

**Minutes of the Meeting of the AMCS FireSmart Committee
held on February 27, 2014**

1. All five members were present. Positions were reviewed and revised as follows:

Denis Thomson – Chairperson
Chuck Harrison – Secretary
Darren Hutchinson – Fire Education Advisor
Richard Douziech – at large
Walter Zinowski – at large

2. We will attempt to set up a garden refuse collection site again this year. The proposed window would be June through September. This year would include one day per month, dates and hours to be confirmed subsequent to a site being obtained. Chuck to contact OMEI regarding possibility of using last year's site again.

3. Official FireSmart status has been approved and the confirming letter will be forwarded shortly. The date and location for the official presentation will be set by Darren in consultation with Thomas Blank and Mark McKenney. Signs designating our FireSmart status will be erected at both the east and west entries into the community. Chuck had some questions as to their locations and it was agreed all options should be reviewed.

4. FireSmart Canada is currently planning a workshop for FireSmart representatives. It could possibly be held in mid-April in Creston or in another southeastern BC community. The possibility of AMCS committee members being invited was discussed.

5. Annual FireSmart Day has been tentatively set for July 13, 2014 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Themes to be FireSmart and Xeriscape planting for your property and structure surrounds. Chuck to contact Jim Lester of Osoyoos to see if he would share his plant expertise with us. If so, Darren will co-ordinate with him.

All members are encouraged to contact any other experts or talented people that may be willing to share their knowledge with us!

6. The following topics were touched upon and will be revisited in depth at future meetings:
- Helping Sidley Mountain residents start up a FireSmart program.
 - AMCS web page contributions.
 - Wildfire training weekend for residents.
 - Review of last year's goals and prepare new ones.
 - Distribution of FireSmart materials, i.e. the library. We would have to review and confirm FireSmart Canada's policies in this regard first.
 - Participating in the clean up and rejuvenation of the Sasquatch Pond area. Currently the AMFD has plans for powering the well and installing a dry hydrant to the pond for its tankers. Participating could be an excellent FireSmart project as clean up of the conservation areas has been one of our concerns. We could begin by helping with this one. In the end, this land area could be brought up to FireSmart recommended standards and not only could the AMFD use the pond, but also helicopters in the event of a wildfire.

The next meeting will be held on March 11, 2014 @ 7:00 pm at Denis Thomson's house, 360 (Lot 21) Sasquatch Trail.

CFH

c/c All present
Mark McKenney - AMCS