

Final  
Approved

## AVILA VALLEY ADVISORY COUNCIL

San Luis Obispo County, California  
P.O. Box 65, Avila Beach, CA 93424

[www.AvilaValley.org](http://www.AvilaValley.org)

Minutes of Monday, January 13, 2014

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Jim Hartig. Present were Jim, Sherri Danoff, Anne M. Brown, Julia Hartzell, Lisa Newton, Lynn Helenius, Mary El Hansen, Ken Thompson, Bob Pusanik, Lynn Walter, Saul Goldberg, Denise Allen, Bill Tickell and alternates Jan Taylor and Karla Bittner. Denise announced that alternate Karen Wickler has resigned. Sherri announced that Bill Ziegler has resigned. Alternates for both areas will be secured.
2. The Minutes for the December meeting were corrected to include Mary El Hansen as attending, and an addition to Public Works report: "It was mentioned by an AVAC member that AVAC had requested involvement in developing a survey of Avila residents and businesses concerning Harbor District parking management proposals for Avila's public streets". The Minutes were approved after correction (Sherri/Saul).
3. Chair's Comments: None
4. Public Comment: None
5. Treasurer's Report: Julia reports \$1558.72 in the bank. In addition, there is \$644.49 in the "website" account made possible by Supervisor Adam Hill's office.
6. County Reports:
  - a) Sheriff's Dept: Sgt. Stuart MacDonald reported the November statistics: 92 total contacts: 9 EMS, 9 assists, one rape (2 yrs. Ago), 4 property crimes, 28 traffic and various others. In December there was only ONE drunk-driving arrest!!! An AVAC member mentioned the continuing use by motorized vehicles (bikes) on the BJ Trail. The Dept. will have deputies on bikes do more patrolling and giving tickets. Safety is a concern.

Highway Patrol Captain Matt Olson reported a fatality occurred on Avila Beach Drive on January 5th. Highway Patrol and CalFire were involved. No witnesses have been found. There were no unsafe conditions at the time. Patrols in Avila for parking/driving violations: call 593-3333. This includes over-night parking of RVs and campers. A request from an AVAC member to step-up patrols at the Bellevue-Santa Fe School crosswalks before and after school was made. Concerns expressed about "5-way" intersection at Ontario Rd/101 off-ramps and cyclists who ignore stop signs. Cyclists need to comply with all rules! May be ticketed if seen. New state laws include allowing 3' for cyclists' safety. Good rule: "Treat every driver as a drunk driver and allow space". Concern expressed for increased bike traffic on See Canyon Road: if it is not safe to pass, remain behind a cyclist until safe to pass.
  - b) Planning: Ryan Hostetter reports a new Planning Director: Jim Bergmen. Two projects in Avila: Front Street commercial building and Harbor Terrace at the Port. An AVAC member mentioned continuing traffic problems at the Avila Barn and wonders if the deli there is permitted. Ryan will check. See Canyon resident requests notification of residents when there is any project in the Canyon. (This is a Public Works matter.) There is concern about fencing on Ontario Ridge which restricts hiking trails. (See Supervisor's report below.)

c) Public Works: Jeremy Ghent, in response to previous See Canyon request, states that the Dept. will keep residents informed as requested: the wall has been completed at this time. The micro-surfacing of Avila Beach Drive has been postponed until May. It is time for the 5-year review of the Avila Circulation Plan: the Land Use Committee will be involved. A study of the 101/Avila Beach Dr./Shell Beach Rd. interchange is in process. Resurfacing of See Canyon Road is not planned now, but possibly within 5 years. The parking study in Avila will be discussed at the Town Hall Forum III in February. A parking district could be one solution, but funds would be restricted.

d) County Parks: No report.

e) Cal Fire: Chief Lee reports 38 calls, 22 being EMS. He mentioned their involvement in the fatal crash mentioned above. The Dept. provided a boat for help at the New Year's Day Polar Dip: 3 rescues; +/- 150-160 participants. **BE VERY CAREFUL TO PREVENT WILDLAND FIRES!!!**

Chief Lewin discussed the matter of Paramedic Services to the Avila area: Avila is now determined to be "urban", not "rural" as previously; the county-wide EMSA study has been completed and will be presented on Thursday at 8:30 a.m. at the SLO General Hospital. Any plans need to be approved by EMSA for increased services in our area. The Pismo Beach study is in process with the possibility of shared costs with Avila. CalFire continues work with PG&E/Diablo with an action drill planned for May 21<sup>st</sup>. This year the fire season is the "endless summer". Take care!! The state budget will have more money for CalFire. The state fire fees will probably go up with allocation to our area to fund CCC fire crews and one more forester hired. Chief Lewin may be emailed at: [Robert.Lewin@Fire.ca.gov](mailto:Robert.Lewin@Fire.ca.gov).

f) Supervisor Hill: the ACA (affordable care act) is administered by "Covered California" which in our County is MediCal. There should be more money for Mental Health services. The Ontario Ridge fencing by a private property owner has been referred to the Coastal Commission: concern about "prescriptive rights" to the long-time trail use. The Commission is seeking comments from trail-users: A survey form-packet was distributed and is on their website also. Supervisor Hill distributed copies of Board letters to the NRC re: spent fuel storage. He mentioned the imminent retirement of Judy Rodewald, the clerk-recorder for the County. He extolled her work, and said that her "second-in-command" Tommy Gong wished to visit AVAC, as he is running for the position. It was requested by AVAC that he make any comments during the "public comment" period of our next meeting. The EVC report on the County Events Ordinance will be available 'SOON' (approximately one week). The AMGEN Tour of California will end one stage in Cambria and start the next in Pismo Beach, allowing financial gains for county businesses.

#### 7. Old Business:

a. Appeal Process for Golf Course Events: Bob reviewed the history of the non-permitted events at the Golf Course over the years, and the determinations by Planning during this time. He and Sherri reviewed the contacts with Planning and the issue of "profit" vs. "non-profit" events which has allowed continuing events without permits. Supv. Hill states that the communications are at County Counsel for comment.

b. AVAC Website: Jim encouraged getting on our new Website. It's user-friendly and very colorful with a video. Discussion about content: How many years to put Minutes/Agendas on the site? Jim will get back issues from Karla Bittner and Anne Brown (former Chairs) for inclusion.

c. Election of 2014 Officers: Sherri presented the slate: Jim Hartig for President; Denise Allen for Vice-President; Anne M. Brown for Secretary; Julia Hartzell for Treasurer. **Motion by Sherri, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Saul that the above slate be elected unanimously. Passed.**

d. Alternate Openings: SLBE will nominate Mike Grantham. Avila will nominate Mary Matakovich. See Canyon needs an alternate, since Karen Wickler resigned. Representatives from Squire Canyon are needed. SLBE and Avila will vote on the 2 above at their next Board Meetings.

8. Community Liaisons: (3 Minutes)

a) Avila Beach Civic Association: Anne announced the Spaghetti Feed/Bingo Night on Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup>: 6 to 9 p.m. at the Community Center. \$10.00 for adults/\$5.00 for children 8 and under.

b) Avila Beach Community Foundation: Rick Cohen announced the Town Hall III on February 20<sup>th</sup>. Reservations are needed for attendance. The Foundation is planning an Apple Festival in the Fall.

c) Port San Luis: Steve McGrath reports that the Harbor Terrace consultants will present their work on February 12<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. at the Gateway Conference Room. The 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Harbor District will be celebrated at the Port's Meeting on January 28<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. Port is working with PG&E on the Pecho Trail. He mentioned the Christmas boat parade in the harbor and the crab-pot Christmas tree at the Harbor.

d) PG&E/Diablo Canyon: Eric Daniel referenced the "Illumination" booklet which PG&E supplied in The Tribune newspaper. Additional copies are available here too. Unit 2 is running at 50% power; Unit 1 at full power. An outage will occur around February 9<sup>th</sup> with fewer than 1000 workers coming in for around 4 -6 weeks. He will address the traffic issues with AVAC by mail. There is a scam involving a message from PG&E: DON'T OPEN IT!!! Questions regarding the evacuation times study and the response to the New Times article were not answered by Eric.

9. New Business: Neverland Festival at the Golf Course: Manager Chance Jorgensen states that they are working with Valerie Wang who is looking for a venue for "Forever Neverland", to be the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of September if the Golf Course is engaged as the site. Mr. Jorgensen's phone # is 714-8639 if members want more information. He does not know whether it will be sponsored by a non-profit group or not.

10. AVAC Committees:

i) Land Use: Sherri is following the Harbor Terrace project as it concerns traffic impacts.

ii) Diablo: Ken Thompson referred to the NRC website for committee videos. At the January 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, Dr. McFarland noted that the NRC staff recommendation is that the expedited transfer to dry casks is "not warranted at this time". The Independent Safety Committee will meet February 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> at the Avila Lighthouse Suites. He will email information to AVAC when available.

iii) Port: none.

iv) Avila Beach: see above.

- v) San Luis Bay Estates: None
- vi) Avila Valley: Nne
- vii) See Canyon: None
- viii) Squire Canyon: No representative.

11. Next Meeting: Monday, February 10, 2014 at 7 p.m.

12. Adjourn: at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne M. Brown, Secretary