County of San Diego Sweetwater Community Planning Group

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY
March 2, 2021 6:00PM

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86369992103?pwd=RGhWY041Z1J5VDhKZDhWM29mOHpLZz09Meeting ID: 863 6999 2103 Passcode: 221078

Zoom meeting four

Administrative Items
Co-Chair Steve Stonehouse brought the meeting to order at 6:00PM

Item #2: Approval of minutes: Mark moved to accept minutes. David seconded. Approved with ten ayes. Uwe abstained; Harriet voted no.

Item #3: People to speak for three minutes: No comments

Action Items
There are no action items this month.

Non-Action Items
Item #4: Presentation regarding new County Cannabis Program: Aleena Benedito and Donald Chase presenting: Basically, the County has decided to develop a permitting program which will regulate manufacturing and distribution of cannabis within the County. This paves the way for a ‘social Equity Program’ by changing the zoning and allowing more people operating permits. Comments from the public included one person who was against the whole thing because her child died apparently as a result of marijuana. Another comment was about the licensing and controls in place right now: that the bar was so high that it seemed easier to run an ‘illegal’ establishment and face the punishment than go through the ‘outrageous’ cost of doing it legally. A local grower spoke about the rules for growing and distributing marijuana within the County and that cities had a better method for distribution. She also asked us to come and tour her facility ‘any time’. There was also a discussion about how cannabis had been shown to cause violence within certain areas of the population. People get killed. A discussion followed about the ‘social’ usage of marijuana as apposed to alcohol. Diane mentioned that the ABC has enforcement powers and unless whatever the County decides to do has powers similar things will basically stay the same. Harriet told us she had attended a meeting between the Supervisors of Districts 1 and 2. One issue brought up with that there is little mass transit in
the East County, and very little Uber sort of service. So, where would one get the ability to return home if they ‘overused?’ For a more structured look at this discussion, you can go to “San Diego Cannabis Program” in your search engine. The second option will lead you to the information from this discussion.

Item #5: Confirmation of Sharmane Estolano as a member and welcome back Uwe Werner: You are hereby authorized to vote in Action Items.

Item #6: Andrew Harvey and Rosa Olasconaga our representatives from Supervisor Nora Vargas’ office with County updates: Covid-19 mitigation is well underway, with vaccinations moving toward Teachers and essential workers. We need 800k people to be vaccinated to lift more restrictions, but the number of people with Covid is decreasing. The vaccinating requirement has changed to anyone over the age of 60. You can get appointments from the County on their website. There is a vaccinating station at the old Sears building in Chula Vista which takes patients without appointments. There is a new Planning Commissioner

Diane asked about the speed limits on San Miguel Road and was told that was handled by TAC.

Harriet found the owner of the land where the dirt has been illegally dumped. He is in the process of getting it stopped.

Item #7: Harriet Taylor with Community Updates: There is no new news about Dave’s. The crosswalk yellow stripes are going in Monday. San Miguel Bridge Repair/resurfacing in 2021.

Jim Goth wanted to note that the sidewalk was done by Sunnyside School, but the County should hold off on putting out sensors until school is back in session. The principal of Sunnyside School, Dr. Cochrane is leaving. The new one will be announced soon. There followed a discussion about traffic studies, for a dedicated left turn lane into Sunnyside School.

Item #8: Trails Report, Mark and Diane: Diane told us of the good news that the no parking signs are up and there are no more RV’s there crowding the trails and dumping illegally. DPW has been notified. Procter Valley Road over to Eastlake is becoming a very dangerous area as everyone is coming out to use our trails and the Bike Park.

Item #12: Announcements: None
Item #13; Adjournment 7:37 PM

Respectfully submitted
Liz Stonehouse, Secretary
Sweetwater Community Planning Group

Next meeting via Zoom; April 6, 2021