

CREST-DEHESA-GRANITE HILLS-HARBISON CANYON SUBREGIONAL PLANNING GROUP. Minutes of the meeting on 13 January 2020 at Crest Community Center, 113 North Park Ave., El Cajon (Crest).

**A. CALL TO ORDER.** Chairman Wally Riggs called the meeting to order at 7:25 PM.

**B. ROLL CALL.** Planning Group members Rich, Ulm, Jones, Becker, Riggs, Bretz, Scholl and Lucas were present, forming a quorum of 8. Members Slagill, Hertel and Underwood were absent, but excused. Members Manning and McAndrews were absent, but not excused. Seat 5 and Seat 12 are vacant.

**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** Planning Group member Christina Becker moved the Group approves the minutes of the meeting on 9 December 2019, as submitted by the Secretary. The motion passed (8 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain).

**E. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION.** A male resident of Crest expressed his appreciation for the wildfire fuel break work CalFire has done to increase the safety of the Crest community, and he suggested and requested that the Crest Community Association writes a formal “thank you” letter to CalFire.

A female resident of Crest expressed her disapproval of the landscaping design submitted for the proposed project to install two gas pumps at the Crest Market that was presented, discussed and considered at previous Planning Group meetings; and she requested that the Planning Group reconsiders the landscaping design issues at another meeting.

Chairman Riggs explained that the Planning Group cannot reconsider this issue as an action item again, unless there is significant new and relevant information that was previously unknown to the Group. Planning Group member Tim Lucas suggested she contacts the County’s project manager(s) for the landscaping plan, and communicate directly with them about her concerns.

**F. ACTION ITEMS.**

**F1. Presentation by County Code compliance Department. (No action).** Chairman Riggs invited Mr. Mitchell Levy, the County Code Compliance officer for the area including the Crest-Dehesa-Granite Hills-Harbison Canyon Subregion, to give a presentation explaining the responsibilities and activities of the Code Compliance division of the Department of Planning and Development Services. Mr. Levy provided a handout from PDS Code Compliance that includes useful contact phone numbers and digital/internet addresses, a list of situations and activities covered by Code and subject to investigation for compliance, and what to include in complaints. He explained that a suspected violation of County Code can be reported by making a complaint using the appropriate contact from the handout; upon investigation, if a violation exists, the County works with the property owner to achieve compliance; 90% of potential violations are avoided as a result of the County’s efforts to enable voluntary compliance by the property

owner; 67% of investigated complaints are closed within twelve months; concerns about accumulated solid waste and occupied trailers/recreational vehicles are the primary compliance issues in East County; and that in the Crest-Dehesa-Granite Hills-Harbison Canyon area during the past year, there were 55 complaints that were opened, 44 were closed, and 11 are still active; and that the identity of a person who makes a complaint is kept confidential by the County.

## **G. GROUP BUSINESS.**

**G1. Report on Parks, etc. (Manning).** Chairman Riggs commented that with Group member Manning not being present, her report on Parks and related matters will be continued to the February meeting.

**G2. Update on request for four way stop sign at Noakes and Harbison Canyon Road.** Chairman Riggs informed the Group that he had requested in writing that the Department of Public Works provides the Planning Group a report on the status of the community's request for a four way stop sign at the intersection of Noakes and Harbison Canyon Road; that there are new DPW signs showing the offset of the Noakes streets at their intersections with Harbison Canyon Road; and that it seems unlikely the Noakes/Harbison Canyon Road intersection will meet the necessary State standards that allow an intersection to be designated a four way stop.

**G3. Request for temporary change of venue for February meeting.** Chairman Riggs asked for Group concurrence for changing the venue for its 10 February 2020 meeting from Crest Community Center to Dehesa School, because the Department of Parks and Recreation had requested to give a presentation about the Sycuan/Sloane Canyon Trail project, and this meeting topic would likely attract a large public attendance from the Dehesa community. The members of the Planning Group concurred with this temporary change without disagreement.

Chairman Riggs said that the 10 February meeting will be at the Crest Community Center as regularly scheduled, if DPR does not commit to attending the 10 February meeting at Dehesa School by the time for public posting of the meeting agenda that includes the DPR presentation.

## **G4. Acceptance of Allen Trial's resignation and declaration of open Seat #5.**

Chairman Riggs informed the Planning Group that Allen Trial had submitted a letter of resignation from Seat 5, and in order to begin the official process for filling the vacancy and nominating a candidate to fill it for approval by the Board of Supervisors, the Group needs to declare that Seat 5 is open.

Planning Group member Christina Becker moved that the Planning Group declares that Seat 5 of the Group is open, due to the resignation of Allen Trial. The motion passed (8yes; 0 no; 0 abstain).

Chairman Riggs said he would forward copies of Trial's letter of resignation to the appropriate County offices.

**G5. Announcements and correspondence.** Kandy Franklin, Crest resident, announced there will be a meeting in January of the Crest Fire Safe Council, that will include additional business concerning official designation of the Crest Emergency Evacuation Route, with involvement of CalFire.

**H. ADJOURNMENT.** Pat Ulm moved adjournment at 8:00 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, William Bretz (Secretary)