

CAL FIRE SCU-VIP Meeting Minutes – Feb. 2016

02-10-2016, Attendees: 19

Meeting Topics:

Forest Fire Lookout Association

- Guest Speaker: Bill Ulmer, Chair – Cal Pacific Chapter, Forest Fire Lookout Assoc. (FFLA)
 - Leader – High Pt Tower, San Diego Cty & Mt Kenocti Tower, Lake Cty.
- FFLA in all States
- 100 volunteers for two towers, 24/7 coverage Apr-Nov.
- A 501c-3 organization.
- Will assist CAL FIRE SCU with recruitment, tower training and staffing tower.
- Recruitment will include news media, public events and social media.
 - New members must become Cal Fire VIPs, and abide by Cal Fire SOPs.
 - Wild land fire training to be provided by Cal Fire.
 - Tower training by FFLA with interaction by Cal Fire.
 - PPE to be provided by Cal Fire
 - An FFLA training manual and Cal Fire VIP manual will be used.
 - Will retain VIP Unit leaders.
 - An FFLA organization structure will be developed for this new Chapter.
- Uniform preference to be determined.
- Cal Fire's goal will be to open every weekend during fire season.
- A MAJORITY VOTE BY ATTENDING VIP'S WAS TO PROCEED WITH FFLA ON A ONE YEAR TRIAL BASIS.

VIP Participation

- A majority of the VIP membership is not participating in VIP activities making for a critical situation. This matter is being addressed by unit leaders and Cal Fire leadership. *Further action to come.*
- Those VIPs who commit to attend scheduled events are required to attend on time and if circumstances prevent this such as late arrival or not able to attend at all, you *must* contact Pam as soon as possible.

Pam's contact information: Office hrs: 8:30-5:00, Mon – Thu.

e-Mail: pam.temmermand@fire.ca.gov

Upcoming events: Sign-up with Pam!

- February;
 - CommVan Radio Coverage testing:
 - Sat, Feb 27, 9:00-12n, meet at Morgan Hill
 - Test Location: to be determined.
- April:
 - Arbor Day/Earth Day Celebration- Santa Clara city – Fri., April 22, 10:00AM
 - Smokey Bear and Prevention Booth
- May:
 - Mushroom Mardi Gras, Morgan Hill – Memorial Day weekend, May 28, 29
 - Prevention Booth

VIP Team Discussion:

Subject: Lack of attendance by majority of VIP members.

- Members expressed their thoughts on the reasons for poor membership attendance.
- Some thoughts included:
 - Break-up meeting location to include meeting at other CF stations.

- Shorter business meetings and more practical activities, training, simulations.
- Members give presentations on subjects of interest.

Members are encouraged to e-mail John Whiteside with their ideas and concerns.
Further discussion at future meetings.

Needs/Wants:

- Ben will identify a tri-band ham radio model and price for set-up in the ECC.

Prepared by: B. Roth,