

AVILA VALLEY ADVISORY COUNCIL (AVAC)

San Luis Obispo County, CA

MINUTES

February 12, 2018

www.avac-avila.org

1. **Call to Order**: by Chair, Jim Hartig for regular meeting held at 7:00 p.m., PG&E Community Center.

Roll Call (present): Mary Matakovich, Anne Brown, Julia Hartzell, MaryEl Hansen, Marti Brand (alt), Sherri Danoff, Jim Hartig, Ken Thompson, Martin Suits, Saul Goldberg, Lynn Walter (alt), Denise Allen, Mike Casola, and Kirt Collins. Roll Call (excused): Lisa Newton, Steve Benedict, Carol Hayden (alt), Liz Guho-Johnson (alt), and Margaret Greenough. Quorum established.

2. **Approve Minutes**: Minutes for January 8, 2018 were unanimously approved following a motion by Sherri Danoff and a second by Ken Thompson.

3. **Chair's Comments**: (1) Thanks to Betty Hartig and the Concerned Citizens of Avila with organizing and hosting the very successful "evening with Fire Chief Lee". (2) Today is a holiday for the county which is the reason that most of the county representatives are not in attendance. Furthermore, this year there will be 2 more holidays landing on future AVAC meetings (October and November). As we get closer to those dates the council should consider selecting special alternate dates for those meetings.

4. **Public Comments**: NONE

5. **Treasurer's Report**: Julia Hartzell: Expenses since last meeting = \$20.93 reimbursement for 3 certificate frames (Karla, Bob, Mike) - Checking Account Balance is: \$1,827.31.

6. **County Reports**:

- a) **Sheriff** -Commander Jim Voge: 40 Calls for Service during the last month including 6 suspicious subjects/suspected criminal acts, 6 disturbances of the peace, 2 petty thefts, 1 burglary of a business, and 1 cruelty to animals. Notable incidences were discussed (1) On January 15th, deputies observed 2 people at Port San Luis Parking lot in a parked car using methamphetamine; they were arrested. (2) On January 16th at Blue Moon Over Avila, a tall man in his 20's on a bike walked into the restaurant and took an employee's iPhone; the suspect has not been apprehended. (3) On January 17th, a man placed his Oakley sunglasses on the rail of the pier, walked away for 5 minutes and returned to find his glasses gone; this was classified as a petty theft. (4) On January 21st deputies were looking for a man who had been missing from the neighborhood while his dog remained outside his house; they employed search and rescue to not avail and 1.5 weeks later the body was found floating south of Avila in San Luis Bay. (5) On January 22nd, two 32" TVs were stolen from 2 hotel rooms at the Inn of Avila; the case remains unsolved. (6) On January 27th a suicidal woman was rescued after purposely jumping off a bridge on the Bob Jones Trail; she was taken to a hospital and was treated for injuries and mental health. (7) On February 2nd, in the pirates cove parking lot following an altercation, a man threw a wine bottle at a woman who was hit in the face receiving lacerations. (8) On February 7th on the 6000 block of Playa Vista, an armed and suicidal man was holed up in his home; the sheriff treated it as a "barricaded subject" but ultimately when they gained access to the home they found the

man had taken his own life. Denise Allen mentioned a couple of recent phone scams aimed at the elderly (1) One is a warning from Dignity health and involves demanding money sent to the DEA for people who are getting prescriptions filled from Canada and (2) Emails threatening to carry out assassination of the recipient if money isn't wired within 2 days. Commander Voge reminded the meeting attendees that the government is never going to send you an email nor call you. So beware of email and phone scams from people claiming to be part of the government.

- b) **Highway Patrol** - Capt. Perry Heidebrink: He is new to the SLO office having come from Buelton for the last 5 years. He is very familiar with the issues in Avila due to having shared the radio transmission for the last 5 years from his Buelton station. No significant incidents recently to report. The highway patrol participated with the Sheriffs on the barricaded suspect situation discussed by Commander Voge. Captain Heidebrink took a trip up to Pirates Cove and saw the red painted curb along the road and stated that the red curb gives them more horsepower to patrol parking violators. He recognizes that this area is a big problem particularly in heavy use summer season and he pledged to AVAC that this would be a priority. Ken Thompson asked what the specific plans were for the summer traffic congestion and monitoring pirates cove. Captain Heidebrink answered that he will re-assign units/resources and limit the number of days off within the department during the peak times. Lynn Walter asked if the CHP had any official notice of events in Avila. The answer is that there is no official avenue however they are aware of events by looking at signs and being aware of certain recurring popular weekends. Also, the Avila resort, and other entities will contract the CHP for controlling traffic at the golf course for certain events.
- c) **CAL Fire** - Batt. Chief Paul Lee: There were fewer than usual calls this last month. 19 calls were medically related. Vegetation management was performed last weekend at Pirates Cove. The Fire Department is taking the cave landing areas very seriously. The 2018 Grant season is underway and the department is looking to get \$50K for lifting air bags that can stabilize vehicles. The new jaws of life received with the 2017 grant are getting distributed to all engines. Reminder to register your cell phone for the reverse 911 calls. If you have a landline, your phone is already in the program.
- d) **Planning** - Sara Sanders: Not present – no report.
- e) **Public Works** - Dave Flynn: Not present – no report.
- f) **County Parks** - Nick Franco: Not present – no report.
- g) **Port San Luis** - Andrea Lueker:

Harbor Terrace – Happy to report that the board of commissioner approved the 50 year lease agreement on January 31st. We are moving ahead. Red Tail is working with the County on their substantial conformance submission and comments. Stay tuned.

Avila Pier – Please mark your calendars for Thursday, March 15th for the Community Meeting to review alternatives for the Avila Pier. The meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. with some social time and at 6:00 p.m. we will cover a brief history, pier options, funding options and the Friends of the Avila Pier nonprofit. We are looking for participation and comments on the community's opinions of which direction to move with the Pier.

Facilities Manager – this Friday we will be wishing our Facilities Manager a farewell and good luck with his new position as General Manager of Mission Hills CSD, near Lompoc. Loch Driezler has been an incredible asset to the District and we will miss his expertise. We will be opening recruitment this week for his replacement.

h) **County Supervisor** - Adam Hill: Not present – no report.

7. **Old Business:** NONE

8. **New Business**

Matt Reinhart (project manager with SLO County Public Works Dept.) presented a power point summary of the project plans for the Avila Beach Drive Bridge Seismic Retrofit at San Luis Obispo Creek. The power point and a brochure can be found on the SLO County website www.slocountyca.gov/pw/avilabeachdrbridge. This project is seeking funds from the Federal roads and bridges fund (89%) as well as county funds (11%). The project is not funded yet but the county expects to hear mid-April. The SLO project is fully planned and ready to go, so as other non-ready projects are identified, there is a good chance that the SLO project will be selected for funding instead. If not, the project stands by ready to be funded in 2019. There are two phases for the project: During the summer months the work will be underneath the bridge and will not impact traffic. However on September 4 the 4- month window of road surface work will begin. During this time there will always be one lane of traffic open and flagmen to direct traffic. The work will only be done non-holiday weekdays and only during the day. If emergency access is needed during the road level phase, both lanes of traffic can quickly be reopened for egress and ingress.

9. **Community Liaisons:**

a) **Avila Beach Civic Association:** Anne Brown: The CSD is moving their offices to the old fire house. This opens up space in the Civic Center building. The Civic Association will be moving into the formerly occupied CSD space and the Post Office is looking to expand into the space formerly occupied by the Civic Association. The Post Office approvals are in progress. Bingo and spaghetti night occurred and made budget.

b) **Avila Beach Foundation** - Rick Cohen: Not present – no report.

c) **PG&E/Diablo Canyon** - Suzanne Hosn:

The Unit 2 refueling outage began Sunday February 11. This outage they will be replacing some of the Reactor fuel, perform routine maintenance, and perform tests on systems not available during power operations. They have employed about 1000 temporary workers and mostly people from the local area.

The CPUC decision on January 11th approved an amended proposal from PG&E. This proposal didn't include funding the community mitigation program. But it did fund the employee retention plan but only to 15% not the requested 25%. Since the joint parties that agreed to the original proposal, union negotiations were required to accept the 15%. This was agreed to by the joint

parties and so there is no need for a re-hearing, proposing and amendment or pursuing a legislative solution.

The Diablo Canyon decommissioning engagement panel was discussed. AVAC is concerned that no one from the Avila community is actually on the “Formation” Committee and that it has been in existence for some time. After some discussion, it appears that there is an opportunity for AVAC to have a representative on the Committee, even at this late date. Jim Hartig, Ken Thompson and Suzanne Hosn will work together to finalize this position/person. Applications will be out for anyone to apply to be on the Eleven-member engagement panel. The Formation committee will select the 11 candidates for this panel. The application process will begin at the end of February. The engagement panel will meet at least quarterly in public meetings and it is a way for the public to learn of the decommissioning process and progress and for PG&E to listen to input from the public. AVAC would like someone from the community – preferably someone connected to AVAC or Concerned Citizens who could represent the whole community to be selected to be on the engagement panel.

The recent fire at the Diablo Canyon plant’s intake structure was from an overheating motor that caused a small fire. The on-site fire department responded and took care of the event. Though Cal Fire was called as a matter of protocol, they were turned away at the main gate due to the event being under control.

PG&E is beginning to improve the electric reliability of certain areas within the community. The San Luis Bay Estates work will be done this week and will involve replacement of fuses and 4 poles – 3 of which will need to be worked with helicopters. Also in See Canyon a task force to look at improving the reliability of that distribution area including addressing how a family of turkeys that create issues for PG&E’s infrastructure.

10. AVAC Committee:

- a. **Land Use** - Sherri Danoff: Two letters regarding the Application for Temporary Commercial Outdoor Entertainment License at the Avila Beach Resort have been drafted for discussion; one to the SLO County Planning Department and the other to the SLO Tax Collector’s Office. In the letters AVAC concerns and objections to this application are explicitly outlined in the cover letter and specifically detailed in analyses attached to the letters. A motion was made by Sherri Danoff and seconded by Ken Thompson to send the letters from AVAC. Discussion and small edits were suggested, motion was amended and seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- b. Sherri also mentioned that the Land Use committee is following the “clean up amendments” that the County is processing to the General Plan. These amendments are intended to correct errors and are done periodically prior to the formal revision to the General Plan – which is still in progress. Bob Pusanik identified several omissions that the committee forwarded to Planning for inclusion in the cleanup amendment. Sherri will be drafting a letter for AVAC approval to remove the traffic measurement standard (which states that traffic considerations will be measured on the second Tuesday of May) for purposes of development applications. The council wanted to understand the exact wording that the BOS approved a revision to the traffic measurement guideline. This discussion was tabled, or action can be taken by email in advance of the next meeting, when the specific language of the letter will be presented for AVAC review, discussion and approval.

- b) **Diablo** - Ken Thompson: Ken attended the Diablo Canyon Independent Safety Committee meeting last week. The committee is very concerned with Diablo being able to retain qualified operators to operate the plant safely until 2024/2025. They discussed that Supervisor Bruce Gibson (SLO County) is pursuing assistance from Sacramento with legislation authored by Assemblyman Cunningham & State Senator Monning. They also overviewed the concept of the Community Engagement Panel whose mission is to advise and assist PG&E with Public input on possible repurposing of site facilities, future land use of the surrounding lands and who would take custody of them. The launch of the Application Process for candidates will commence in a few weeks with a variety of Media Ads sent out thru SLO County and northern SB County. Considering the CPUC Decision, the DCISC had multiple discussions about PG&E's ability to retain key experienced and qualified operators/employees.
- c) **Port** - Mary Matakovich: Though he has been a regular in the audience at our previous AVAC meetings, this time, Mary introduced Bob Vesseley who is one of our Port Commissioners. Mary encouraged people to come forward if they are interested in becoming a part of the non-profit "Avilla Friends of the Pier" being formed to handle the planning and funding for eventual repair of the Avila Pier. The Harbor Terrace Project should complete November 2019 – everyone bring a tent!
- a) **Avila Beach** - Anne Brown: Three permits/applications were reviewed at the last Avila Subcommittee meeting and were presented to AVAC for concurrence. The first was an encroachment permit from public Works involving a request to remove an existing palm tree to replace with a taller tree of the same species. The committee recommends approval. So moved by Anne Brown and seconded by Sherri Danoff, motion approved. The second minor use permit application was for a vacation rental in a previously approved project at 2895 Avila Beach Drive. The committee recommends that the request be denied because of its direct violation of the Vacation Rental Ordinance. So moved by Anne Brown, seconded by Julia Hartzell and approved by unanimous vote. Third was the continuing consideration of the Salucci/Hodge project at 360 First Street. The subcommittee proposed a letter to send to county planning that specifies each of the concerns and comments regarding the project. This project has been a source of continuing problems for the subcommittee and thus they are unable to make a recommendation. Anne Brown made a motion to approve the drafted letter, Sherri Danoff seconded the motion and, after discussion, the motion passed with unanimous vote.
- b) **San Luis Bay Estates** - Jim Hartig: No report.
- c) **Avila Valley**: - Julia Hartzell: Avila Valley committee coordinated a very productive meeting for the property owners with County Planning regarding the 44 units and brewery development application. Planning had an agenda which was efficiently accomplished within the hour time allotted. For the first time, Planning realized this application will require all their organizations to be on the same page for review. This includes Planning, Public Health Department, Public works, and others departments.
- d) **See Canyon** - Denise Allen: Denise wrote a personal letter of support for increased code enforcement resources to the BOS who will consider this issue at their February 20th meeting.
- e) **Squire Canyon** – Kirt Collins: The Board of Supervisors heard the appeal from the homeowners on the lot line adjustments proposed in an application by the Wallace group.

Though the BOS tabled their decision, they told the Wallace group to try to work on a compromise that doesn't involve the potential for using lower level elevation wells at higher elevation properties. If there is no compromise by March 20th, it will come back to the BOS and they will rule. 4/5 of the supervisors are leaning towards not allowing the proposed lot line adjustments. Kirt felt that the BOS really listened to their concerns.

- f) **Ad Hoc Committees** - Jim Hartig: The ABR properties application for a conditional use permit /development to add cottages, etc, was deemed withdrawn and then the applicant sent an appeal letter. Planning will now move forward on reviewing this application.

11. Next meeting date: Monday, March 12, 2018

12. Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 8:47pm

Respectfully submitted:
Lynn Walter
Secretary

APPROVED