

County of San Diego
BORREGO SPRINGS COMMUNITY SPONSOR GROUP
MEETING MINUTES

Thursday November 5, 2015 at 4:30 P.M.
Borrego Springs High School Community Room
2281 Diegueno Road, Borrego Springs, California

Administrative Items

- A. Chair R. Caldwell called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.
- B. Roll Call of Members. Members present: Tom Beltran, Rich Caldwell, Rebecca Falk, David Farley, Judy Haldeman, Bonnie Petrach and Sam Webb. Member absent: None
- C. Approval of the Agenda. Falk moved to approve the agenda; Webb seconded. Beltran, Caldwell, Falk, Farley, Haldeman, Petrach and Webb voted "aye".
- D. Members' review of maps and other printed materials for meeting: Not applicable.
- E. Consideration and approval of Minutes from the meeting(s) of October 1, 2015: Petrach moved to approve; Haldeman seconded. Caldwell, Falk, Farley, Haldeman, Petrach and Webb voted "aye". Beltran abstained.
- F. 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.
 - a. Patrick Meehan spoke and asked questions about the Borrego Health Foundation proposed building. Caldwell explained that this was for Public Comment and he could make a statement about the project but there couldn't be a discussion about the project because it was not on the agenda. It was discussed at the September 2015 meeting because the applicant put it on the agenda. The applicant pulled the project one week before the October 2015 meeting. This group has not been informed by the County that this project has been cancelled. The Sponsor Group can only comment if the applicant wishes to move forward. Meehan asked if the Group could ask the County why and Caldwell responded that we could not. Meehan said that there were things going on in this town and then they disappear. Meehan said the public should be informed about what is going on in private meetings. One minute you see a project and the next minute you don't. Caldwell explained that we did not discuss this in private. That would be a violation of the Brown Act. This Group advises the County. Different County departments come to us, such as Public Works and Parks and Recreation, and we advise the County but we do not approve or disapprove any project. In September the applicant presented a plan and a group was formed to review the project in depth but the project fell apart before they could meet. We do not investigate the reasons. Meehan asked if we could put the project on the next agenda. Caldwell explained that only the applicant can put it back on the agenda. Webb explained that this Group had disapproved the solar farm but the Board of Supervisors approved it anyway. It is not appropriate for us to contact the applicant and ask him to come back. The Chamber of Commerce or the Borrego Sun could ask him. We cannot discuss these projects without being in public.
 - b. Webb made a comment about the History Preservation Day. It will be on Sunday, November 8, 2015, from 1 pm to 3 pm at the old Borrego Site. Everyone is welcome.
 - c. Falk said she had two comments. In the aftermath of the health center conversation she would like to add a discussion of the Community Plan to the next agenda. There are now so many members that didn't help with the Community Plan it would be helpful to review and discuss it. We could work our way through it. There are different views of what is expected by us and different interpretations. Caldwell asked if the rest of the group agreed and everyone did. It will be on the next agenda to review and discuss the first 45 pages.

- d. Falk's second comment was about the Borrego Health Foundation project. She said I'm a little shocked after the last two meetings. I don't have enough information about what happened but it all seemed to happen very quickly and in a way that was kind of surprising. To Caldwell - One thing that worried me is that you and Gwenn Marie are married and are probably the only two people that could have drafted the letter from the Borrego Village Association. I'm sure you and Gwenn Marie try to keep everything separate but it was upsetting that the developer got so upset and- there could have been the appearance that there was something cozy going on, even if it wasn't the reality. I would like the opportunity to discuss it among ourselves at a public meeting. What's the process for submitting objections, especially in this town in which everyone knows everybody. Haldeman said the developer told her the letter is 90% why they pulled out. The developer had done projects before and in this letter never saw any comment that said the project is supported. They've been tied up in lawsuits before and didn't want to risk that again.
- G. Correspondence & Chair's report: Caldwell reminded the group that the January meeting is the annual organizational meeting. At that time we will decide when and where to meet for the year. It is also the nomination and election of officers. Those new officers will take office at the conclusion of the January meeting. Caldwell will not stand for Chair or any other office. Webb will not serve on the Group again after the conclusion of his current term.
- H. Committee reports
 - a. Study Groups: No Meetings since October 1, 2015.
 - b. Parks Committee: No Meetings since October 1, 2015.

Non-Action Items

- A. None

Action Items

- A. None.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m. after Falk so moved, Haldeman seconded. Beltran, Caldwell, Falk, Farley, Haldeman, Petrach and Webb voted "aye".

Bonnie Petrach, Secretary

The next regular meeting will be held December 3, 2015 at 4:30 P.M. at the Borrego Springs High School Community Room, 2281 Diegueno Road, Borrego Springs, CA 92004. **If this Agenda is revised, a revised copy will be posted 72 or more hours prior to the meeting. The final Agenda may include additional Administrative or Non-Action items.** For further information contact the Chair at Rich@BorregoValleyInn.com or (760) 767-3319. Address all U.S. Mail to: Rich Caldwell, Chair, Borrego Springs Community Sponsor Group, P.O. Box 1371, Borrego Springs, CA 92004-1371.

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