

AVILA VALLEY ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES
October 12, 2015
www.avac-avila.org

1. **Call to Order:** Regular meeting by Chair Jim Hartig at 7:00 p.m., PG&E Community Center.
Attendance: Present: Ken San Filippo, Mary Matakovich, Sherri Danoff, Jim Hartig, Ken Thompson, Mike Grantham, Bob Pusanik, Saul Goldberg, Karla Bittner (alt/nv), Kirt Collins, Steve Fiant, Liz Guho-Johnson, Julia Hartzell, Jan Taylor (alt/nv), Anne Brown (alt/nv), Denise Allen, Lisa Newton, Mary El Hansen, Lynn Walter (alt/nv) **Absent:** Anita Ford **Quorum established.**
2. **Approve September 14, 2015 Minutes.** **Motion to Approve: Danoff/Second: Goldberg/ Approval** with Ken Thompson abstention.
3. **Chair's Comments:** Jim Hartig: **i)** SLO Board of Supervisors meeting on Oct. 13 will establish Planning priorities for 2016. Avila has requested an Area Plan Update. **ii)** Avila Point Project is on AVAC website www.avac-avila.org. **iii)** See article in SLO Life Magazine, Oct. 2015: [How Win-Win May be the Way Forward](#) (posted on AVAC website).
4. **Public Comment: a)** Brad Snook, Surfrider Foundation: Comments on de-sal plant. Requesting County do more research. Impacts are not well documented.
5. **Treasurer's Report:** Kirt Collins: Expense: Reported checking account balance of \$1,304.72.
6. **County Reports:**
 - a) **Sheriff:** Sgt. Cronin **i)** 8/11-9/11 there were 94 calls for service. **ii)** Thefts from cars a problem at Bob Jones trail heads. Thefts from cars during concerts. **iii)** Rash of scams from Craig's List for vacation rentals. **iv)** Phone scams representing deputies with warrants requesting bail. **v)** Pirates Cove has problems with parties but it is difficult to respond due to limited personnel resources.
 - b) **Highway Patrol:** Capt. Bueno: **i)** 12 traffic collisions; mostly unsafe speed with 2 DUI collisions. Forecasting El Nino; make sure cars are in good condition (tires, wipers). Have tree service check trees on your property. Call Public Works if you notice anything that is a (potential) public hazard.
 - c) **CAL Fire:** Chief Lee: **i)** 47 Calls for service, 31 for medical aids. **ii)** Fires have diminished due to diligence of everyone. **iii)** Working on King Fisher (SLBE) with Fire Safe Council. **iv)** Check your home for long term rain storm safety. Leaks (water) should not contact electrical wires. Check out driveways for good access. Sandbags will be available through CSD.
 - d) **Planning:** Ryan Hostetter: **i) Avila Point Scoping Meeting,** Oct. 27, AB Community Center, 7:00 p.m. EIR process begins early November. **ii)** Front Street commercial Bldg. Nov. 2 goes before the Subdivision Review Board. Staff report to be posted on line. **iii)** If Avila Area Plan Update is approved by Board, it will go to Long Range Planning and take 4-5 years to complete, including Coastal Commission review.
 - e) **Public Works:** Jeremy Ghent: **i)** Met with AVAC Land Use Committee regarding Circulation Study and capacity of Avila Beach Drive. **ii)** Fees will be raised to covers costs of all improvements. **iii)** Potential traffic management may include: 101 Ramps Improvements: US 101 at San Luis Bay Drive - the two northbound ramps; US 101 at Avila Beach Drive - the two southbound ramps. Traffic Signals: Avila Beach Drive at San Luis Street, San Miguel Street, and Ontario Road, San Luis Bay Drive at Ontario Road. **iv) During major storm events, the Storm Center will be active 24/7. Call 781-5252 to report dead trees/plugged culverts and roadway clean-ups.**

f) **County Parks:** Shaun Cooper: No report.

g) **Supervisor Adam Hill:** i) Steve McGrath, Port San Luis Manager, is scheduled to receive a commendation on November 24th for his service to our County.

ii) Planning Update: **October 13 a.m. Board will set Planning priorities.** AVAC and community members should attend to ask the Board to make this a priority for the Avila Area Plan Update. It is Agenda Item 5. iii) Transportation funding from CA state and feds will be reduced and this will greatly affected projects in SLO. AVAC may want to have SLO Council of Governments make a presentation. Almost every freeway project will be affected. iv) Denise Allen inquired about Pirates Cove having trash cans/portable restrooms. Coastal Commission denied park improvements and likely will not approve this "improvement". PSL Commissioner Kirk indicated PSL might help. v) Big projects (ie. Avila Point, Cherry Canyon) require General Plan amendments. They will require Coastal Commission approval. Applications don't translate to approval. vi) De-sal: Water resources in Avila are grim. Recycling of all wastewater should be done.

7. **OLD BUSINESS:**

- a) **Chumash Marine Sanctuary:** Fred Collins: See www.chumashsanctuary.com for details. Two years ago their submission to NOAH was rejected. Most recent was accepted for the final list. Nomination for Chumash Marine Sanctuary was accepted under national criteria. Process is moving forward. Margaret Webb, Chairperson for the Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council indicated scoping meetings and public hearings will be held. Chumash heritage adds special element.
- b) **Commercial Fishermen:** Butch Powers: See www.opccoalition.com (Our Protected Coast Coalition) This group opposes the Sanctuary as it will add another layer of oversight by the Federal govt. It will disrupt local ocean based industries and leave little say in how fisheries management will be done. This will affect Port San Luis and all fishermen up and down the coast. Dave Kirk, Port San Luis Commissioner, says 29 years of good management has been done locally. This sanctuary will impose more regulation processes.

Steve Scheiblauber, Harbormaster, Monterey Harbor volunteers at the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary in Santa Cruz. The National Sanctuary Act studied by scholars intended to be a balance but it has tilted to more conservation. Both Alaska and Washington have denied sanctuaries. Stewardship projects are good. Congress can overrule the National Sanctuaries Act. It won't eliminate oil drilling. Benefits are overstated. He believes it should not be expanded until many critical issues are resolved. Each sanctuary has its own rules.

AVAC Motion by Kirk Collins: Oppose the Marine Sanctuary. Second/Ken Thompson. Discussion: **Collins withdraws motion.** Committee will continue to determine what our role is now. NOAH is asking for input from local entities. Draft a document with pros/cons for council review.

8. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a) PG&E – Evacuation Time Estimates (for later date)

9. **COMMUNITY LIAISONS:**

- a) **Avila Beach Civic Assn.:** Oct. 23 Bingo/Spaghetti Dinner. Purchase tickets early.

- b) **AB Foundation:** No report.
- c) **Port San Luis Harbor District** - Mary Matakovich: **i)** Contract negotiations have begun with Red Tail Acquisitions for the development of the harbor Terrace project. **ii)** At a special meeting of the Harbor Commission, an Interim Harbor Manager will be appointed. The Commission will begin the process to select a permanent Harbor Manager over the next six months. **iii)** Two-thirds of the piles on Avila Pier are in critical condition and will need to be completely repaired. The engineers responsible for the study indicated that the pier is unsafe for pedestrians; therefore, the pier is closed indefinitely. **iv)** The Commissioners have decided to meet with Adam Hill to discuss this matter, as the Port does not receive any funds for the pier and though the Avila Parking Lot was to cover the expenses of the piers, the beaches, etc., it is far short of covering the costs which are in excess of \$250,000. **v)** The small parking lot adjacent to the Avila Beach Civic Association is actually property of the Port San Luis Harbor District. Discussions are underway to determine if a business lease would be the answer to solving this issue.
- d) **PGE&/Diablo Canyon:** John Shoals: **i)** Unit 2 at DCPD is operating safely. Beginning October 4, there will be an Outage for 33 days. **ii)** No decisions on License Renewal.

10. AVAC COMMITTEES:

- i) **Land Use:** Sherri Danoff: **i)** Draft Report on Avila Circulation Study ready for committee review. Danoff appealed Colony Lot 1. No hearing date. Parking major concern. Project has limit on number of occupants.
- ii) **Diablo:** Ken Thompson: Diablo Canyon Independent Safety Committee public meeting October 20-21, Embassy Suites Hotel, Edna Conference Room, 333 Madonna Rd. SLO.
- iii) **Port:** Mary Matakovich: See report under Community Liaisons, 9c.
- iv) **Avila Beach:** Ken San Filippo: AB Committee reviewed: 255 San Miguel St. , AB, Maegert & Son, APN 076-198-009 **Motion by Ken:** Recommend AVAC support AB Residential Committee comments to the county Planning Department to support intent of the vacation rental ordinance with a 50' distance between rentals and deny variance. Second by Danoff/Unanimous approval.
- v) **San Luis Bay Estates:** Jim Hartig: No report.
- vi) **Avila Valley:** Julia Hartzell: Response to second request from Planning addressing documents submitted by Planning for DRC 2014-00111 King-Proposed conditional use permit for development of 44 lodges, 27 bike camping enclosures, care/store, and laundry facility. **Motion** to approve May 19, 2015 AVAC letter, as amended, be sent to Planning. Seconded/Unanimous approval.
- vii) **See Canyon:** Denise Allen: No report.
- viii) **Squire Canyon:** Kirt Collins: Chumash Marine Sanctuary discussions are taking place. No decisions will be made for another 2-3 years. Port San Luis Commissioners adopted a resolution to Oppose the Sanctuary for the Avila area.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 9, 2015

ADJOURNMENT: 9:34 P.M.

Respectfully submitted: Karla Bittner, Secretary