

County of San Diego
Warner Springs Community Sponsor Group
Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 18, 2024, 4:00pm
Warner Springs Community Resource Center
30950 Highway 79, Warner Springs, California 92086

Members of the Public Present:
John McFadden, Local Resident
Julia Ritzo, Local Resident

A) Roll Call and Call to Order: Chair Petermann called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.

Members Present: Chair Hans Petermann, Kathryn Fletcher, Bob Garcia, Nina Karavasiles, Andy Krogh, Pam Nelson, Jessica Clabaugh
Absent: None.

B) Approval of Minutes: It was moved by Krogh and Seconded by Petermann that the minutes of the November 16, 2023 meeting be approved without corrections. All in favor.

C) Public Communication: Bob Garcia let the group know that in December he met with the Dameron Valley homeowner's group and let them know about the CSG meetings and invited them to attend.

D) Action Item:

1) Discussion and vote on support of the Sky Oak Conservation Purchase in Chihuahua Valley: David Hogan's Chaparral Land Conservancy is applying for a grant thru the State of California Wildlife Conservation Board to purchase 638 acres of natural land in Chihuahua Valley. He is asking the group for a Letter of Support for the grant to keep the land natural and to be available for conservation, restoration and research purposes. Adams family has owned the property since 1998 and supports the purchase by the Chaparral Land Conservancy. The land is currently home to local sensitive species and could potentially be developed for other purposes if sold to a developer. It was moved by Clabaugh and seconded by Fletcher to submit the Letter of Support. The vote was unanimous.

2) Discussion of the Skate Board event sponsored by the local Church and School. Vote for the CSG to be involved: It was moved by Petermann and Seconded by Garcia not to participate. The vote was unanimous.

E) Group Business:

1) Report from the Chair:

i. Update on the seating of Dorothy Willis and John McFadden: Efforts to include the Los Coyotes Reservation to seat Dorothy Willis are still ongoing.

John McFadden will inform the County that he will not be submitting a Form 700. He is unable to sit on the CSG if the document is not submitted. However, he must officially resign before his seat is vacated. Mr. McFadden reported that he will continue his discussions with the County and keep the group updated.

ii. Use of Google emails by CSG update: Chair Petermann reported that he approached the County about paying for Google emails for the group. The cost is \$6/month per member or approximately \$650 a year if all seats are occupied. Kenneth said he will look into it.

iii. Chair Petermann reminded the group of annual requirements regarding filing Form 700 and completing necessary ethics training.

iv. Chair Petermann requested feedback from the group on how the last year has gone for the CSG. It is the consensus that sitting on the group has a large learning curve but things are going quite

well. Ms. Nelson commented that she thinks the groups work is important to the community. The group is happy with the Chair and the way things are going. Ms. Fletcher concurred and added that the group continue to focus on adherence to agenda and meeting processes. Julia Ritzo commented that she is happy and impressed that the group is going and is committed to the processes. Mr. Garcia asked Ms. Ritzo if she had an opinion as to why the meetings are not better attended. Ms. Ritzo commented that she can only speak for Stone Ride and they have a lot of turmoil in their community so many of those residents are preoccupied. Chair Petermann said the County provided a Sheriff's liaison for the CSG. He will research proper communication procedures and report back.

2) Code Enforcement Presentation Update: February meeting they will give a code enforcement presentation.

3) Recurring Discussion Items:

- i. **Warner Springs Ranch Development** – The County responded to the groups letter about code violations at the Warner Springs Ranch Resort and reported that they conducted an inspection. County staff issued a compliance notice with deadlines on issues with storage of hazardous materials and fire and safety violations at the maintenance building. Follow up was to be around 12/20/23. Ms. Fletcher will follow-up. Chair Petermann asked the County about what happens if there is no movement on a project and if anything would result in cancellation of permits. Ms. Fletcher reported that she had a prospective investor in WSRR reach out to her. Mr. McWethy is seeking investors but wants to maintain control.
- ii. **New Warner Springs Specific Plan** – Ms. Nelson reported that she has been reviewing the 40-year-old specific plan. She feels the studies used for the plan need to be updated. Chair Petermann will send out info on the existing plan to the group for informational purposes. Mr. Krogh proposed calling the committee “Recommendations for a New Warner Springs Ranch Specific Plan.” Chair Petermann told the group that Mr. McWethy is seeking some amendments to the specific plan. The group should work on getting their input and recommendations together.
- iii. **Highlands at Warner Springs** – Ms. Nelson had reached out to the CA land conservancy about protecting the Highlands parcel. They are working hard to get the land conserved. Chair Petermann heard from Ms. Willis that the Los Coyotes tribe will not be pursuing acquisition but may be willing to submit a Letter of Support. Chair Petermann reported that he has confirmed that Bureau of Indian Affairs does have control over access of the road, so before any development can occur, there will need some sort of agreement with the BIA.
- iv. **Roadways, Traffic and VMT** – Mr. Garcia shared a letter that he is going to send to CalTrans about issues in our area. He is asking the group to email him any input that they may have. Mr. Krogh suggested that they come do a presentation on the stretch of road and why it is what it is. Mr. Garcia has discovered accidents with fatalities where the Sheriff responded instead of CHP. He followed up with Deputy Vasquez who said they just give the info to CHP. Ms. Fletcher mentioned that she had a Chihuahua Valley resident reach out about the condition of Chihuahua Valley Road.
- v. **Dark Sky Community** – No report but Mr. Krogh did find out that Palomar is being used to test lasers. One was sent and returned by a satellite near Saturn that came back in seconds.
- vi. **Socially Equitable Cannabis** – Ms. Nelson said no new action has come out of the County. They are seeking a grant to regulate the five existing permitted facilities in the County. They will also be looking out for illicit activities. Ms. Nelson recommended Mr. McFadden be added to the committee whether he remains seated or not.
- vii. **Community Park** – Nothing new to report.
- viii. **Community Survey** – Chair Petermann said the resource center has funded another newsletter and he will try to collect info in their survey pertinent to the CSG.
- ix. **Communications** – Ms. Clabaugh reported that she had submitted a summary of the last meeting to the Sunshine Summit Smiler publication out of Stone Ridge and will continue to do so. Ms.

Nelson recommended mentioning the CSG in the Resource Center newsletter. Ms. Clabaugh will work with Chair Petermann on coordinating social media communications.

- x. **Fire Insurance** – Ms. Fletcher mentioned not much has happened and things are getting held up in the legislature.
- xi. **Cultural Preserve and Chapel** – Nothing new to report.
- xii. **SANDAG Draft Regional Plan** – Mr. Garcia had approached SANDAG about potential grants. They have sent him info on transportation grants for seniors. Chair Petermann mentioned that the Resource Center is working on senior outreach and they may be able to work together. Mr. Garcia found a site where the public can pinpoint “problem intersections”.

F) Closing Member Comments - Mr. Garcia recommended shortening our agenda for the next meeting since the County will be here for a presentation.

Ms. Nelson recommended adding the recent OHV park report to the next meeting.

Chair Petermann will follow-up on inviting Jim Desmond’s office to a CSG meeting.

G) Adjournment Krogh moved and Mr. Garcia Seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:01pm. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 15th at 4:00 PM at the Warner Springs Community Resource Center at 30950 Highway 79, Warner Springs, California 92086.