

AVILA VALLEY ADVISORY COUNCIL (AVAC)

San Luis Obispo County, CA

MINUTES

April 9, 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, Lisa Newton, Anne Brown, Julia Hartzell, MaryEl Hansen, Marti Brand, Sherri Danoff, Jim Hartig, Ken Thompson, Martin Suits, Steve Benedict, Saul Goldberg, Lynn Walter (alt), Carol Hayden (alt), Denise Allen, and Kirt Collins. Roll Call (excused) Liz Guho-Johnson (alt), Mike Casola, and Margaret Greenough. Quorum established.

2. **Approve Minutes:** Minutes for March 12, 2018 were unanimously approved following a motion to approve by Brown and a second by Suits.
3. **Chair's Comments:** Jim Hartig reported that it was an unusual month in that AVAC received zero projects to review.
4. **Public Comments:** NONE
5. **Treasurer's Report:** Julia Hartzell: There were no expenses or deposits since last meeting so the balance remains the same: Checking Account Balance is: \$1,820.63.
6. **County and Local Agency Reports:**

a) **Sheriff** – Sr. Deputy Rainer Bodine: This month (from March 13th – April 6th) there were a total of 41 calls for service which is down from the average over the last 6-8 months. Six calls were for suspicious persons, 11 calls for disturbance of the peace, 1 burglary and 2 phone scams. On March 14th a 26 year old man was following an Avila resident through town. Once they both parked, the man kicked the resident's car and threw a rock at the resident's car. He then proceeded to throw a cinder block on his own car. He was arrested for felony vandalism. A burglary occurred at the 6000 block of Avila Valley Drive. Jewelry and a firearm were stolen. A guitar was stolen from a person at Cave Landing. Discussion from Avila Valley neighbors indicated that there have been a few of these burglaries in the similar location and it has been at homes where the occupants were out of town. Bodine mentioned that the detective work is happening but DNA, fingerprints and coordination with other jurisdictions takes time. Denise Allen mentioned that a COSTCO "Night owl" camera is an affordable way of finding out license plate, car type and photos of people visiting your house. Bodine stated that if you own firearms they should be in a locked safe that is bolted to a sturdy wall or structure and to know the serial number of the gun(s). Stolen guns are a hot commodity that can be sold very quickly by theifs.

b) **Highway Patrol** - Seargent Heiderbrink: There were no accidents, DUI's or other arrests to report this month! Anne Brown reported a parking issue in downtown Avila, the written information was directly passed to the Sargent. The date for "coffee with a cop" is still not set but the Sheriff's public information officer will send an email to AVAC when scheduled.

- c) **CAL Fire** - Batt. Chief Paul Lee: There were 45 calls for service this month, 19 of those were medical. A tanker fire on the 101 in Pismo closed 101 for about 8 hours and caused several other accidents due to traffic congestion. There was one swift water rescue; some biologists were performing their fish counting services and got caught on the levee between Sycamore Springs and the Avila Barn. April 30th begins the up-staffing for fire season. Weed abatement season will be starting and Chief Lee advised us all to be careful when using sparking or hot equipment such as weed whackers. The highway patrol has been really good about keeping fire lanes clear at Cave Landing. In answer to a question, Chief Lee stated that he is happy with the training they receive and how they work together with Diablo Canyon on having compatible firefighting equipment. There is a new grant being requested via the HOA to manage vegetation between Heron Crest and the Bob Jones trail. A question from AVAC was regarding the jurisdiction between the HOA and the Golf Course. From the Chief's perspective the grant that the HOA is requesting is for the HOA protection and that could mean vegetation management into the Golf Course property, where Cal Fire has authority to manage the vegetation.
- d) **Planning** - Sara Sanders: Sara reviewed the changes to the planning spreadsheet. Of note; project 1 (Salucci & Hodge) has been pulled from the subdivision review board due to appeal of "Director Determination". The planning commission hearing date is not yet set. Project 7 (General Amendment Plan) – the report has been uploaded this day and comments will be accepted until May 10th. There are 2 paper copies on reserve that can be reviewed at the County offices. Also Sara will be providing 1 hard copy to AVAC. The report is 180 pages long but contains many maps. (Note: the links to the Background Report were provided by Jim Hartig via Sara under separate email to AVAC). Project 9 (Howell Trust) was approved at the Board on March 20th but the conditions of approval were that the lower wells can't be used to pump up the hill. The residents of Squire Canyon are very happy about this result. Project 12 (Spearman) is on informational hold. Sara answered several questions from AVAC members. Sherri mentioned to Sara that the cleanup amendments on the General Plan for critical omissions were taken care of but that the inadvertent change of name of the San Luis Bay Master "Development" vs. Master "Use" needs to still be revised so to avoid confusion. Sara said she would follow up on this. The change was included in a letter to the county from AVAC last month. Anne mentioned that it is still difficult to call Code Enforcement on weekends and asked if they had hired the new personnel to cover the off-hours. (In a follow up email on April 10th from Sara Sanders she provided this information:

Code Enforcement Hours: Code Enforcement will start operating on weekends starting Friday, May 4th, 2018. The availability will be:

Friday 5 p.m. until 10 p.m.

Saturday 8 a.m. until 10 p.m.

Sunday 8 a.m. until 10 p.m.

Holidays 8 a.m. until 10 p.m.

To contact the officer on call, call (805)788-2350.)

Martin asked what the next step was on the Background report for the General Plan Update. Sara indicated that the next meeting will be scheduled soon and on Wednesday the planned "Envision Avila" community outreach will take place. Julia had some comments about Project 4 (King). The comments are mainly regarding the last month in that it appears through activities observed by neighbors that this property owner has total disregard for the STOP WORK order. The County is not policing the property and Julia appealed to the County and Adam Hill that this illegal activity needs to be better managed by the County.

Over the Easter weekend the owner started illegal activities and hid the vehicles with the equipment in the Bob Jones parking lot. The neighbors have a loss of confidence in the county to manage the property owner and it seems a long while to wait until the County gets the letter out to the property owner.

Finally, Community Advisory Council training will be held May 25th from 8:30 to noon. (See the separate email from Hartig on April 10th announcing this and requesting a response by April 26th for those who will be attending). This year there will be a slightly different format with mini-breakout sessions to facilitate learning.

- e) **Public Works** - Dave Flynn: no report.
- f) **County Parks** - Nick Franco: The County Parks Needs Assessment Survey is currently in the community outreach stage. The County has hired Green Play as a consultant to write the final report. There will be a public workshop to present the data from the survey and to determine any gaps between the needs identified and available resources. The final report will document the resulting priorities for the department. The County has been meeting with citizens who have been interested in preserving Cave Landing's natural setting. Together they are coming up with small agreements about a limited project that can resolve some of the long standing and unsafe issues at that location. Nick expects that a date for a public workshop will be set soon for either the end of April or the 1st week of May. There will be a press release for the workshop. In answer to a question by Sherri about trees removed from the billboard view near the Bob Jones trail, Nick said that nothing can be legally done to the owner of that Billboard for clearing the view. Brian LoConte spoke in support of a project at Cave Landing and encouraged public input as really needed for this project.
- g) **Port San Luis** - Andrea Lueker:

1. Avila Pier Community Meeting – we held the Avila Pier Community Meeting last month and had about 25 attendees. We covered a brief history, pier options, funding options and the Friends of the Avila Pier nonprofit and then asked for comment cards. The next step for the process will be a discussion at the April 12th Avila Pier Committee meeting to discuss the results of the Community meeting feedback and develop a recommendation for the Port San Luis Harbor District Board of Commissioners to consider likely at their April 24th Board meeting.

The majority of the information from the meeting is on the District's website as well as comment cards that can be copied and submitted. If you are going to complete a comment card, we ask that you read the handouts from the meeting prior to completing in order to understand complete picture.

2. Fire Rings on Olde Port Beach have been placed for the season.

3. Goal Setting – The Board of Commissioners with the help of facilitator Don Maruska, had an all-day goal setting process. The results from the meeting were 4 major objectives, each with corresponding goals that are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time bound. Goals and Objectives are being used to dictate the direction of the budget for FY 18/19.

4. Rock Cod Season opened up two Sundays and over 40 boats were launched, Salmon season opened up this Saturday and fewer boats were launched.

5. A few weeks ago, the **Harbor Terrace Project** revised site plan received a confirmation on substantial conformance from County Planning. Red Tail Acquisitions is moving forward with the grading permit and design plans.

h) **County Supervisor** - Adam Hill: The Board of Supervisors is busy hiring new people. A new public works Director will be named soon. They also recently selected a Health Agency Director who will be on board soon. The Planning Director position is still open. The importance of this position makes it imperative that they get the right person in place. Thus, they will be starting a new round of searching for the right candidate next week. Adam's planning commission appointee Julie Hawkins has moved to a new position at UC Santa Cruz. He is appointing Dawn Ortiz Legg to replace her and expects her confirmation at the April 17th BOS meeting. Adam mentioned the continuing work to bring investment into the county and cited the County's work with Congressman Salud Carbajal who has sponsored legislation to encourage investment in new energy sources here. Salud and Adam are committed to helping secure the Central Coast's dominance as a hub for renewable energy development. That's why Salud introduced H.R. 5441, the Energy Zones Opportunity Act of 2018, legislation that creates and expands tax incentives to encourage renewable energy investment in SLO County.

7. **Old Business:** None

8. **New Business:** None

9. **Community Liaisons:**

a) **Avila Beach Civic Association:** Anne Brown: The civic association successfully hosted 250-300 kids for the Easter egg hunt. The next event is the July 4th pancake breakfast, dog parade and boat parade with the Yacht Club. The September 22nd Avila Apple Festival Winemakers Dinner will take place again at the Community Center.

b) **Avila Beach Foundation** - Rick Cohen: Rick was in Palm Springs this week and thus unable to attend. However, he provided the following input: The San Luis Bay Estates Avila Free Trolley stop has been newly restored; it is located in front of the Avila Bay Athletic Club, and operates on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. The Trolley runs from 4:00-9:00p.m., and will pick up passengers at 15 minutes past each hour from the ABAC location. Trolley rides are free thanks to grants from the Avila Beach Community Foundation, and County Supervisor Adam Hill.

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

(1) Diablo Canyon Unit 1 is currently curtailed at 50% power due to tunnel cleaning maintenance. Unit 2 continues to operate at 100%. (2) PG&E issued a press release last week that highlighted the giving nature of PG&E employees and the company. Through payroll deductions and company matching funds, \$675,000 will be given to non-profit organizations, many of them local to the community. Each year, PG&E runs a "Campaign for the Community" where local non-profits are invited to Diablo Canyon to showcase their work as well as to solicit new and returning donors. (3) To offset the already approved rate

increase, PG&E has requested through the CPUC that \$450 Million in federal tax savings be passed along to customers. This will effectively keep rates flat due to offsetting the rate increase with tax savings. (4) The Diablo Canyon "Formation" committee has received 105 applications. The committee will provide a slate of 20 perspective members of the future "decommissioning engagement panel". The panel members will be chosen by the end of April. (5) Suzanne suggested that if interested in the progress of SB 1090, go to the California legislative agenda website where you can register to receive email updates to the bill's progress. (6) The long power outage in Avila last month was due to downed power lines on the Bob Jones trail. Suzanne knows about the reliability issues in See Canyon, and assured the community that there was an internal team dedicated to determining improvements to the reliability of electricity in See Canyon. There is a particular problem with wild turkeys but infrastructure is being upgraded and tree trimming is happening.

10. AVAC Committees:

- a. **Land Use** - Sherri Danoff: The Land Use Committee met with the consultant hired by Public Works and is satisfied that the traffic demand management measures and parking considerations be incorporated as desired by the LUC. This will be to the benefit of the health and safety of Avila residents and visitors and is a result of the hard work and perseverance of the LUC.
- b. **Diablo** - Ken Thompson: The Diablo Canyon Independent Safety Committee is meeting again on June 13 and 14. Ken will send out the agenda when he receives it. They most likely will meet at the Avila Lighthouse Suites and the public is encouraged to attend. SB 1090 is legislation that has been authored by Senator Bill Monning and Assemblyman Jordan Cunningham. That legislation would compel the CPUC to approve funds from rates to compensate for community deficits that will be incurred when Diablo Canyon ceases to operate. It will also require funding through rates for a full 25% retention bonus to employees (they now have an approved 15% salary retention bonus). Ken is concerned that without the full funding of the retention bonus, key operators with knowledge and experience will leave the Station and our area for other career opportunities. This bill will first be heard by the Senate Committee on Energy this month. Mark Diaz (Avila Valley News) encouraged the public to email the Senator and Assemblyman in support for this bill by the close of the comment period, which is tomorrow, April 10th.
- c. **Port** - Mary Matakovich: Mary thanked the community members that attended the Avila Pier Community meeting on March 15th. The main purpose of the meeting was to solicit public opinion as well as encourage members of the public to consider becoming a part of the "friends of Avila Pier". Also this morning there was a visit by our US representative Salud Carbajal. Hosted by a couple of the Harbor Commissioners, Salud replaced a flag at the lighthouse and then took advantage of a photo opportunity with himself in front of the breakwater. The repair for the breakwater is still awaiting an additional \$5 Million dollars in investment from the Army Corps of Engineers. Salud will be writing a letter of support to the Army Corps, advocating for the priority of funds to fix the San Luis Bay breakwater.
- d. **Avila Beach** - Anne Brown: No new projects reviewed this month. However, the committee is anxiously awaiting a future planning commission hearing on an appeal regarding the subdivision review board's determination for multi-family density in the Salucci/Hodge project.
- e. **San Luis Bay Estates** - Jim Hartig: Nothing to report.

- f. **Avila Valley**: - Julia Hartzell: Avila Valley committee is prepared and looking forward to reviewing the project for the 22 homes on Ontario Road that was presented last month at AVAC. Nothing has been officially submitted to County Planning yet.
- g. **See Canyon** - Denise Allen: nothing to report
- h. **Squire Canyon** – Kirt Collins: nothing to report
- i. **Ad Hoc Committees** - Jim Hartig: The Ad Hoc Committee will be meeting on Wednesday April 11th and results will be reported at the next AVAC meeting.

11. Next meeting date: Monday, May 14, 2018

12. Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted:
Lynn Walter
Secretary