

WEST SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES
RAMONA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP
~~15873 HWY 67, RAMONA, CA 92065~~
~~RAMONA COMMUNITY CENTER~~
~~434 AQUA LANE, RAMONA~~
TELECONFERENCING MEETING
February 1, 2021, 7:00 P.M.
Meeting shall be a public telephone conference call held at 7:00 P.M.
Call Number: 978-990-5330
Access Code: 8612750

A Temporary email address has been created to request agenda item information via email.

Please send an email to: rcpgcovid19meetinginfo@gmail.com to request documents for each item to follow along with during the teleconference.

Requests for documents will be responded to before and during the meeting as possible to accommodate any member of the public wishing to participate during the meeting.

Members of the public are requested to make a speaker request via email prior to the meeting as well. This request is to ensure everyone is heard and has an equal opportunity to speak during the meeting as well as providing the RCPG a chance to organize our speakers ahead of the meeting to ensure we have ample time for each item. Please indicate if you are speaking as PUBLIC COMMUNICATION or as an AGENDA ITEM and note the agenda item you wish to respond to and please limit your written response to 3 minutes or less.

Written comments to be read into the record will also be accepted via email prior to the meeting. Please indicate the item number you wish to respond to and please limit your written response to 3 minutes or less.

1. CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm.
2. DETERMINATION OF MEMBERS PRESENT – Consideration Will be Given to Members Who Have Missed Consistently. They Will Be Removed And Will Need to Reapply for Membership.
Members Present: Kristi Mansolf, chair; Robin Joy Maxson, Kevin Wallace
Other Attendees: Michael Beck, Matt Rains
3. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None
4. Corrections/Approval to the West Minutes 10-26-2020 – Moved to the end of the agenda
5. PRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY – None
Action Item:
6. VAC 21-001, Montecito Ranch Open Space Easement Vacation. 1080 Montecito Way and Sonora Way. Request to vacate a redundant 215 acre open space easement held by the County of San Diego in favor of a Conservation Easement held by Naval Facilities Southwest for the protection of Steven’s Kangaroo rat and other sensitive species. The property was purchased by the Endangered Habitats Conservancy in 2020.

Michael Beck, with the Endangered Habitat Conservancy (EHC), presented the project. The EHC purchased the Montecito Ranch property 6 months ago with funding provided by the Navy – Section 6, Federal Funding Source. The property is Steven’s Kangaroo Rat (SKR) habitat, habitat for other sensitive habitat and vernal pools. About 251 acres are held by the County in an open space easement imposed by the Fish and Wildlife Service years ago.

Montecito Ranch was purchased by EHC in 2020 using Federal funding sources, and the County easement still resides with the land. In the past year an 890 acre conservation easement was placed over the property with 8 acres carved out for the existing house that is on the site. So now the property is 100 percent conserved and can be restored as habitat for SKR, sensitive species and vernal pools.

Ms. Maxson asked if there would be trail access on the property?

Mr. Beck said the agencies have been negotiating with the County for a while on this issue. The grasslands are all conserved, and a trail connection has been reserved on the west side of the property. There is no timeline now for the property. A trail on the west side of the property could go from Montecito Way to the San Pasqual Valley. A trail would also need to be coordinated with neighboring property owners.

Mr. Wallace asked about the Navy’s involvement with the property? And does this involvement have anything to do with the Ramona Airport historically?

Mr. Beck said the Navy handles the real estate aspect of the property. The Navy does the work for the Marines who are also part of the Navy and are involved with the land. And there is no connection with the Ramona Airport. EHC is asking to vacate the County easement and the Federal and State conservation easements supercede the County’s easement. EHC is getting management funding from the military. There is no funding from the State.

Ms. Maxson asked about people living in the house on the property?

Mr. Beck said no one lives in the house. He believes it was once owned by James Cagney. The house will be restored. One outbuilding will be kept for management activity on the property. The 8 acres by the house is not part of the Pendleton acreage credit. EHC owns the house and land managers can live there. It is infrastructure for the property.

MOTION: TO RECOMMEND THE VACATION OF THE 251 ACRE OPEN SPACE EASEMENT HELD BY THE COUNTY IN FAVOR OF A CONSERVATION EASEMENT HELD BY NAVAL FACILITIES SOUTHWEST.

Upon motion made by Kevin Wallace and seconded by Robin Maxson, the motion passed 3-0-0-0-0.

4. Corrections/Approval to the West Minutes 10-26-2020 – Taken out of order

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE 10-26-2020 MEETING AS PRESENTED.

Upon motion made by Robin Maxson and seconded by Kevin Wallace, the motion passed 3-0-0-0-0.

7. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi Mansolf

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