County of San Diego
BORREGO SPRINGS COMMUNITY SPONSOR GROUP
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday December 7th, 2017 at 4:30 P.M.
Borrego Springs Library Meeting Room
587 Palm Canyon Dr. #125, Borrego Springs, California

A. ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order at exactly 4:30 p.m. Members present were: Chairperson Rebecca Falk, Secretary David Farley, Judy Haldeman, Clint Brandin, Linda Haddock and Bill Haneline. Absent was Bonnie Petrach

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF November 2, 2017. - Linda Haddock moved to approve the minutes as presented with Judy Haldeman seconding. All members voting aye, the minutes from November 2nd, 2017 were approved.

C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION. None.

D. ACTION ITEMS

1. Consideration and Possible Action, BWD Letter to Sponsor Group, Oct 30, 2017, On Groundwater and Land Use Decisions. – Present at the meeting was Kevin Johnston, land use and environmental planner from San Diego County Planning and development services. Kevin spoke about the impact of the groundwater problems in the Valley and how it is effecting development here and approval of new projects. Jim Bennett, Groundwater Geologist from San Diego County spoke to the Group as well. Jim came to field questions regarding the aquifer from both the Sponsor Group and the general public. Geoff Poole, General Manager from the Borrego Springs Water District was also in attendance to address land use in regards to Groundwater sustainability. Kevin Johnston spoke about several “up-zoning” applications for Borrego that will be included in by the Groundwater Sustainability Plan upcoming Supplemental EIR (SEIR) for Property Specific Requests (PSR’s) to amend the General Plan. The Sponsor Group decided to take no further action on the BWD letter after the discussion.

2. Site Plan Waiver Request: Solar Carports for Borrego Library; APN 198-020-57-00. - This was a request to add additional covered parking with solar panels for the Library/Sherriff’s office project without a review of the existing site plan approved by the County. – Chair Falk moved to approve the waiver with Haddock seconding. All members voting aye. Motion passed.

3. AT&T Wireless Site, Ram’s Hill Road, PDS2017-MUP-020; A major use permit to erect a new monopole style wireless site, a public/semi-public facility on a 2.5 acre parcel, APN 200-210-23-00, near the water tank, with a 73’ monopole and a 100’ antenna. – Several members of the community came to speak against the new tower. There were no advocates for the tower present. With no pro presentation, Member Haldeman moved to postpone any action on this issue with Brandin seconding. All members voted to postpone any action. Motion passed.

4. Road Maintenance Priorities for 2019, for Dept. of Public Works. Creation of an Ad-Hoc Committee to report back at the January meeting. – A committee was formed with two members of the Sponsor Group (Linda Haddock and Bill Haneline) and one member of the community (Joe Cussen).

5. Community Mural/Grant Application Recommendation, Borrego Art Institute Wall. This was a request for a recommendation letter from the Sponsor Group for a mural to be placed on an exterior wall of the Borrego Art Institute. The mural will be ceramics and other art forms on large tiles. – Haldeman moved to support the mural with Haddock seconding. All members voting aye, motion passed.

6. PLDO Parks Priority Ad-Hoc Committee Recommendations. – Member Brandin moved to approve the recommendations for improvements to the Park. Secretary Farley seconded. All members voted aye. Motion passed.

7. Vote on Issues from the Advisory Committee for the Groundwater Sustainability Plan. 1: Options for Meter Reading & Inspections, and 2: Recommendation from the Core Team for a Baseline Pumping Allocation based on the highest annual production for the 5 year period from 2010 – 2014. Chair Falk reported that at the November Groundwater Sustainability Plan Advisory Committee meeting it was agreed by formal vote that all wells using more than 2 acre feet of water per year will be required to be metered. Although the Sponsor Group voted on options for how that metering would be monitored at a previous meeting, since the vote, the options have changed and a new vote needs to be taken. Haddock moved to vote on one option or the other. Haldeman seconded. On option one, which provides that the Groundwater Sustainability Agency would inspect and monitor/read meters on a monthly basis (see attached), Ayes were 4, Nays were, 1 and abstentions were 1. On Option 2, which provides that Property owners or a third party...
contractor would monitor meters (see attached), Ayes were 2, Nays were 3, and abstentions were 1. The second item was a change recommended by the Corre Team of the GSP Advisory Committee to change the method for calculating the Baseline Pumping Allocation to the highest use year from Jan 1, 2010 to Dec 31, 2014. (The method the Sponsor Group previously voted on used a 10 year average for a Baseline Pumping Allocation.) This is the amount of water from which all deductions in water use agreed to under the GSP will be made. The Sponsor Group refused to vote on this until we took a straw poll to make a statement to the GSP AC that Borrego Springs Municipal water users should not have to have any water reductions in use. Haddock suggested a straw poll that no deductions in water use should be made from the Baseline Pumping Allocation of 2461 acre feet per year for Municipal users as a show of good faith from the Agricultural Pumpers that they wanted the town to survive and do well. The straw poll was unanimously positive with 6 votes. The group then voted on the GSP Core Team’s recommended Baseline Pumping Allocation proposal, Haddock moved, Haneline seconded. With one Aye, three Nays and two abstentions, the motion to approve was not passed.

E. GROUP BUSINESS

1. Announcements and Correspondence Received.
2. Discussion Items; NEXT STEPS from last Minutes, if any. Missing minutes report, Chair and Secretary
4. Meeting Updates: Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission Hearings
5. Borrego Community Plan Review, beginning p. 46. 2.2. Due to the length of the meeting, no review of the Community Plan was done.

F. ADJOURNMENT. Member Haneline moved to adjourn with Haddock seconding. With no opposition, the motion passed unanimously.

Presented by Secretary David Farley

The next regular meeting will be held January 4th., 2018 at 4:30 P.M. at the Borrego Springs Library Meeting Room, 587 Palm Canyon Drive #125, Borrego Springs, CA 92004. For further information contact the Chair at rfbalk7@gmail.com. Address U.S. mail to: Community Sponsor Group, P.O. Box 1371, Borrego Springs, CA 92004-1371.

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