

MINUTES

Oregon Life Safety Team

Meeting Date: Thursday, May 24, 2012

Time: 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Location: Oregon Public Safety Academy – A234, 4190 Aumsville Hwy SE, Salem, OR 97317



Members, Representing:

Bill Brauer, OSFM

Candice Clark, OSFM

Chrissy Hollett, Lane Co

Claire McGrew, OSFM

Curtis Ryun, OBC

Dennis Knudson, Polk Co

Diane Laughter, SmokeFree Housing

Ginger Slavens, Tillamook Co

Jeneanne Upton, Tillamook Co

Jim Patton, Benton Co

Joanne Hatch, Clackamas Co

Krista Fischer, OSFM

Les Hallman, OFCA

Scott Goetchius, Multnomah Co

Sean Condon, OSFM

Steven Candela, OSFM

Terry Wolfe, OSFM

Tom Fields, ODF

Guest, Agency:

Guido Verweyn, Director via T/C

Scott Hollett, Oakridge Fire & EMS

Shawn Simons, Burn Survivor via T/C

Terry called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m., May 24, 2012.

Regional and County Fire Service Reports:

Federal, State, County, City and Private Agency Reports:

Oregon Burn Center (OBC) – Curtis Ryun (report submitted)

- OBC unit is staying full.
- ABA convention in Seattle was very successful.
- Prevention and outreach are doing a lot nationally and internationally.
- The Oregon Burn Center is represented at both national and international level.
- Visit the American Burn Association website for updates on abstracts, etc.
 - <http://www.ameriburn.org/>.

Agenda Items:

Approval of minutes

- Members approved the April 24, 2012 minutes.
 - To view visit: www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Comm_Ed/LST/Minutes/2012/04-26-12.pdf.

After the Fire video and Q & A – Jim Patton

Jim provided a brief opening and presented the *After the Fire* video.

- He passed around the book *After the Fire: A True Story of Friendship and Survival* by Robin Gaby Fisher, The film poster that was created for the February 22, 2012, *After the Fire* documentary film presentation held at The LaSells Stewart Center on the Oregon State University Campus in Corvallis, Oregon, and the February 23, 2012 Gazette Times newspaper with an article about the presentation.

Q & A

- Les asked Shawn how long he and Alvaro have been friends.

- Shawn said they met the first semester of their freshmen year in College, they both are from New Jersey, and have similar backgrounds and likes. The biggest difference between the two is that Alvaro is a Mets fan and Shawn is a Yankees fan.
- Jim P. asked Guido when the video was going to be released.
 - Guido explained that he is currently making copies of the 53 minute version of the video and it should be released soon.
- Jim P. asked Guido if the video is going to be televised.
 - Guido explained not yet but that the distributor is working to get it televised.
- Jim asked Guido to share with members why he made this movie.
 - Guido shared that he was looking for a nonfiction story that had inspirational qualities, documentary about the human spirit, and people overcoming tremendous obstacles when he came across Robin Gaby Fisher's book *After the Fire*.
- Jim asked Shawn to share information on the project that he and Alvaro are starting.
 - Shawn informed members that he and Alvaro are contacting every school resident life and public safety director with a dormitory across the United States to share their story with staff and students.
 - They find sharing their story with college kids, especially incoming freshmen who may think it is okay to pull false fire alarms, pranks, or think they are indestructible, can benefit from seeing how you can go from having a regular college life to facing death. What it was like for Alvaro and him to go through such a traumatic event, how they overcame it, about their friendship and how they go on to prosper and have families.
 - They also talk about How New Jersey dorms didn't have sprinkler systems before, but because of the Seton Hall fire New Jersey now requires all dormitories to have sprinkler systems.
- Tom Fields thanked Guido and Shawn, explained that his daughter a student at OSU attended the event, and let them know that his daughter and her friends were very impacted by their presentation.
- Les asked if they are continuing to make an impact on other burn patients.
 - Shawn explained that they will receive a call from their physical therapist letting them know of certain patients that could benefit from Shawn and Alvaro's story and to motivate and inspire those patients to get better.
 - Shawn told how they don't just help burn patients and shared that a cancer patient who didn't want to continue with chemo therapy read the book and become inspired to fight to get better.
- Curtis asked if Shawn and Alvaro have contacted the Phoenix Burn Society about mentoring burn patients.
 - Shawn just contacted Amy Atkins, President of the Phoenix Burn Society about sharing his story with other burn patients.
 - Shawn and Alvaro have had discussions with a lawyer who has a burn camp in New Jersey and is also working to get a burn unit in Haiti, which currently doesn't have one.
- Diane asked if there is a national movement to get sprinkler systems installed in colleges.
 - Shawn explained that there are states with their own sprinkler system mandates and knows there are still several states that don't have mandates. Shawn said that one of their goals is to visit those states to find out who they need to share their story with to get them to mandate sprinkler systems.
- Guido asked members to think about if they know of additional avenues where they could share this video or who might be interested in sharing this video to help with the movement and to get the word out.
- Joanne asked Jim P. if the International Fire Code Council (IFC) or the Western Fire Chiefs Association have adopted or seen this video and can they help with this effort.
 - Jim says they haven't seen this video that it is only the second time this video has been shown to an audience and he thinks they could help with this effort. Jim says they did try a sprinkler ordinance for college dorms in the past and they didn't get very far with it and hopes this video will help legislators.
- Diane asked Jim P. how much it would cost to sprinkler a dorm.
 - Jim says it just cost them \$300,000 to \$400,000 to retro fit a 5-story concrete resident hall running down the middle of each hallway and heading to each room at Oregon State University (OSU). They are trying to complete two a year and hopes that OSU will be completed within five years.
- Any additional questions for Guido, Shawn or Alvaro can be routed through Jim Patton at jim.patton@ci.corvallis.or.us.

SmokeFree/FireSafe campaign – Diane Laughter

Diane offered members the SmokeFree/FireSafe postcards for members to take back to their agencies and shared tools: [Landlord piece](#), [Resident piece](#), and [What Fire Prevention Educators & Information Officers Can Do](#) flyer and print outs of the SmokeFree/FireSafe – Social Media Partnership and the [SmokeFree FireSafe media messages](#).

- Diane informed members if they would like to send their agency's black and white logo to her at diane.laughter@comcast.net, she will have their graphic designer add it to the flyers and send them the pdf.
- Diane went through the What Fire Prevention Educators & Information Officers Can Do flyer handout.
 - 1) Download fliers to educate landlords and multi-unit residents, Use consistent media messaging when a cigarette-caused fire occurs, Promote the messages and materials, Make the most of multi-unit property inspections, and provide training to landlords so they do their part to prevent fires.
- Joanne shared that TVF&R hosts a Landlord Training quarterly. They have incorporated the SmokeFree/FireSafe information into TVF&R's Landlord Training presentation. Landlords, maintenance staff, and property owners attend TVF&R's training. TVF&R conducts a Landlord Train-the-Trainer workshop at the OSFM. TVF&R collaborates with Hillsboro Fire, Lake Oswego, Clackamas Co FD #1 to co-teach the Landlord Training in the Portland Metro Area.
- Joanne informed members that TVF&R has an e-newsletter that goes out to all the landlords. Landlords can printout safety tips for their residences and each month is dedicated to a different topic. They have been building their email list for five years and have around 2,500 members.
- Terry asked Diane who makes the decision for an apartment to go smoke free.
 - Diane says the property owner but sometimes the Management Company decides to go smoke free.
 - The smoke policy disclosure law went into effect January 2010, says landlords are required to disclose their smoking policy but do not have to be smoke free.
- Diane informed members that you can obtain a list of your local landlords from the county tax records. They can sort the list by one or two bedroom, etc. They can usually tell because when they mail the tax bills to a different address than what is the actual residence that is a hint that it is probably a rental.
- Diane encouraged members to work with their [County Tobacco Prevention Coordinator Representative](#).
- Diane asked members who does their agencies social media, the public educators or the information officers.
 - Scott says that Portland F&R communications group takes care of their social media: blogging, Twitter, Facebook, and their own YouTube channel.
 - Chrissy says Lane Rural F&R has Facebook.
- Diane went through the SmokeFree/FireSafe – Social Media Partnership flyer handout.
 - Determine who the social media contact person is for each agency, Gathering their social media information to follow and connect with each other, and Monitor each other's pages and share relevant posts.
- Diane asked if/can agencies take pictures of fires.
 - Scott explained that exterior fires yes and not interior because it can interfere with investigations. But the photos that have been released to news media are okay.
- Diane asked members if they have any ideas on how to promote this information.
- Curtis informed members whenever he attends an Indian Casino he witnesses someone smoking while on oxygen and is concerned that this is a public fire hazard. He wants to know if this can or is being addressed.
 - Terry explained that the smoking while using oxygen message is currently in process and once the informational materials are developed they plan to utilize the home deliverers of the air tank distributors.
 - Curtis thinks we should approach Casino management letting them know they could have a major lawsuit by allowing people to smoke while using oxygen in their casino where one person could cause an explosion that kills hundreds.
 - Diane says that is a good idea because those are the people in a position to make a difference if they see there is a risk to them.
 - Claire informed Diane that Massachusetts did a smoking while using oxygen campaign that has some good graphics and messages. Claire will send Diane the link.

- Joanne encourages members to read John Campbell's research on [Oregon Statewide Renter Survey](#). She reported one interesting result was that even smokers want to live in a smoke free home.
- Diane reported that only 17% of Oregon adults are still smoking, and 8% of those smoke outside.
- Claire asked if another tenant repeatedly smells smoke coming from their neighbor's apartment when the complex has a smoke free policy, and reports this to their landlord, who says they can't do anything because when they go to that tenant's door they have no proof. She asked if there are any rules or regulations we can refer them to.
 - Joanne says one thing they do is talk about policy that the manager has a right to, this is not a protected class, and they have a right to evict if caught.
 - Diane gave one idea that landlords have done but has to be done to all tenants is to change the filter over the stove or in the bathroom every six months and can see if that tenants filter is worse than others.
- Terry asked if insurance companies give a discount for smoke free rental properties.
 - Diane reported that insurance companies are driven by data and statistics. She says we can start recording if the rental properties are smoke free or not when doing inspections. Because a complex that allows smoking and a smoke free are not equal risks.
 - Joanne says if managers have two buildings one smoking and another smoke free they could track the data on the turnaround time and cost.
- Candice will add the links in the What Fire Prevention Educators & Information Officers Can Do flyer to the OSFM website.

Other Business

Fire Prevention Week (FPW) – Terry Wolfe

Terry reminded members that FPW is October 7-13, 2012.

Subcommittees – Terry Wolfe

Terry informed members that he would like to combine the efforts of a couple of subcommittees for FPW.

- He reminded members that the next subcommittee meeting is being held July 19, 2012, at OSFM.

Final Strategic Plan – Claire McGrew

- Claire passed out the [strategic plan](#) and asked members to please send any updates by next Friday to her.

Redmond OLST meeting – Terry Wolfe

Terry reminded members that the June 21, 2012, OLST meeting is being held in Redmond, Oregon and informed members that we are discussing renting a van for transporting members to Redmond. We will be leaving OSFM at 10:00 a.m. and returning at around 6:30 p.m.

- He asked members interested in attending the June 21 OLST meeting in Redmond to contact Candice at 503-934-8266 or candice.clark@state.or.us.
- Les shared that the OVFA conference is being held June 21 in Coos Bay, Oregon.

Drawing – Candice Clark & Terry Wolfe

Candice drew and Terry announced the three winners:

- Ginger Slavens from Nestucca RFPD won the NFPA t-shirt.
- Jim Patton from Corvallis FD won the 811® *Know what's below. Call before you dig.* Coaster.
- Dennis Knudson from West Valley FD won the OFMA *Smoke Alarms – The Right Answer* pen.

Terry shared the [Fireworks Safety](#) flyer that was created for July 4th. Members can use the flyer for their community Fourth of July efforts, the flyer can be personalized with your agency's logo. To receive a PDF version you can add your agency logo to, contact Anita Phillips at 503-934-8264 or anita.phillips@state.or.us.

Adjournment: 3:28 p.m.