

County of San Diego Sweetwater Community Planning Group

Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday May 6, 2025 @ 7PM

Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Station

4900 Bonita Road, Bonita CA 91902

1. Chair Felix Felix brought meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Roll call by Secretary Lori Noe. Present: Liz Stonehouse, Michael Clowers, Uwe Werner, Lori Noe, Mark Kukuchek, Harriet Taylor, Patty O'Mara, Michael Garrod, Felix Felix, Tony Tieber, Judy Tieber, and John Taylor. Absent: Shane Parmely (resigned via email), Daniel Diaz and Penni Neely (excused).
2. Pledge of Allegiance recited.
3. Approval of April Minutes unanimous by those present. (1st by Mark K, 2nd by Liz).
4. Public Comment: Susan Heavilin expressed concern over possible reopening of Quarry Road. Mike Clowers stated he will report on this later in meeting. Ernesto Castenada from County distributed handouts regarding the budget, in English and Spanish, and reported timelines for voting for next Supervisor: early voting begins June 2, with final day July 1. He also reported that bathrooms will be added to bike park.
5. Approval of Order of Agenda: (1st by Liz, 2nd by Uwe): Unanimous aye.

ACTION ITEMS

6. Appointment of Ad Hoc Committees and Chairs for 1) Sweetwater Storm Water Drainage Issues and 2) Rural Zoning Ordinances for Community Planning Groups. Leanne Crow, Project Manager with Public Works and Senior Hydrologist, is scheduled to meet May 12 with 1st Committee. Motion/vote taken for renaming committee "San Miguel Community Watershed Ad Hoc Committee" (1st by Mark K, 2nd by Liz), with all present members voting aye. Efforts will initially focus on San Miguel Road. Volunteers for this committee: Judy Tieber as Chair, Alex Melchor, Luis De La Rosa (engineer), William Estrella, Harriet Taylor, Susan Heavilin, and Mike Clowers. Motion to confirm members (Mark 1st, Judy 2nd), with all present members voting aye. 2nd committee was renamed "Rural Residential Zoning Ordinances for Community Planning Groups," and members confirmed after motion/vote taken. (1st by Michael G., 2nd by John). Tony Tieber abstained, and remaining members voted aye. Volunteer members will include John Taylor, Liz Stonehouse ("as researcher only"), Harriet Taylor, and Susan Heavilin. Chair has not yet been chosen. Felix will attend meetings occasionally. The purpose of this committee is to review the potential updating of the Sweetwater Community Plan with regard to zoning ordinances and design guidelines. Liz would like to narrow the scope from 20 to 15. Luis suggested looking at fire and safety perspectives i.e.) Sunnyside Fire Dept regulations. Michael G would like to know what other counties allow and do not allow. Harriet expressed concern that we have no AIRBNB regulations. Judy said that Sweetwater Civic Association is taking that on. Ad Hoc Committees will be on our agenda for updates.

NON-ACTION ITEMS

7. Community Updates/Harriet: Equipment left at Sweetwater Rd and Central Ave is being cleaned up and removed. Code Compliance was notified, and property has been sold.
8. Trail Update/Mark: Per Sweetwater Authority Board of Directors Meeting, Sweetwater Authority agreed to a memorandum of understanding with San Diego County Parks to participate in completing loop trail around Sweetwater reservoir; however, animals are not allowed in certain areas due to water quality issues. Working with Parks and Rec Dept. Staging area started.

9. Traffic Updates/Mike C.: Regarding Quarry Rd, 18-month closure passed. Will install gate for bicycles, hikers etc. Cul-de-sac will be closed. Bike park: "No overnight parking" signs requested from County.
10. Ad Hoc Secure Self Storage Update: Regarding vote at BOS meeting, Michael G and other members and community expressed disappointment that we did not have a Supervisor to represent us, and Jim Desmond was not present. Political action committees and presence of union members as speakers proved to be very powerful and influence votes. Community members' pleas against storage facility fell to deaf ears.
11. Design Reviews Update: Nectar Restaurant asking for exemption. Plans given to each member.
12. Adjournment 8:27pm.