

Hidden Meadows Community Sponsor Group

Covering the area bordered by Escondido, 1-15, Valley Center, & Circle R

Meeting location: The Hidden Meadows Community Center 28208 Meadow Glen Way West

Thursday, May 27, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

- 1) CALL TO ORDER: Jim Chagala, Chairman at 7:23
- 2) ROLL CALL: Birch, Caster, Chagala, Cook, and Sealey (Gutierrez and Garland absent).
- 3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
- 4) MINUTES
 - Minutes of April 22, 2021 meeting were discussed. Sealey motioned to approve the minutes, second by Birch. With Cook abstaining, a quorum was not present to approve the minutes. Approval of the motion will be revisited at the next regular meeting.
- 5) OPEN FORUM: No speakers
- 8) PUBLIC REVIEW/ACTION ITEMS:
 - a) Discussion of the Cannabis Ordinance-PDS Staff Presentation:

Chagala took this item 8) (a) out of order due to the public members in attendance.

Allena Benedito and Connor McGee from the County made a presentation to the group on the steps being undertaken by the County to implement a Cannabis program for recreational use in the unincorporated areas of the County. Areas discussed included:

 - Reminder that the public approved Prop. 64 back on 11/8/2016 for the medicinal and adult use of Cannabis in California
 - Goal is to engage with social justice advocates to develop social equity program and determine permitting procedures.
 - The County has been involved in an outreach program with various community groups.
 - Zoning ordinances need to be developed that would allow Cannabis growing and selling operations.
 - Need for a process for dealing with unlicensed cultivation and retail sales enforcement.
 - Staff needs to return to the Board of Supervisors with an analysis of environmental review approaches.
 - Identifying criteria for determining ministerial versus discretionary permitting.

Chagala asked for further explanation of the term “social equity program.” Benedito explained this referred to areas within the County that have been determined to be disadvantaged and that, as such, may get preferential treatment for obtaining licenses.

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Chagala opened the meeting for comments from the public:

- Becky Rapp

Rapp indicated that many planning groups are opposed to the process. She noted that Supervisor Desmond is opposed to the process. She suggests that everyone contact their elected representative.

- Kelly McCormack

McCormack noted the various studies on Cannabis usage being conducted by the International Academy on Science and Impact of Cannabis. She also noted that the use of Cannabis by youth is higher than that for alcohol and opioids.

- Kathleen Lippitt

Lippitt portrayed the proposed ordinance as an effort designed to grant favors to the marijuana industry rather than protecting communities.

Chagala suggested that a subcommittee be created to track the progress of this effort. Caster and Cook volunteered with Chagala as chairperson.

Chagala returned to the agenda items at this time.

6) ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS/CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) VMT's at Board of Supervisors:

Chagala referenced the actions taken by the Board of Supervisors to change the method of determining future project traffic impact issues from average daily trips (ADT's) to vehicle miles travelled (VMT's).

- b) Response from Todd Frank RE: I-15 DRB:

Of the 5 projects on the agenda for the April 14, 2021, meeting, representatives for four of them did not appear so the projects were tabled. Only a proposal for a wireless cell tower was reviewed and approved.

- c) Capital Improvement Program:

Chagala asked the members to review the list supplied by the County of proposed projects and to make any recommendations for additions. Sealey suggested the addition of bike lanes on Mountain Meadows Road. Chagala thought the suggested signal enhancements at Mountain Meadows and Centre City should be added.

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7) SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) Mobility:

Birch discussed the memo she had distributed regarding signal enhancements at Mountain Meadows and Centre City as well as the possibility of a 3 way stop sign at Mountain Meadows and Hidden Meadows Road. Chagala indicated that he was not in favor of a 3 way stop sign (Caster concurred). Perhaps a sign facing traffic from the east could be installed notifying drivers that traffic from the west does not stop at the intersection. Sealey stated that he would draft a recommendation.

b) Trails & Parks:

Sealey had nothing to report.

c) NCER:

Since the issues had been at least temporarily resolved, Sealey motioned to disband this subcommittee, second by Birch. Motion passed unanimously.

8) PUBLIC REVIEW/ACTION ITEMS (continuation of item 8 (a) above):

b) Appeal of North County Environmental Resources Decision of the Planning Commission:

On May 5, 2021, the Board of Supervisors heard the appeal (including the presentation by the HMCSG subcommittee). The Board decided unanimously to request an EIR for the proposed project.

9) MEMBERS COMMENTS:

None

10) ADJOURNMENT:

Sealey motioned to adjourn the meeting; second by Birch. Motion passed unanimously and meeting was adjourned at 8:40.