

CREST-DEHESA-GRANITE HILLS-HARBISON CANYON SUBREGIONAL PLANNING GROUP. Minutes of the meeting on 11 September 2017, at Old Ironside Park, Harbison Canyon, El Cajon.

**A. CALL TO ORDER.** Chairman Wally Riggs called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**B. ROLL CALL.** Planning Group members Ulm, Carroll, Trial, Wessel, Riggs, Bretz, Manning, Hertel, Underwood and Lucas were present, forming a quorum of 10. Members Rich, Slagill and Harris were absent, but excused. Seat 10 and Seat 12 are vacant.

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

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** For the minutes of the meeting of August 14, 2017, Tim Lucas requested correcting the last sentence of Item B. Roll Call from “Seat 10, Seat 12 and Seat 15 are vacant” to “Seat 10 and Seat 12 are vacant,” in recognition of his current incumbency of the not-vacant Seat 15; and Darin Wessel requested correcting the last sentence of Item E. Public Communication, changing the words “emergency response certification” to “paramedic certification.” Darin Wessel moved the Planning Group approves the minutes of its meeting on August 14, 2017, corrected as requested. The motion passed (9 yes; 0 no; 1 abstain: Ulm).

**E. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION.** Planning Group member Phil Hertel commended the County for the repaving project recently completed on Granite Hills Drive.

Member Tim Lucas described the Next Door Neighbor website, and said he would put up a notice to inform website visitors when future agendas of the Planning Group are available; he also provided a link to the County’s webpage for Planning Group information: <http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/gpupdate/comm/crest.html>

Member Mary Manning reported that the Olde Ironside Park community building is currently being painted by County Department of Parks and Recreation.

A member of the public requested that the agenda of the next meeting of the Planning Group includes information and discussion about two new structures that have been established near Dehesa Road.

**F. ACTION ITEMS.**

**F1. Discussion and recommendation of SB649 – Removal of County and local control input of proposed new cell towers.** Chairman Riggs opened discussion about Senate Bill 649, a bill granting specific broad rights to the cellular telephone industry, while limiting local communities’ rights to review and control over certain placements of antennae for cell phone communications. Members of the Group expressed concerns about the lack of adequate time for the Planning Group to provide comments that could influence final action by the State legislature; that the Crest community and the Planning Group historically have opposed imposition of cell phone antennae sites in the area without review; that over 250 communities in California have expressed opposition to SB649 due to its elimination of public review, input and controls; and that SB649 appears

to have been ghost written by the cellular telephone industry, taking away the public government's discretionary control of antennae placement in communities.

The discussion was briefly interrupted by a citizen, speaking in opposition to SB649 and cell phone antennae sites, who wanted the Planning Group to take actions it could not, and who did not respond agreeably with Chairman Rigg's request for his following the meeting rules of order. The man voluntarily left the meeting, upset and angry.

Darin Wessel moved that: 1) the Planning Group authorizes sending a letter to Governor Brown in the event that SB649 passes through the State Legislature, expressing the Planning Group's recommendation that the Governor vetoes SB649 because it improperly impacts local community planning review and input on proposed installations of small-cell and microcell phone antennae facilities, and it therefore eliminates the opportunity for the public to comment on impacts to community character and other matters of importance to the local community and residents; and 2) the Planning Group authorizes sending a similar letter to Supervisor Jacob, expressing the Planning Group's recommendation for the Governor to veto SB649. The motion passed (10 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain).

**F2. Followup on AD-17-015, request for Administrative Permit for animal raising for educational purposes at 2037 Harbison Canyon Road, El Cajon. APN 513-110-04.** Chairman Riggs opened discussion for the Planning Group's third consideration of this application for an animal raising permit; he reminded the meeting that the basic issue of concern is that there are too many animals present for the size of the lot according to County code standards; and he asked the permit applicant and her consultant to explain the current status of the permit application, and the animal raising operations now on the property.

The Planning Group was informed that: 1) approximately 70-75 animals are now on the property; 2) the applicant is requesting a small animal limit of 50 individuals (not counting un-weaned offspring); 3) the several existing large animals are on site temporarily, receiving rehabilitation care, and will be relocated for achieving the 50-animal permitted limit; 4) several effective Best Management Practices (BMPs) have been implemented to manage manure waste, potential pests (e.g., flies, mosquitos, rodents, etc.), and regularly scheduled facilities maintenance; 5) an adjacent property is being purchased, to add 2+-acres of pasture for supporting the 50-animal operation; and 6) a 7' tall solid-block wall is planned for certain sections of the property line, to buffer neighboring properties from impacts of the animal raising.

The Planning Group members discussed concerns that: 1) when first presented to the Planning Group, the proposal was for a Conditional Use Permit for animal raising, allowing a maximum of 25 small animals; 2) the Planning Group recommended a 90-day stay of actions, to allow the applicant time to reduce the number of animals on the property to the anticipated 25-animal limit, but there are still more than 75 animals present; 3) the Planning Group did not receive a copy of the County's scoping letter for the Administrative Permit application with its 50-animal limit for the animal raising operation; and 4) the Planning Group has not received and had an opportunity to review, the current relevant information that is necessary for taking action and making its recommendation for AD-17-015. Additionally, the discussion included information about the applicant's plans for utilizing the permitted operation for supporting

educational activities of local and non-local 4-H Clubs, and others; for providing rehabilitation care for rescued animals in the future; and for constructing buffering walls along the property line within the 100-year flood zone.

Darin Wessel moved that the Planning Group defers taking action on AD-17-015 until its meeting on October 8, 2017, in order to: 1) allow time for the Planning Group 's consideration of the County's scoping letter and any additional information, and 2) allow additional time for the applicant to remove excess animals that remain on the property. The motion passed (10 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain).

**F3. Request for Planning Group discussion on Speed Limit Sign on West Noakes Street in Harbison Canyon.** Chairman Riggs opened this request for Planning Group consideration of the need for speed limit signs on West Noakes Street, introducing the residents who contacted him about their concerns, and initiating discussion about the issues of community safety, official procedures for determining the speed limit for a residential street, and circumstances affecting specific situations (e.g., blind curves, parking on inadequate shoulders, etc.). The concerned residents distributed diagrams of the neighborhood's residential streets, and photographs illustrating various conditions along West Noakes Street that create safety concerns about speeding vehicles, to facilitate the Planning Group's understanding of the issue.

Darin Wessel moved that the Planning Group recommends, by means of a letter sent to the appropriate person in County Department of Public Works, that in order to appropriately protect the community safety, speed limit signs are installed on West Noakes Street and Editha Drive, posting a speed limit of no more than 20 MPH, and no more than 10 MPH on blind curves, because hazards and risk of accident are increased by the surrounding residential area, the narrowness of the road, the steepness of certain grades, the various blind curves, and parked vehicles on inadequate shoulders that reduce sight lines and width of the driving lane. The motion passed (10 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain).

## **G. GROUP BUSINESS.**

**G1. Announcements and correspondence.** Mary Manning announced that there will be a Community Chili Cook-off at 11:00 AM, Saturday, 16 September, at the Alpine Community Center, and that the Harbison Canyon Lions' Got Pig Booth will be there.

**G2. Chairman's report on Climate Action Plan Draft.** Chairman Riggs reported on his attendance of a County meeting for informing the Planning Group Chairs and others about the County's progress and current efforts to implement an approved Climate Action Plan; he explained the State has adopted specific goals for reducing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions; and that the County is requesting comments by 25 September concerning its Draft Climate Action Plan, which includes a number of strategies and policies proposed for the County's implementation to support the State's mandate.

Vice-chairman Darin Wessel said that the recent Planning Group Chairs' Meeting he attended for the Group was one of the official outreach actions conducted by the County for developing this current Climate Action Plan, and he made comments that provided some Planning Group input there.

Chairman Riggs suggested that interested Planning Group members provide their personal comments to the County, relieving the Planning Group of attempting to provide an official Group comment by the 25 September deadline.

**G3. Meeting updates.** The next Planning Group meeting will be on 8 October 2017 at Olde Ironside Park, Harbison Canyon, El Cajon.

**H. ADJOURNMENT.** Phil Hertel moved adjournment at 9:20 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, William Bretz (Secretary)