

County of San Diego Sweetwater Community Planning Group

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY

May 6, 2014 7:00PM

Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Department
4900 Bonita Road Bonita CA 91902

Administrative Items

Co-Chair Mark Kukuchek brought the meeting to order at 7:00

Item #1: Roll call and introduction: Members and guests introduced themselves with the following attendees:

Planning Group members: Mark Kukuchek, co-chair, Liz Stonehouse, secretary, Doc Stokos, Harriet Taylor, Sheri Todus , Steve Stonehouse, Michael Garrod, John Taylor, Rick Blacklock, Irene Blacklock, Judy Tieber, Don Scovel, Diane Carter, and Daryl Hern.

Excused members: Uwe Werner

Guests: Michael De La Rosa, representative for Supervisor Greg Cox, Various members of the public.

Item #2: last Month's Minutes. Corrections to last month's minutes are as noted: The meeting last month should not be noted as Special as it was just in a different location. Move to approve with changes, Rick. Second, Michael Garrod. Approved with Harriet, Doc, and Sheri abstaining.

Item #3: Opportunity for members of the public to speak to the Planning Group on any subject within Planning Group's Purview but not on the agenda. Presentations are limited to three minutes. No action can be taken on items not on the published agenda but can be added to future agendas for action.

No public comment at this time.

Item #4: Michael De La Rosa from Supervisor Cox's office gave this community update: Safe Routes to School, which will be addressed later: Also, the hospice which is being built at the corner of Valley Vista and Sweetwater Road across from the Women's Center has blocked off a trail. There will be more of that in the Trail's report. There has been some discussion about the Cell Tower controversy and the Equine Ordinance and how it evolved. There was a meeting between Sweetwater Authority and Supervisor's Cox and Jacobs to discuss trail issues. The money has been allocated for the bridges

which have been requested by Fish and Wildlife for the closed South Side Trail.

Action Items

Item #5: Request for Priorities for Roadway improvement projects. Don Scovel provided a list of roads in the Bonita Highlands area that need repaving or resurfacing. Liz mentioned that along with Sylvia and Anderson Streets in Sweetwater Manor, Margaret Street should be done as well.. Rick Blacklock mentioned Allen School Road from Allen School Lane, and Judy Tieber mentioned Central Ave from Hazelhurst to Frisbie. Rick motioned to consolidate these suggested streets as the SCPG priorities for the top twenty list. Doc seconded. Unanimous.

Item #6: Request for capital improvement projects priorities for roadway improvement projects from DPW. Action item.

This continues the discussion of last month. Areas for inclusion on the CIP (Capital Improvement Project) list are the Acacia Avenue pathway. Other suggestions were: a pedestrian crosswalk and light system from Frisbie Street across Bonita Road, a left turn lane at Margaret Street and Sweetwater, and a pathway on Frisbie Street. Diane made the motion to include the suggestions in our report, and Judy seconded. Unanimous.

Item #7: San Diego County's application for the State Active Transportation Program Grant. Murali Pasumarti presenting: The idea is to have a section of the road system feeding Valley Vista School be covered by this proposed grant system. This would allow for non-motor vehicle access to the school over protected pathways and sidewalks. After discussion, Michael Garrod made the following motion: That Sweetwater Community Planning Group support the County of San Diego in its effort to obtain a grant under the Active Transportation funds for the vicinity of Valley Vista Road in Bonita. Irene seconded. 8 Ayes, 3 noes, Daryl, Steve, and Liz: one abstain, John.

Item #8: Montessori School new sign application. Action Item. After discussion about where the Montessori School proposed to place their new sign, and a description of the sign, Sheri motioned to approve the signage with modifications. Doc seconded. Unanimous.

Item #9: Report on Chairman's meeting at County. Harriet Taylor. The meeting was held April 12th at the County Complex. The general consensus was that these meetings should be held at the least once a year, but when an issue such as the Equine Ordinance and its impact in the community comes up, twice a year. It's a good time to learn who the new members of Planning Groups are, and what their issues might be. There was a discussion about watersheds and how they should be handled. Harriet brought up the watershed situation between San Miguel Ranch and the residents of Jonel Way and how the waste water had adversely affected them. There is a record of this meeting online.

There was a short discussion about appointing Diane as our new Trails Representative, to be on the agenda next month.

Item #10: Updates:

a. Trails report-Diane Carter

San Diego Sheriff's Sergeant Leonel Gurrola came to speak to us about the homeless encampments in the Sweetwater area. He is new to Imperial Beach Station, but lives in Bonita. He wants to see that any criminal activities and illegal camping are stopped.

The parking lot next to the Provence House is going forward with a dedicated trail around it. What is called the Section 8 loop trail from the Willow Street Bridge to Valley Vista Road has been closed by the Hospice builders. The Hospice builders are now in the process of reopening the trail.

The Bonita Valley Horsemen would like to put up a new bulletin board by the new bridge at the Otay Lakes Road and Bonita Road merger.

There will be a trails advisory meeting in June 18 at Summit Park. Supervisor Cox will listen to everyone's concern: horsemen, bikers, hikers, and dog walkers.

Item #11: Planning Group members, concerns and comments:

There was a long discussion by a member of the community about Jonel way and improvements. The County is looking into it.

There was a program about the Heritage Horse, which is any horse of Spanish descent.

The Phair Company would like to come to Planning Group next month to discuss his plans for the land next door. This will be a information only.

The tree at San Miguel and Proctor Valley Road is still causing issues. It would be good to go to schools first to learn about their traffic issues before diving in-this on the Safe routes to school issue.

Don mentioned that Richard Pena died May third. He was 95.

He was beloved in the community.

Doc wondered whether self-interest motivated opinions and hindered their objectivity.

Move to adjourn Rick second Liz. Adjourned 8:45P.M

Liz Stonehouse, Secretary

Next meeting June 3, 2014 Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Station.