

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO JULIAN COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

Regular Meeting Minutes

Nov. 13, 2017

Julian Town Hall, Corner of Washington and Main St., Julian, California

Administrative Items

A Roll Call

Present: Brown, Birdsell, Barnes, Moretti, Krawiec, Mushet, Munshi, Dackermann, Redding

Absent: Rikansrud

B The Minutes for the meeting of October 9, 2017 were approved with a change to the date of the minutes.

VOTE: Aye: Brown, Birdsell, Barnes, Moretti, Krawiec, Munshi, Dackermann, Redding No: None
Abstain: Mushet (absent previous meeting) Absent: Rikansrud

C. Public Communication: Munshi announced that there would be a trial in the suit brought by the Cleveland National Forest Foundation against Genessee Properties over the development of the Hoskings property on Friday, Nov. 18 at the Superior Court in San Diego.

D. Action Items:

1. PLDO—Priority List and Recreation Programming: Plan priority list and review of parks master plan. (HEARD AFTER CHIEF MECHAM'S REPORT)

An announcement had been put in the Julian News but there were no responses. Munshi noted that the deadline for filing had been November 11. This item will be dropped from the agenda.

2. Cal-Fire—Tony Mecham, Unit and County Fire Chief, Cal-Fire San Diego: Guest speaker. (THIS ITEM WAS MOVED TO THE FRONT OF THE AGENDA TO ACCOMMODATE CHIEF MECHAM.)

Chief Mecham of Cal-Fire began his presentation by noting that, beginning roughly with the 2003 Cedar Fire, fires in the Western United States have taken on a different character. They are larger, fiercer, hotter and much more difficult to fight. Part of the reason is the increasing warmth in the climate but perhaps more important is the old philosophy of putting out any and all fires immediately. As a result, underbrush and dead wood has increased dramatically, providing the fuel that powers these mega-fires.

There are, in consequence, a number of changes in the way Cal-Fire is conducting its business. One is that they are keeping more manpower on duty longer in the fall and from an earlier date in the spring as fires are now year-round events in many areas. Another is related to the removal of fuel, which can be done through controlled burns as well as the removal of dead trees and brush through a number of programs funded by the State.

In Julian there are specific programs in which the public might be interested. Cal-Fire will partner with private landowners in doing controlled burns where landowners may wish to reduce brush, reinvigorate pasture land or attempt to re-introduce native grasses to an area. Currently, Cal-Fire was working with the Morettis on a 350 acre burn. Cal-Fire Julian would be interested in talking to landowners who wished to do something similar, but the area needs to be big enough to be safe and worth the investment of time. Another initiative was to help residents who had a large amount of piled brush to burn it safely.

During the Question period, Chief Mecham was asked if Cal-Fire were still maintaining the firebreaks between Julian and the desert. He said they were. Some discussion followed with Mushet trying to ascertain exactly when and where work was being done as he hadn't seen any. Barnes noted that the 9

a.m.-2 p.m. burn policy and restrictive pile size limited the amount of burning residents could do. Chief Mecham said that in this and in controlled burns, air quality had become a concern; the JCPG response was that forest fires were worse for air quality. Moretti said that it was her family's ranch that Chief Mecham had referenced when talking about the controlled burn and that it had taken a long time to put things in place.

The group thanked Chief Mecham for his time as well as Andrew Hayes, District Representative for Senator Joel Anderson, who had arranged for Chief Mecham's visit.

3. Agricultural Clearing Permit: The County said it would review these permits under the new Grading ordinance. No action was taken.

4. Drainage Runoff – 3rd and C Streets: The curbs on these streets aren't high enough and drainage is running on to private property and causing damage. The Group agreed to recommend palliative measures.

5. State parks Letter: Representatives of the State Parks will attend the December meeting to discuss the issues raised in the letter.

6. Road Maintenance – Julian: Munshi reported she had talked with Dennis Howe of PDS at Dianne Jacob's Town Meeting who had forwarded her request to the relevant authorities. The relevant authorities haven't answered and Munshi will follow up with Howe. Rebecca Morales, of the Roads Committee, asked Pat Brown if the letter about 2nd and C Streets, approved at the last meeting, had been sent. It hasn't but will be. Brown passed out a long list of road maintenance priorities and a longer list of County Maintained Roads in the Julian area. Krawiec moved that consideration of these be deferred to the next meeting when members would have had a chance to look at them. Munshi seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

E. Group Business:

1. Announcements and Correspondence Received

None

2. Discussion Items

a. New post office box—This item needs to be removed from the agenda.

b. Letter of Invitation to the Transportation Department:

Barnes asked if we had heard from CalTrans about the suggestion to put more turnouts on Highway 78 between Ramona and Julian. The JCPG has not heard and Andrew Hayes said that Senator Anderson hadn't heard either.

c. Honorary Bridge Naming—Wynola Bridge. The Group felt naming this bridge was unnecessary. No action taken.

3. Zoning verification agricultural Store; PDS2017-AD-17-022; 1284 Julian Orchard Drive; Wynola and Farmer Roads; APN 250-272-01-00. The County has already acted on this.

4. Subcommittee Reports

None

5. Meeting updates

None

F. Adjournment. Mushet moved the meeting be adjourned, Dackermann seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.