

**County of San Diego Palomar Mountain Community Sponsor Group
Special Meeting Minutes of the Board Meeting**

Conference Call Meeting

Thursday, May 27, 2021, at 6:00pm

Board members present via conference call: Robert Carlyle, Mike Appelman, Cliff Kellogg, William “Bill” Leininger, Teresa McCarthy, Micah Beard

Board Members not present: Curtis “Dutch” Bergman

Meeting began at 6:01 pm.

Approval of the minutes from prior meeting - Cliff Kellogg makes a motion to accept the minutes. Bill Leininger seconds.

Motion Passed

Robert Carlyle ask for any public comments.

- Mike Pique – Encourages the board to have a formal mailing list to invite residents to the meetings. Best to email Robert Carlyle to be on the list. rcarlyle@outlook.com
- Cliff Kellogg asked about website to see why our website is not updated. Mike Appelman said we email the designated person and they post it on the website. Email more often or call them. Cliff Kellogg said he would contact them to get our minutes and agenda on the website. Cliff Kellogg will check with the county on getting the minutes and website updated.

Action Items:

- Katie Michelmores, resident of Palomar Mountain, NextDoor Lead and Neighborhood Watch Lead, wanted to bring to the Community Sponsor Groups attention that a campground has been operating “illegally” on the South Grade at mile marker 46.
 - o The property is not zoned for that kind of business.
 - o Operator doesn’t have a major use permit.
 - o Fire danger on the property. Brush not be taken care of. Open fires.
 - o Owner has been approached who has declined to address the issues.
 - o No answers or suggestions just wanted to discuss the issues.
- Cliff Kellogg brought this up on Monday at a meeting with the San Diego County Fire Advisory Board. There are two HIPP camps on the mountain and numerous HIPP camps around the county and around the state. The county is aware of these camps, they are a county issue and do not know what to do in regards to regulations. Station 79 has been to the property twice and the campsites had proper clearance and were adequate. No, buildings on the property so there are not concerns about the brush piles. Putting on the agenda for the fire advisory board next month.
- Eddy Reiner the owner of the property. Lives on Palomar and is from San Diego county. Works on property.
 - o Has concern for wildfires as everyone else does.
 - o Just wants to be left along on his private property.
 - o No recommendations from Station 79 because they are doing everything as they should.
 - o 8,000 gallons of water, 30 fire hoses, irrigation system.
 - o False information and lies are being spread about him and his wife.
 - o Goal to make the mountain more fire safe.

- o His property is a fire break for the south grade and to the top of the mountain.
 - o The county is making him replant all of the vegetation that he has taken out and now will not be a fire break that he has once anticipated.
 - o They are putting money into fire safety and prevention.
 - o Has a right to privacy. Will be constructing a 6 foot fence in the future.
 - o Been spied on with a drone. Trespassers drop the chain, honk horns and yell waking them up.
 - o Not a campground, rent bioluminescent experiences.
 - o Public right to record meeting.
 - o Conflict of interests. Personal interests and community interests. HIPPA, VRBO, AirBNB.
 - o Public Records
 - o Unequal Enforcement
 - o Permits
 - o Due Process – Decision making process is fair
 - o Jurisdiction

- Katy Michelmore responded
 - o Clarified that a community member could ask for an agenda item.
 - o Impropriety and competition are out of line.
 - o She challenged that the property is being used as a campground because of advertising and language.
 - o Special meeting was called because I asked to be on the agenda at the next meeting.
 - o You advertise as campsites and tent camps.

- Eddie Reiner responded
 - o The sponsor group is not supposed to call a special meeting like this and then have a vote.
 - o Should have been a neighborhood watch meeting.
 - o No vote is allowed.
 - o We have Jacuzzis and we have can people use them.
 - o No license not in a city jurisdiction.

- Robert Carlyle responded
 - o I checked with the county and the county did not have a problem with the sponsor group having a meeting in regards to this agenda item.
 - o County said that the sponsor group could have a motion or a vote.

- Mike Appelman responded
 - o I wanted to respond there were so many things covered.
 - o Next time it may be good to type it up and send it to the group.
 - o I am going to try and summarize what I heard.
 - o Not happy the Sponsor Group is meeting.
 - o You have a minimum understanding of the board policies and misunderstanding and interpreting .
 - o We had one agenda item at the request of a community member.
 - o Talking about the conflict of interest in regard to AirBNB and VRBO. Several Sponsor Group members have these types of rental properties.
 - o We are hearing an issue centered around fire safety. That is why I am here. People have shown up because of fire safety.

- o A community member wanted an agenda item and we organized a meeting.
 - o Zoom meeting is being recorded. You can see in the upper right-hand corner.
 - o This is a fire safety issue and a community member has brought it up in a public forum.
- Eddie Reiner responded
 - o I am not accusing anybody of anything.
 - o Just wanting to explain myself and introduce myself.
 - o Letting the community know that he is trying to prevent trespassers.
 - o Not trying to get into legal fights.
 - o If it is a fire safety problem, it should be dealt with by the fire safe counsel and station 79.
 - o Attached for permits but others do not have permits.
 - o Being told this meeting is a witch hunt.
 - o HIPP camp has open fires but no one is talking about that.
- Courtney (on Crestline) responded
 - o Has seen smoke and has been concerned. Has called about the smoke in the past. Just commented that they are concerned about the fire safety. Issue for her was the brush being pushed up to the road. Just wants the mountain to be safe for everyone.
- Eddie Reiner responded
 - o If it was just about the fire safety, I would not have a problem. What I am concerned about is the witch hunt where people are leaving notes at the post office. This meeting is not a fire safe council. This is about being reported to the county. I am trying to get rid of the brush from the property. The county is now stopping us from removing brush.
 - o I have no beef with fire safe stuff.
- Micah Beard asked a question
 - o Why is it that you just can't chip it or get rid of it?
- Robert Carlyle responded
 - o I went to his property to offer chipping services, but Eddie Reiner ran me off, he didn't want it and please get off my property right now.
- Eddie Reiner responded
 - o They property used to be the hang out place. People keep coming onto the property. The brush is stacked for privacy. Wants to get rid of the brush. Is going to put up a fence, then he will chip the brush.
- Preston Fouts, Law Enforcement Battalion Chief for CalFire in San Diego, commented
 - o Still learning as investigators.
 - o Covered the definition as campfires. Talked about how dangerous they are at different times of years.
 - o Can allow other people onto your property with permission from the property owner.
 - o No legal statute that can be enforced in this situation.

What is the procedure from here? - Katie Michelmore

Cliff Kellogg motioned to adjournment
Mike Appelman seconded
Motion carried

Adjourn 7:02

Purpose of Planning and Sponsor Groups:

Advise the County on discretionary projects as well as on planning and land use matters that are proposed within their respective community planning or sponsor group area.

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