

County of San Diego
Jacumba Hot Springs Community Sponsor Group
Minutes for the JCSG Meeting at 6:00 pm on Monday, November 13, 2023
Highland Senior Center, 44681 Old Hwy 80, Jacumba Hot Springs, CA 91934

A. Call to order/Roll call. The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm. Members present: Seat 2. Greg Curran (Vice-Chair); Seat 3. Cherry Diefenbach (Chair); Seat 4. Jeffery Osborne. Absent/excused: Seat 1. Bonnie Hafdell; Seat 5. Katrina Westley (Secretary). Public Present: 13

B. Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Approval of the minutes for the JCSG meeting held on October 9, 2023.

M/S to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2023 meeting: Curran/Osborne. Passed: 3-0-0.

D. Public Communication: The public may comment on any subject within the JCSG’s jurisdiction that is not on the posted agenda. (Speakers are limited to 2 minutes and no action can be taken on non-agenda items.)

Maureen: Thanked Pete for providing refreshments.

Chair: While SANDAG has removed the mileage tax from its 2025 Transportation Plan, it is considering converting 800+ miles of San Diego freeways into “managed toll lanes” to finance their \$160 billion plan.

Jeff: We are still waiting for a court date for our appeal of the JVR solar project.

Chair: I have invited the County to come to our Jan. 8, 2024 JCSG meeting to provide info about Jacumba’s new fire station. I will also invite the JCSD to our Jan. 8, 2024 JCSG meeting to provide us with their plan for park improvements as it relates to their receiving \$100K in Neighborhood Reinvestment money.

E. Action items: (Agenda items may be taken out of order upon request.)

1. The County has a number of policies that are under sunset review on December 21, 2023.

M/S to have the Chair submit comments on the policies such as Policy I-1 that are under sunset review as appropriate: Curran/Osborne. Passed: 3-0-0.

2. On November 20 at 2 pm, the CPUC will hold a virtual public forum on SDG&E’s proposal to add a new income-based fixed monthly charge. If approved by the CPUC, these monthly charges would be added to customers’ bills before a single kilowatt-hour is applied. (Customers with incomes up to \$69K would pay \$34; incomes up to \$180K would pay \$73; incomes over \$180K would pay \$128.) To participate in this virtual meeting by phone, call: 1-800-857-1917 and enter the passcode: 6032788#. Participants will be able to hear the meeting audio and when prompted, press *1 to unmute your phone and then record your name.

Ben: I believe that SDG&E has withdrawn that proposal.

Chair: It was still on the CPUC website two days ago. I strongly encourage individuals to participate in the virtual meeting.

3. San Diego County’s Draft Climate Action Plan is out for public review through January 5, 2024. Individuals may review the draft CAP and submit comments at the county’s engagement portal at: <http://engage.sandiegocounty.gov/hub-page/climate-action-plan>.

Chair: CAP representatives attended our JCSG meeting in July and our comments were included.

M/S to have the Chair submit additional CAP comments as necessary: Curran/Osborne. Passed: 3-0-0.

F. Group business/project updates, to include correspondence--discussion only:

1. Jacumba’s FY 2023-2024 Park Land Dedication Ordinance (PLDO) and Recreation Programming Priority List was submitted to the San Diego County Parks and Recreation Dept. on October 16, 2023.

2. The Chair submitted a FY 2024-2025 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) resident application for the construction of sidewalks on both sides of Old Hwy 80 near the library/senior center and a crosswalk at Carriso St. and Old Hwy 80 on November 6, 2023. She also submitted a similar request to DPW for the funding of these road

improvements on November 6, 2023. CDBG and DPW recently contacted her and they are looking favorably at our road improvements request. A BOS decision regarding the potential funding of projects will likely happen in March 2024.

3. Discuss the impacts of local undocumented immigrants arriving in Jacumba.

Sara: Library customers have expressed some concerns about immigrants' damage to personal property (loss of trees and fence materials).

Sam: Reported that current litigation has been filed against CBP for property damage.

Katrina: Provided written comments regarding her concerns about the flood of illegal immigrants through our community and the use of the Youth Center to support migrants instead of activities for local youth.

Sam: I have been working with an NGO that is providing humanitarian assistance to the migrants. The Youth Center is owned by the Methodist Church and it is permitting the NGO to use it for staging of water and other supplies. Immigrants are walking around the border fence in Jacumba because they have been unable to apply for asylum at recognized border crossings.

Chair: Expressed concerns about fire safety as cooler temperatures may result in the use of "warming fires" by the camping immigrants.

4. Community interface reports.

a. Highland Senior Center.

The Senior Center is offering Sunday breakfasts and it will be providing Thanksgiving dinner.

Greg announced that he has resigned as President of the Highland Senior Center Board.

Chair: Thanked Greg for his past service on the Highland Senior Center board.

b. Real East County Fire Safe Council (RECFC).

The RECFC will hold a community cleanup at Nov. 18 in the Potrero County Park and a Free Chipping Day on December 16, 2023 at the Backcountry Resource Center.

c. JBRA (Revitalization).

JBRA will hold their annual Christmas event at the Backcountry Resource Center on December 16, 2023 from 12 to 3pm. Volunteers and toy donations are requested.

G. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35pm.

Unless there is urgent group business, the next JCSG meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 8, 2024 at 6 pm.

For more information, contact the JCSG Chair at csdiefenbach@sbcglobal.net or 619-743-5224.

Approved: February 12, 2024