

CREST-DEHESA-GRANITE HILLS-HARBISON CANYON SUBREGIONAL PLANNING GROUP. Minutes of the meeting on 12 September 2022, at Olde Ironside Park, Harbison Canyon.

A. CALL TO ORDER. Chairman Wally Riggs called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM.

B. ROLL CALL. Planning Group members Rich, Nehring, Wessel, Becker, Riggs, Bretz, Manning, Lutz-Partain, Scholl, Page and Lucas were present, forming a quorum of 11. Member Ulm was absent, but excused. Seat 4, Seat 13 and Seat 14 are vacant.

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

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Member Robert Lutz-Partain moved that the Planning Group approves the minutes of its meeting on 8 August 2022 as submitted by Secretary Bretz. The motion passed (10 yes; 0 no; 1 abstain, Tim Lucas).

E. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION. No one from the public or the Planning Group requested to speak.

F. ACTION ITEMS.

F1. Update on the closure of California Riding and Hiking Trail in Sloane Canyon / Beaver Hollow Road (Wessel). Member Darin Wessel reported that the access gate to the California Riding and Hiking Trail at the intersection of Beaver Hollow Road and Sloane Canyon Road remains chained and locked; that he has received no response to his emails to the State Parks Trail specialist Alex Stahl, concerning her proposed consultation with the property owners responsible for the illegal Trail closure; and that he suggests that the Planning Group sends a letter to the Sacramento office of State Parks and Recreation, formally requesting its attention to, and its assistance with, resolving the improper closure and denial of access to this segment of an historic public trail, recognized by the County, for which the State holds legal easements.

Planning Group members discussed and supported Wessel's suggestion of formally requesting State Parks to defend the easements for the Trail, and to re-establish public access to this Trail segment.

Chairman Riggs asked Wessel to prepare and send a letter from the Group to State Parks, requesting its help with this issue; Wessel agreed to do so.

F2. Ad Hoc Committee update regarding evacuation in case of wildfire (Nehring). Member Ron Nehring reported that the Ad Hoc Committee met on 13 September; that at this meeting a County staff person informed the Committee that the County Counsel office is not willing to provide the opinion that a voluntary easement granting access for County and public emergency use in the case of wildfire, onto a private road on private property, does not cause an additional and increased liability risk for that property owner; that the concept of a voluntary easement program is fatally flawed, without appropriate protection against increased liability risk for the affected private property owner; that the voluntary easement issues will be brought to the attention of Supervisor Anderson, with

focus on the need for improving the status of Suncrest Truck Trail for potential use in case of wildfire; and that the Ad Hoc Committee will continue its work to appropriately update the Community Plan regarding evacuation in case of wildfire.

Group discussion included: 1) acknowledging that when the County established its public recreational trails program, its stated policy then was that affected private property owners would not be impacted by increased liability risk due to easements granted on their property for the trails; and 2) suggesting that the County Counsel office could be asked for its opinion concerning how the County's liability risk would be affected if a voluntary easement program was, versus was not, implemented for the emergency use of Suncrest Truck Trail in case of wildfire.

G. GROUP BUSINESS.

G1. Park Land priority list (Manning). Member Mary Manning reported that the County has requested an updated list within the next month; that the County is still working on projects at South Lane, Nancy Jane, and Olde Ironside Parks from the previous Park Land priority list; that she did not have any suggested additions for updating the Park Land priority list; and that she could resubmit the projects from the previous list as the requested updated list for the parks in the Subregion.

H. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE.

Member Mary Manning announced that the Lions Clubs' are holding a community eye clinic on Saturday, 17 September, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at Mt. Miguel High School, to provide eye exams, prescriptions, referrals, and to also make glasses, as a community service.

The next meeting of the Planning Group is scheduled on 10 October 2022 at Olde Ironside Park, Harbison Canyon, El Cajon, beginning at 6:30 PM.

I. ADJOURNMENT. Member Ron Nehring moved adjournment at 7:00 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, William Bretz (Secretary)