

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, BORREGO SPRINGS COMMUNITY SPONSOR GROUP

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 2, 2023, 5:00 p.m.

In-person at the Borrego Library, 2850 Country Club Rd, Borrego Springs & also via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83332441605?pwd=Uk5TZENCaFJYbXV0ZDITMGJIRGhUZz09>

or call: 669 900 6833, Meeting ID: 833 3244 1605, Passcode: 660460

Agenda Packet:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1t2jlxZd91QMsluMVcMrcbol6Vu8VW-LT?usp=share_link

THE PUBLIC IS ALWAYS WELCOME TO OUR MEETINGS

WE REPRESENT YOU WHEN ADVISING THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO ON LAND USE ISSUES

- A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL.** Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m. Chair Rebecca Falk, Vice Chair John Peterson, Julie Gerson, Nancy McRae, Bruce Durbin, Bill Berkley and Judy Haldeman present. Jim Dax on ZOOM. Bill Haneline absent. Public attendees Bob Krasowski, Kathy Dice, Mark Jogensen, Martha Deichler and Kathleen Lippett.
- B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF January 5, 2023.** MOTION: Approval of the Minutes as presented. Peterson M, Durbin S. Unanimous approval.
- C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION (may be limited to 3 min): Opportunity for members of the public to speak to the Group on any subject matter within the Group's jurisdiction that is not on the posted agenda.** Kathleen Lippett commented that the SANDAG Board does not provide equitably for unincorporated communities and that the county has no permitting for hemp farms.
- D. ACTION ITEMS:**
- 1. Presentation, discussion and consideration of a motion that the BSCSG form the Borrego Springs Community Identification Sign Standing Committee (ID Sign Committee) to facilitate and guide the project, conduct community engagement and explore fundraising and feasibility strategies, and that Nancy McRae and Bruce Durbin serve as Co-Chairs.** Bruce Durbin presenting. Durbin reported that he and McRae will be working with the Borrego Village Association on this issue. Recreation was identified as the primary driver of the economy in Borrego Springs and signs were seen as necessary and that there was an avenue of funding from the county. There will be a phase 1 community meeting held in February or March. This will most likely be a 2-3 year project. Kathy Dice suggested that local talent be used rather than hiring an outside consultant. MOTION: To form Borrego Springs Community Identification Sign Standing Committee. Peterson M, Gerson S. Unanimous approval.
 - 2. Water and Land Use Committee (Watco) update, discussion and vote on sending a letter to the Borrego Springs Watermaster Board, see agenda packet for the letter, link at the top of this agenda.** John Peterson presenting. MOTION: To send letter to the Watermaster Board. Peterson M, Berkley S. Falk commented that this letter marks a place documenting our concern. Unanimous approval.
 - 3. Shall the BSCSG send a letter to the Supervisors who sit on the Board of Supervisors asking for an independent peer review of the Regional Decarbonization Framework's numbers used in calculating the advantages of utility scale solar/wind versus rooftop/parking lot solar? See letter template and slide presentation in the agenda packet. Note: Borrego Springs is targeted in the RDF options for utility scale solar.** Rebecca Falk presenting. Falk reiterated our strong concern for rooftop and parking lot solar with no large scale utility projects added to the valley and supported the template letter prepared by Bill Powers. Jorgensen supported rooftop solar and reminded the group that getting large amounts of energy out of the valley through the Anza Borrego Desert State Park was a major concern. He advocated creating the power where it is used as 7-8% is lost in transmission. MOTION: To send letter template. Peterson M, Gerson S. Unanimous approval.

E. NON-ACTION ITEMS:

- 1. Update on preliminary public splash pad meeting requested by Parks, and on the library park splash pad project.** Judy Haldeman presenting. Haldeman reported that a public input meeting was held on January 28th at the amphitheater and that all of those in attendance supported the splash pad. All information collected from the community was sent to the Parks and Recreation members that will begin to move this forward.
- 2. Follow-up on the January 19th public meeting at the library with Chief Alex Elward about the County Fire/Cal-Fire Notices received locally as part of the Defensible Space Program within San Diego County. The next meeting with Chief Elward is on Feb 7th, a Tuesday night, at 5 pm.** Rebecca Falk presenting with input from community members. Jorgensen stated that there would be a need to retool the county ordinance to except Borrego Springs. If Cal Fire helps, Supervisor Desmond will take his cue from Cal Fire.
- 3. Update on meetings to secure a back country representative on the SANDAG Board.** Julie Gerson presenting. Gerson stated that 12 groups have signed on to this proposal with no word from SANDAG as of now. The backcountry groups are considering meeting monthly.
- 4. Update on District 5 meeting on the Decarbonization Framework held Jan 31st.** *Rebecca Falk presenting.* She stated that equity was a big issue and that she may know more in the next two weeks.

F. GROUP BUSINESS:

- 1. Announcement and Correspondence Received:** Durbin announced a rental subsidy program for seniors who qualify in the amount of \$500 a month. McRae commented that a chaparral conservancy was being considered to preserve this corridor. Durbin reported that he had talked with the builder for the Dollar Store and stressed that the building should have a rural feel.
- 2. Discussion Items: Starting with the March 2 BSCSG meeting, we will share a County Zoom account with other planning and sponsor groups, eliminating billing/reimbursement.**
- 3. Subcommittee Reports:**
- 4. Meeting Updates:**

G. ADJOURNMENT MOTION: To adjourn meeting. Peterson M, Gerson S. Unanimous approval.
Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 2, 2023, 5 pm at the Borrego Springs Library Community Room, 2850 Country Club Rd, Borrego Springs, California and via Zoom.

UPCOMING STANDING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING:

Water and Land Use--Watco, email Chair John Peterson at petersonenv@hotmail.com to be put on the email list for the agenda. **Next Watco Regular Meeting will be held at the Borrego Springs Library on February 15, 2023 at 3 pm.**

The Chair has appointed the following BSCSG Members to serve as points of contact for the following areas:

a) Dollar General Store, Bruce Durbin, b) Road Maintenance, Bill Haneline, c) 18-Wheel Trucks on S-22, Nancy McRae, d) Community Sign Program, Nancy McRae and Bruce Durbin, e) SANDAG/Transportation Unincorporated Areas, Julie Gerson. Emails sent to the Chair at rebalk7@gmail.com will be forwarded to the appropriate person.

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