Mark Kukuchek brought the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Item #1: Roll call and introduction: Planning Group members: Mark Kukuchek, Liz Stonehouse, Uwe Werner, Steve Stonehouse, John Taylor, Rick Blacklock, Irene Blacklock, Judy Tieber, Don Scovel, Diane Carter, Michael Garrod, and Daryl Hern.

Excused: Harriet Taylor, Sheri Todus, and Doc Stokos.

Michael De La Rosa, representing Supervisor Greg Cox.

Guests: various members of the public.

Item #2: Last month’s minutes. One correction. Michael De La Rosa wanted it known that gas taxes are not the only applicable means to get money for road improvements. The County is now seeking other funding streams for this issue.

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. Judy Tieber speaking as a member of Sweetwater Valley Civic Association requested that Planning Group join that group in requesting the County to remove the Eucalyptus tree from the south east corner of Proctor Valley Road and San Miguel Road by adding it to next month’s agenda.

Item #4: Michael De La Rosa from Supervisor Cox’s office gave this community update: He commented on the situation with the tree and that County had not moved forward on several requests in the past to remove the tree, but that situations change.
Action Items

Rita from Algert Engineering presented. She showed us several diagrams and overhead photos that the road had been widened as requested, that trees were going to be installed to shield the neighbors from the new houses and that the pitch of the road grade was not as steep. The Fire Marshall signed off on the project. (by Harriet through John).
Mr. Martinez had given up even more of the land for habitat. The pads were to the legal set-back requirements.

The neighbor’s complaints were as follows: decrease in property values; possible encroachment of wildlife disturbed by building; possible parking issues; and an increase in drug traffic.

Final motion by Rick Blacklock: To accept this proposal as submitted with these exceptions; that the possibility of three pads instead of four be examined. Irene seconded. Vote: 9 aye, 1 noe, Diane Carter and two abstentions, Liz Stonehouse and Michael Garrod.

After discussion: Rick motioned that we eliminate items one, three and four from last year’s list. One was the creation of a mountain bike challenge course; three was to explore the availability of a section of the Pinery for use as a community farm; and four was to get picnic tables and benches at the new community center at Summit Park. Liz seconded.
Discussion: in the place of one, three and four, Rick asked that a DG pathway be installed between Allen School Lane and the County Line. “Safe Paths to School was cited”: Diane asked that more trash cans be put out along the trails. Vote called: Unanimous with changes.
Item #7: Updates

a. Pedestrian crossing at Frisbie Street. This suggestion, from last year that an on-demand cross-walk into the Preserve from Frisbie Street should be moved to Dory Lane as Frisbie Street dead-ends into a shear drop of several feet before the trail begins, while the Dory crossing is actually onto a recognized trail access. Unanimous to put on agenda next month.

b. Election of new officers for January 2015. A notice of reminder was said.

c. Trails Report: Diane had a lot to tell us.

   1. The construction of the Quarry Road Loop Trail and the River Bottom Trail from the Western Gateway to Willow Street Bridge are underway and are due for completion in February 2015.

   2. The Rice Canyon Loop Trail through Glen Abby Cemetery has stalled while DPR and the City of Chula Vista establish an alignment.

   3. DPW currently does not have funding to establish a pathway along Acacia Ave. Because of this, the Tim Street trail segment, which has been closed off in places, cannot be addressed as the two are linked.

   4. The Sweetwater Reservoir Loop Trail is still underway. Supervisors Cox and Jacobs are actively working to complete this trail.

   5. The Provence House parking lot expansion and trail are near construction. It should begin this month.

   6. The homeless encampment west of Plaza Bonita. DPR Staff (in partnership with the Sheriff’s Department) have begun to remove the transients. At this time several arrests have been made.

   7. Trail 140 which runs from Bonita Highlands to Bonita Meadows. This trail, mostly due to poor drainage from Otay Ranch has eroded to the point where riders can cross but it is difficult for bikers. Other trail users have knocked down a fence and are crossing on the gabion itself, which is a safety hazard. The gabion itself needs repairing as the stream has gone around it. Mark took photographs and sent them to County Parks to try to obtain an easement from Fish and Wildlife for this trail.

Announcements:
Traffic Advisory Committee meeting Dec 12th.
Uwe had a question about signage by his place. Apparently people are crossing into his driveway and through his gate believing that his driveway is Jonel Way. Michael De La Rosa said he’d ask Morali about it.

Don mentioned that he had been unable to drive all the streets in the Sweetwater area, but those he did drive overwhelmingly needed repair.

Michael explained to us again about the funding stream for roadwork. Mark mentioned a man from MoCal Signs, Naruki Nagata, who sent him paperwork in advance of getting County permission for signage at 3060 Bonita Road. Since this was not on the agenda Planning Group can take no action. We will review sign concepts before Mo-Cal signs goes to the County.

Motion to adjourn Rick, second Irene.

Meeting adjourned 8:25 P.M.
Next meeting January 6, 2015 Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Station.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Stonehouse, Secretary