

Grant Creek Neighborhood Council Leadership Team
11:30 a.m. April 4, Stone of Accord

Attending: Bert Lindler, Dennis Muth, Lee Clemmensen, Jane Kelly, Jordan Koppen (Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation)

Dennis Muth moved and Bert Lindler seconded approval of the Feb. 10, 2017, leadership team meeting minutes as posted. Unanimous approval by voice vote.

Jordan Koppen was a firefighter at the last two fires in Grant Creek near Colorado Gulch. He's now working to help western Montanans prepare for the fire season by taking steps to increase the chance that their home will survive a wildfire. He has a presentation showing how homes in the Roaring Lion fire near Hamilton survived or didn't survive the blaze depending in part on preparations homeowners had taken before that fire blew up. One home that was destroyed was completely outside the fire perimeter. Embers from the fire landed on or near the home, igniting fuels that burned the home. Jordan would like to help homeowners in Grant Creek prepare for the coming fire season.

The leadership team decided to schedule a general meeting for 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 17, at the Grant Creek Inn. The major item on the agenda will be preparing for "The Fire Next Time." Jordan Koppen will ask his counterparts in Missoula Rural Fire, Frenchtown Fire, and the City of Missoula Fire Department to attend so they can answer homeowners' questions about the last two fires in Grant Creek, the evacuations last summer, and preparations for future fires. He will have a presentation showing lessons that can be learned from last summer's Roaring Lion Fire near Hamilton.