

**TOPANGA CANYON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
STEERING COMMITTEE  
MEETING NOTES**

**Co-Chair: Pat MacNeil  
Co-Chair: Keith Harrison  
Lead Coordinator: Susan Nissman  
December 7, 2007**

<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>
Pat MacNeil	T-CEP		
Keith Harrison	OEM		
Maria Grycan	LACOFD	Abigail Bok	Arson Watch
Cynthia Scott	BOS 3 <sup>rd</sup> District	Marge Santos	CEO-UAS
Mary Lukins	LACDACC	Susan Nissman	BOS 3 <sup>rd</sup> District
Andrea Makshanoff	Co-Chair Work Group, T-CEP		
John Hargraves	LASD		

**AGENDA, NOTES, & ACTION ITEMS**

**I. WELCOME**

Co-Chair Pat MacNeil called the meeting to order and welcomed members.

**II. THE CORRAL FIRE INCIDENT**

Susan and Maria gave an overview of the event and nature of the fire on 11/24. This was the third fire this year in Malibu this year and originated from the caves at Corral Canyon at 3:27 am. Total acreage burned was 4901, 80 structures were destroyed, 58 of them single family homes, 1840 firefighters were involved with Strike Teams at Agoura Hills and Malibu, and 15 helicopters and 12 fixed wings, and 1 DC-10 assisted. One of the problems was at the "fish bridge" at Solstice Canyon where traffic was congested with evacuees at the 76 station. Maria told the group of a video filmed inadvertently by some firefighters as they were on Lookout Road. It is being shared with communities to demonstrate the fire-vulnerability of ornamental landscaping around homes.

Mary Lukins reported that Animal Care Control evacuated fewer animals due to the holiday and a horse show in Burbank. She said 25 volunteers clocked 397 hours. VCA Hospitals are willing to shelter dogs for free.

Pat and Andrea reported that T-CEP had little activity as the fire did not threaten Topanga. They kept the voice mail and website updated. Their large used battery for the server worked well when Charter went down again.

Arson Watch had a few problems with renegades. John Hargraves suggested that each chapters need to define leadership and monitor their members. On a positive note, their aid definitely decreased the number of homes that might have been affected.

Homeowners seeking to re-build will be working with a team at the County One Stop Center. They are set up at the Local Assistance Center at Bluffs Park meeting with homeowners and assessing and recording the damage. The County is requiring removal of debris within one month: however, insurance companies are requiring that re-builders get 3 estimates for removing debris before doing so. Re-builders are being encouraged to put a place card in for SBA loans to get an application on file by 1/9 without waiting for insurance companies to respond.

Susan explained that in an attempt to work together with State Parks and solve the Wild Land-Urban Interface, the much anticipated development of a Fire Safe Alliance with LA County Fire Department as the lead agency in conjunction with other agencies, Fire Safe Councils, insurance companies, etc that is expected to begin meeting in mid-January. The individual communities will form their own private non-profit Councils which will fall under the Alliance and be eligible for grants with County as their fiscal partner.

### **III. STATUS REPORTS**

#### **COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE**

Stacy was not available to report. The T-CEP flyer is on hold. Communications Committee meetings will resume in the new year.

#### **TOPANGA COMMUNITY WILD LAND FIRE EVACUATION PLAN**

Keith Harrison asked that all changes be channeled to him via the BOS office at Cynthia's email. ([cscott@bos.lacounty.gov](mailto:cscott@bos.lacounty.gov))

### **IV. FUTURE MEETING DATE**

January 24 at 1pm at the EOC