

County of San Diego
Jacumba Hot Springs Community Sponsor Group
Minutes for the JCSG Meeting at 6:00 pm on Monday, October 9, 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 6:05 pm. Members present: Seat 1. Bonnie Hafdell; Seat 2. Greg Curran (Vice-Chair); Seat 3. Cherry Diefenbach (Chair); Seat 4. Jeffery Osborne. Absent/excused was Seat 5. Katrina Westley (Secretary). Public Present:17.

B. Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Approval of the draft minutes for the JCSG meetings held on June 12, 2023 and July 10, 2023.

M/S to approve the minutes of June 12, 2023 Curran/Hafdell: Vote: 3-0-1 (abstain: Osborne). Passed.

M/S to approve the minutes of July 10, 2023 Curran/Diefenbach: Vote:3-0-1 (abstain: Hafdell). Passed.

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.)

Tanya: Expressed a concern about the unsafe buildings located north of the Jacumba Airport on the north side of Old Hwy 80 within the compound where two SVPs are currently housed. (Tanya then volunteered to contact County Code Enforcement with her concerns.)

Lorrie: Expressed health and safety concerns with regards to the ongoing migrant encampment managed by CBP that has been operating within 50 feet of her property on Old Hwy 80. Those concerns include a lack of port-a-potties and excessive trash.

Chair: Viewed a similar migrant encampment on Oct. 8th that is located east of Jacumba and south of Hwy 80 near the entrance to the Valley of the Moon and In-Ko-Pah Park Rd. Suggested that Jacumba residents voice their concerns to their elected representatives (Supvr. Anderson, Senator Steve Padilla). Supvr. Anderson currently has an initiative on the Oct. 10th BOS agenda to have the County stop paying the legal fees for criminal illegal immigrants.

Ben: Why don’t we to have a Border Patrol officer attend our sponsor group meetings?

Greg: Believes that CBP community liaison position has been eliminated. He volunteered to contact CBP to see if they can send a representative to a future meeting.

Chair: The County is working to purchase acreage where they are going to build a new fire station in Jacumba. Once they have completed the purchase, County reps will make a presentation at an upcoming sponsor group meeting.

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

1. Discuss/vote on Jacumba’s FY 2023-2024 Park Land Dedication Ordinance (PLDO) and Recreation Programming Priority List. A written response is due to County of Parks and Recreation by November 30, 2023.

Chair: Our FY 2022-Fy2023 PLDO recreational priority list was: 1. Refurbishment and replacement of the park’s existing playground equipment; 2. Improvements to the existing basketball court (covered bleachers, picnic tables, and a 15-foot wrap around court concrete skirt); 3. Circuit training/fitness equipment. Recently the JCSD received a 100K neighborhood reinvestment grant from Supervisor Anderson for the purchase of playground equipment and shade structures. So, we will remove a request for new playground equipment and shade structures. Do we want to add another park priority like a bike course in addition to the basketball court refurbishment and circuit training/fitness equipment? Does our basketball court get used enough to be our #1 priority?

Bruce: Park improvements need to include water misting systems.

Chair: Provided some photos of sample bicycle parks and suggested that our priority list include a bicycle course.

Pattie: Asked about a skate park? Some years ago, the JCSD previously received a monetary donation for the installation of a skate park.

Chair: The skate park money (\$26K) that the JCSD is holding would not be enough to build/maintain one.

Maureen: The issue of a future skate park should be addressed to the JCSD.

Tanya: Suggested improvements to the existing restrooms are needed which should include a shower.

Jeff: Stated that he believes the County should take over the management of our park.

Chair: Before we can request that County Parks and Recreation take over the management of our community park, we need to get a consensus from residents and the JCSD Board that it is the desirable course of action. Given that our PLDO response is needed by November 30, 2023, that initiative could be taken prior to the following year's PLDO request.

M/S to submit a FY 2023-2024 recreational priority list that includes #1 Basketball court refurbishment with water misters; 2. Circuit Training/fitness equipment with shade structure and water mister; 3. Bicycle course: Diefenbach/Hafdell: Vote:4-0-0. Passed.

The chair will provide the Department of Parks and Recreation with our prioritized PLDO list.

2. The FY 2024-2025 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application window is open through 5pm on Nov. 10, 2023. Non-profit organizations and residents are encouraged to submit applications.

Chair: Reminded the group that she had submitted a block grant to the County last year for sidewalks on both sides of Old Hwy 80 near the library, senior center, and Wagon Wheel Trailer Park and a pedestrian crosswalk at Carriso Street and Old Hwy 80. Unfortunately, that application was not chosen for funding. (The county only chose grants relating to the funding of low-income housing.) The Chair intends to submit a similar CDBG request again. Previously in FY 2021, the JCSD had submitted the same sidewalk and crosswalk request to County DPW. She recommends that we resubmit that same request to County DPW again this year.

M/S to support a CDBG application and a DPW request for sidewalks and a crosswalk on Old Hwy 80 at Carriso Street: Curran/Hafdell: Vote: 4-0. Passed.

3. Virtual public meetings regarding the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Socially Equitable Cannabis Program EIR will be held on Thursday, October 12, 6-8pm and Tuesday, October 17, 6-8 pm. Please visit https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_InkTYI3sQP2bmb86gPXoLq to register in advance for either meeting.

The Chair encouraged those present to provide individual comments.

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

1. Honorary Bridge Naming update: Bert Vaughn Memorial Bridge and the Patricia Fauble Memorial Bridge signs have been installed.

Chair: It may be possible to have Supervisor Anderson come out to Jacumba for a "meet and greet" sometime in December to thank him personally for his help with the bridge signs. Alternately, inviting him out for coffee at the Senior Center in conjunction with a ribbon cutting ceremony on the new playground equipment that he funded through the neighborhood reinvestment grant program may be a better choice.

The general consensus from those present was to wait for the playground renovations to be completed and then invite him out for a visit.

2. Update on our request for the County provide a precipitation/weather station for Jacumba.

Chair: Based on several emails with Bill Bennett, the County Hydrologist, the County is going to fund and install a precipitation station once they can find a location on County land (maybe the airport).

3. County Community Decorative Identification Sign Program update.

Chair: There has been no forward movement from PDS in getting this program going due to a current lack of county funding.

4. Supervisor Anderson is currently accepting grant applications from non-profit organizations for the Neighborhood Reinvestment and Community Enhancement programs through November 1, 2023. (If a grant application is approved, it will be funded in FY 2024.)

5. Community interface reports.

a. Highland Senior Center.

Greg provided an update on the center's operations. The center's non-profit status has been restored. Sunday breakfasts have resumed and volunteers from the center will support the community clean-up of Jacumba on Oct. 21st.

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

A community clean-up will be held in Jacumba on Oct. 21st from 8-11 am. A Medical Outreach is scheduled from 8am-2pm in at the Resource Center on Oct. 22nd. The next RECFSC meeting is 6:30 pm on Oct. 16th.

c. JBRA (Revitalization). The Children's Halloween event is scheduled for Oct.28th from 12 to 4pm at the Resource Center. Unwanted mattresses can be recycled at the Resource Center on Mondays. The next JBRA meeting is 7:40 pm on Oct. 16th.

G. Adjournment:

The JCSG meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm.

The next JCSG meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 13, 2023 at 6 pm.

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

Approved: November 13, 2023