

County of San Diego
BORREGO SPRINGS COMMUNITY SPONSOR GROUP
MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 6th, 2016 at 4:30 P.M.
Borrego Springs High School Community Room
2281 Diegueno Road, Borrego Springs, California

Administrative Items

- A. Chair Tom Beltran called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.
- B. Roll Call of Members. Members present: Tom Beltran, Rebecca Falk, David Farley, Bill Berkley, and Bonnie Petrach. Members absent: Linda Haddock, Judy Haldeman.
- C. Approval of the Agenda. Farley moved to approve the agenda; Petrach seconded. All approved.
- D. Members' review of maps and other printed materials for meeting: Not applicable.
- E. Public Comment: an opportunity for members of the public to speak to the Sponsor Group on any subject matter within the group's jurisdiction that is not already on today's agenda, with a time limit of three minutes (3:00) per speaker.
- None
- F. Correspondence & Chair's report: None to be reported.
- G. Consideration and Approval of the minutes from the Sept. 1st, 2016 meeting. Falk pointed out three punctuation and misspellings and disagreed with lines 40-42 as an accurate account of the meeting. The item in discrepancy was whether the group was to bring together a list of items from the Community Plan as individuals and pool those items to be discussed in the order as they appear in the Plan or each member bringing and presenting items for discussion in random order but of concern to that member. Chairman Beltran pointed out that the original intent of the reading and review of the Borrego Springs Community Plan was for the member's education of the Plan as a guideline and not a forum to propose changes to the Plan. He also said that it sounds like the sponsor group made a collective decision, an action, about the community plan that is contrary to the original plan of action that was approved by the majority vote. However, there was no action item on the agenda, so no changes could have been made. Berkley proposed an agenda item for the next meeting that we consider, after our review and discussion of the Plan, any changes that the Group felt was needed to amend the Plan.
- H. Motion To Approve The Minutes as amended from September 1, 2016. Petrach moved to approve, Falk second. Ayes- Falk, Petrach, Farley, Berkley. No nays. Abstained- Beltran. Motion passed, minutes approved.
- I. Member Berkley was given a chance to make a report on the Water Coalition meeting recently held. Berkley spoke about his input at the meeting concerning future housing and water saving technology that is available now. He reported that Ram's Hill has hired Dudeck Engineering to do a study of the Ram's Hill area and feasibility of "water farming" with catch basins to claim water that would otherwise be lost to evaporation and run-off. Beltran pointed out that the State of California has designated the Borrego Valley as a watershed for the Salton Sea Basin and a conflict of interest may arise. In addition, the Salton Sea is considered navigable waters.
- J. Falk announced to the Group the Water Advisory Board does not have a scheduled meeting as of yet, but expected to have one at the first of the New Year. Beltran offered to provide a recording device so the Group members can follow the meetings to keep abreast of the proceedings. Beltran offered to provide a website for the members to download the audio file..
- K. INFORMATION AND NON ACTION ITEMS. Falk brought handouts on "rules of order" for meetings for our members to review and comment on.
- L. CONTINUING DISCUSSION OF THE BORREGO SPRINGS COMMUNITY PLAN. Farley continued to lead the discussion of the Plan. Farley noted that we were discussing LU.2.2.1, promotion of land use plan in the future where build-out of residential densities are consistent with the number of dwelling units sufficient to house a likely population of 8,000 at the last meeting. Farley made question of policy LU2.3.1., prohibit, unless required for health and safety, the alteration of uses or increases in densities. Petrach started discussion that the policy is a "CYA". A possible "escape hatch" for the County. Farley pointed out a conflict of Policy LU 2.5.2, encourage the use of existing fallowed farmlands for the installation of solar farms and energy production and Issue LU-2.7., Wind energy projects threaten community character. Beltran made comment of County policy towards wind energy that conflict with our Community Plan.

- M. LU-2.6.1 inventory disturbed desert native habitat lands. Discussion was made as to who pays for the inventory and what does the inventory encompass.
- N. More discussion on the existing solar plants and future development.
- O. Falk suggested that we move along to another issue. Next meeting the discussion of the Community Plan will begin on page 32. Farley will continue to lead the discussion focusing on County code enforcement, or lack thereof.
- P. Falk moved to adjourn the meeting, Beltran seconded. All approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

David Farley, Secretary

The next regular meeting will be held November 3, 2016 at 4:30 P.M. at the Borrego Springs High School Community Room, 2281 Diegueno Road, Borrego Springs, CA 92004.

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APPROVED