Descanso Community Planning Group
Minutes of Regular November 19, 2015 Meeting

Date, Time and Place: November 19, 2015 @ 7:00PM @ the Descanso Town Hall,
24536 Viejas Grade, Descanso, CA 91916

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call/Determination of Quorum
   1. Kerry Forrest
   4. John Elliott
   7. Terry Gibson Absent
   2. Jo Ellen Quinting
   5. Mark Gassert
   3. Deirdre Carter Absent
   6. Claudia White
3. Open Discussion/Presentation from the Floor. Any member of the public may address the Group on topics pertaining to planning, zoning and land use, which does not appear elsewhere in this agenda. No Group action is permitted on items not on the agenda in accordance with the Brown Act. Speakers will be allowed 3 minutes.
   A. Peggy Machado presented a letter (dated November 17th) from the Friends of the Descanso Library. The letter voiced concerns about the potential loss of parking to the library should the parking area adjacent to the library be converted to another use. The Friends of the Descanso Library would like to be on the DPG December agenda to discuss this issue.
   B. Shawna Kramer. Does the Park Sub-committee still exist? She thought the sub-committee would be on future agendas.
   C. Walt Kirkwood. Did the committee vote for the Tot Lot? Could this issue be voted on by the group?
4. Approval of Minutes from October 15, 2015 Regular Meeting
   Motion: White/Gassert; To approve the October minutes. 5-0-0-2(ab)
5. Correspondence and Announcements
   A. Two letters from Shawna Kramer.
   B. Letter from Friends of the Descanso Library.
   C. DPG member Quinting asked that all three letters be placed on the December meeting agenda.
6. Prioritization of this Meeting’s Agenda Items
   As written.
7. New Business
   A. Phoenix House change of use, Sherilton Valley Property Owners Association
      Marty Leavitt, head of the Sherilton Valley Property Owners Association (SVPOA) gave an informational presentation to the group regarding the status of Phoenix House. Phoenix House (PH) is a Juvenal rehabilitation facility based in Sherilton Valley and operates under a major use permit issued from the County of San Diego. They have been in operation for approximately 29 years. Phoenix House Corporation has been recently purchased by Betty Ford Corporation. PH students have been transferred to other facilities and staff has been laid off. Betty Ford staff has met with the SVPOA on two occasions and have discussed their future plans with the SVPOA. Future plans could include changing to an adult only type facility.
      SVPOA has concerns over this change of use including impacts to traffic, dark skies, law enforcement, community character and other issues. They are asking the DPG to be aware of their concerns and to ensure that the group stays on top of this issue.
      At this time the DPG is not aware of any formal changes to the Major Use Permit but will work with the SVPOA and the County of San Diego should Betty Ford/Phoenix House institute any changes to the facility or its operations there.
8. Old Business
   A. Active Transportation Plan Stakeholders update.
      The County has not reached out to the appointed members of the Stakeholders group so there is no additional information at this time.
   B. Park Land Development Ordinance School/County Joint Use Facility
      Chair updated group on the current PLDO list and process for the use of PLDO Funds. Discussions raised from the audience regarding the use of PLDO funds on existing facilities is a waste of money and by doing so would jeopardize the community’s ability to obtain funding for a new park located off of School property. There have been reports of park gates being locked and the public not being able to access park during normal park operating hours.
   C. Request for Agenda Items on Upcoming Agendas
      A. Friends of the Library.
      B. Kramer letters.
      C. Park update.

9. Next Meeting: December 17, 2015 @ 7:00PM.

Any Questions or Comments; Please contact Kerry Forrest, Chair: descansocpg@gmail.com

To review past and present Agendas as well as meeting minutes go to:
http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/gpupdate/comm/descanso.html

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