsmuir would receive mutual aid from Mount Shasta and Dunsmuir's LHMP, that we just worked on, identified earthquake hazard mitigation strategies that we could explore. Shirley said that improving the north fire station will require assistance and collaboration from all parties and recommended we add to our agenda for future discussion.
 - D. Dellabona stated his concern with fire safety and the lack of clearing around I-5 through Dunsmuir. Cutting emphasized need for maintenance after fuel reduction projects are completed. Scheben explained there is a fuel reduction project getting set to start in the fall. The Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District (in partnership with CAL FIRE, the City of Dunsmuir, the Dunsmuir Fire Department, and Caltrans) was awarded funding for the Dunsmuir fuel break project to create more fire safe conditions along Caltrans Right of Way lands adjacent to Interstate 5. Scheben will include information about this project in the minutes.

7. Old Business

- A. Siskiyou County/Dunsmuir LHMP Update:** Scheben received an update from Rico Tinsman, City Planner, and shared his information. The Planning Commission reviewed the draft annex, Dunsmuir's LHMP, and Safety Element amendment at a public hearing on July 8th. The Commission recommended Council approve the project with no changes. A public hearing before City Council is scheduled for August 6th and then City staff will request authorization to submit the documents to Cal OES and FEMA for formal review. When the City receives to go ahead from FEMA, it will then be brought back to Council for adoption. Once adopted, FEMA and Cal OES will issue letters verifying that the City is eligible for hazard mitigation funds. Scheben suggested DPAC members attend the Aug 6th City Council meeting to support the project. Cutting suggested a public hearing could be held at the football field bleachers where you could maintain social distancing and Shirley suggested the High School gym is large enough for social distancing meetings.
- B. Wildfire Safety Guide Distribution Follow-up:** Blackwell reported that the Wildfire Safety Guides were distributed to the greater percentage of homes in Dunsmuir. He thanked Scheben and Mayor Lucchesi for their work on the guide and Dellabona for connecting us with Black Fox Forest Management for underwriting the cost of the printing. DPAC team members gave thanks to Blackwell and Scheben for their work in getting the guides to people's homes. Scheben noted they will be available at the Post Office, City Hall/Chamber Foyer, the Community Resource Center, the Hardware Store and the Burger Barn.
- C. Emergency Preparedness Web Page:** Scheben shared that Wendy Perkins, Administrative Assistant, is helping post new information on the Emergency Preparedness page of the City website, including the Wildfire Safety Guide. Eventually it would be great to have a more prominent web page for Dunsmuir's emergency preparedness but the web page and the DPAC newsletter will suffice for now.

8. New Business

- A. Discussion on current wildfire and COVID-19 situation: What more can we do as a community?** Scheben felt community compliance with COVID-19 guidelines is OK but could be better. Cutting noted a downtown business that is non-compliant with mask protocols. Shirley thinks that the beginning of our surge is underway and will likely hit our communities due to the influx of out-of-town visitors. He noted that the spread is moving up from the Central Valley and with more tourists in town, we need to be careful and proactive. Shirley emphasized the need to be unified in our approach to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, protect our vulnerable populations, and help our local businesses succeed. He suggested more public education and that we get more aggressive in our approach to protect our community from those who are ignoring the basic protective measures, i.e., face coverings, social distancing, hand hygiene, etc. Dellabona suggested a "Where's Your Mask?" campaign.

Motion by Shirley: DPAC will attend City Council meeting and 1) recommend increased public service messaging on importance of following public health guidelines to protect our communities from COVID-19; and 2) DPAC Chair and members to assist with messaging on various media outlets and collaboration with Public Health Officer. Motion seconded by Scheben. Ayes: All. Noes: None. Motion passed 5-0.

DPAC members shared concerns regarding wildfire. Cutting asked if we need to identify a safe place in town where people could shelter if they couldn't get out during a wildfire. Shirley noted that there is no safe place during a wildfire and people need to evacuate. It was agreed that most places will not be safe and that the emphasis needs to be on evacuating early and helping people get out.

Scheben reported that she is working with Susan Keeler and Barbara Valenzuela at the Dunsmuir Elementary School to setup a meeting with various parties, including private timber management companies, to assess options for large tree removal. Scheben noted most grants only provide funding for small tree removal. Dellabona stated he is interested in helping and would like to be included in that meeting. Cutting reminded that the school buses can be used to quickly evacuate students and teachers.

9. Future Agenda Items

The items listed are tentative and can be subject to change due to staff availability and committee readiness. Items may be added to the list as the committee sees fit.

- a. Improve capacity of north Dunsmuir fire station
- b. Emergency warning/horn system and potential grant monies
- c. Flooding Safety and Insurance Information

10. Set Next meeting: Next meeting is August 27.

11. Adjournment: Motion by Cutting to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Scheben. Consensus by the DPAC members to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 pm.