

AVILA VALLEY ADVISORY COUNCIL (AVAC)

San Luis Obispo County, CA

October 1, 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 (alt), Sherri Danoff, Jim Hartig, Ken Thompson, Martin Suits, Lynn Walter (alt), Denise Allen, Kirt Collins and Margaret Greenough. Roll Call (excused): Saul Goldberg, Steve Benedict, Carol Hayden (alt), and Mike Casola. Roll Call (absent): Liz Guho-Johnson (alt). Quorum established.

2. **Approve Minutes:** Minutes for September 10, 2018 were approved following a motion to approve by Danoff and a second by Hartzell. There were 3 abstentions.

3. **Chair's Comments:** Jim Hartig: None

4. **Public Comments:** There were 2 members of the public that provided comments: Shirley Goetz is concerned that the Avila Beach Bird Sanctuary (Inc.) is not serving its original mission (in part to have education programs for kids about birds) nor serving the best interests of the Avila Beach Community. Denise Allen thanked Shirley for her early advocacy of the Bird Sanctuary and stated, "I just want to put that out there that there was a dream for the bird sanctuary and it's not being fulfilled with the new group or whoever is running it now." Pat Arnold of the Avila Beach Resort mentioned that they received a noise complaint in Squire Canyon from a concert held last Wednesday. They monitor the noise very closely to ensure no disturbances and postulate that the low fog ceiling had shunted the noise all the way to Squire Canyon. They are continuing to investigate and want to be good neighbors.

5. **Treasurer's Report:** Julia Hartzell: There was no activity last month and the current balance remains at: \$1,766.63.

6. **County and Local Agency Reports:**

- a) **Sheriff** – Commander Michael Manuele: Commander Voge has been selected to replace retiring Undersheriff Tim Olivas, and will take over as undersheriff in December, 2018 and Commander Michael Manuele is now in place at the Coast Station. He reported that there were 61 Calls for Service September 1st through 30th. Three of those were suspicious circumstances, 1 Theft, 1 burglary and 6 disturbances of the peace, and 15 reports of crimes. The theft was from an unlocked parked car. Lock your car! The Coast Station was the recipient of its own phone/fax scam – so beware and be skeptical of free money offers. Shirley Goetz asked about the golf carts in Avila, some parking and riding on the sidewalk. Commander Manuele had not been aware of issues and encouraged anyone seeing this behavior to call the Sheriff while the activity is taking place.

- b) **Highway Patrol** - Sergeant Heiderbrink: Not present and no report.

- c) **CAL Fire** - Batt. Chief Paul Lee: This last month there were 46 calls for service of which 24 were medical related. So far this late fire season we have been lucky with the weather and there have been no Santa Ana winds, however everyone needs to continue their vigilance. There is a bit of rain in the forecast but not enough to help with our current fire danger. In fact, inspect your roofs and gutters for leakage since leakage on to electrical devices potentially cause home fires. SLO County has received \$50K in grant money with which they have purchased heavy lifting air bags and stabilizing struts. This equipment will help firefighters rescue people and keep themselves safe when they fight structure fires. This month kicks off a series of hazard reduction measures which are controlled burns that will reduce fuel for future wild land fires. These burns will begin in Cambria and proceed throughout the county within the next 2 months. There will be plenty of notice given to the community surrounding each of these controlled burns. Chief Lee highlighted his pride in the county's Hazardous Material Response Team. This team is made up of 15 Cal Fire personnel and 15 personnel from various city fire departments. The team is now registered with and certified by the State as meeting all the requirements for training, equipment and skills. The Haz Mat Truck is housed in Station #52 on Highway 46 between Shandon and Paso Robles and responds to hazardous spills occurring anywhere in the County.
- d) **Planning** - Sara Sanders: Sara mentioned that her former supervisor Meghan Martin is now in charge of cannabis permitting. Sara's new boss is J. Johnson who has a 30 year planning career. Sara provided the following updates to the planning spreadsheet: Item #2 (Salucci & Hodge) has been updated to reflect that the Planning Commission denied the Director's Determination appeal and approved the project with additional conditions. Item #5 (Chevron, Avila Point) still reflects that the County is waiting for a defined project description. Sherri Danoff requested that Sara add the information about the application being submitted in 2015 because it will remind us how long this has been in this status. Item #9 (ABR Properties) reflects "info hold". Martin Suits mentioned that there had been a meeting with planning and the developer that resulted in the determination that the application required a general plan amendment. Sara hadn't known that information and will be getting the details and updating the spreadsheet. Item #14 (King) was discussed. Marti Brand asked what the oversight would be on the remediation and what the next steps were. Sara was unfamiliar with the process for the Water Resources board and would report back more information next meeting. Julia Hartzell mentioned that they appreciate the planner on this project but that the community would like to hear more information on next steps and answers to their questions. Sherri Danoff commented that in Heron Crest, a homeowner got county permission to remove some trees in the open space. The house was permitted with a 75% requirement for tree coverage and because of the tree removal much more of the house is now visible from view areas. How did the county permit the tree removal? Sherri will get more details to Sara and Sara will report back to AVAC next month about how tree removal was permitted while those restrictions were in place.
- e) **Public Works** - Dave Flynn: Dave Flynn was not here, instead the new County Director of Public Works, Colt Esenwein spoke to AVAC. Colt comes to our County with a lot of good background experience in Stanislaus County, Santa Cruz, and the Nuclear Navy. He updated us on the seismic retrofit project at the Avila Beach Bridge, and the Cal Trans review of the intersection of San Luis Bay Drive and 101. The seismic retrofit work is complete below the bridge. Now starting October 31st, there will be lane closures and traffic control as work proceeds on grade. The work will largely be done between 7:00 am and 2:00pm to avoid traffic from Diablo Canyon shift change. Thursday Public Works will meet with the Land Use Committee at the Avila Civic Center to discuss various projects. Mowing

that was requested last month by AVAC was complete and Julia Hartzell thanked Public Works for the response. Cal Trans is doing an intersection control evaluation at San Luis Bay Drive/101/Ontario Road intersection. They might be recommending a traffic circle. They realize lighting is needed at the off/on ramps and plan on installing that in the Fall of 2019.

- f) **County Parks** - Nick Franco: not present and no report.
- g) **Port San Luis** - Andrea Lueker (not present – report provided by Mary Matakovich under item 10 c):
- h) **County Supervisor** - Adam Hill: Nicole spoke for Adam who couldn't be here tonight due to preparation required for important meetings tomorrow. She opened it up for any questions and there were none.

7. **Old Business:** None.

8. **New Business:** None.

9. **Community Liaisons:**

- a) **Avila Beach Civic Association** - Lisa Newton: The Apple Festival was very successful, with wine tasting in the garden, a delicious dinner in the center, a silent and a live auction. The next event is the popular Fall Harvest Spaghetti and Bingo night. It is set for November 2nd (Friday) from 6:00pm to 8:30 pm. The cost is \$10 per person and \$5 per small child.
- b) **Avila Beach Foundation** - Rick Cohen: The Foundation now has 15 nominations for Avila Citizen Awards. He expects that the board will review the nominations, select the winners and announce awards by the end of the year. This year's grant applications were due September 15th and they received 14 requests and are looking at giving out about \$76K in grants. The trustees will be evaluating the grants and expect to award mid-November. Also Rick thanked PG&E for donating the last needed funding of \$2500 for the Avila Beach public art project.
- c) **PG&E/Diablo Canyon** – Eric Daniels: First off, the clock for the room is on order! On other topics: The Land Tour that was given specifically for AVAC members was a very good tour and Eric encouraged everyone to review the engagement panel discussion on-line. All the meetings have been videoed and have been uploaded to the website. The last hearing (September 26) focused on land issues and there were many questions and presentations. Some of those making proposals were Cal Poly, Pacific Wind, Cal Energy Development, and Port San Luis, to name a few. Of course there are a lot of voices that want conservation of the land. To date, there have been more than 400 public comments received by the engagement panel. The engagement panel is planning on creating a "planning" document as part of their scope. To date PG&E has provided tours for over 500 people specifically for touring the property for participation in the Decommissioning Engagement Panel. The next meeting on the Engagement Panel is October 24th at 6:30 pm in the Board of Supervisors room. Denise Allen asked if there had been any developers providing housing development proposals to the engagement panel. Eric responded "no".

Ken Thompson thanked Eric for the AVAC tour; they spent 4 hours discussing and looking at the property and all its resources and possibilities.

10. **AVAC Committees:**

- a. **Land Use** - Sherri Danoff: The Land Use Committee will be meeting with Public Works and their consultant this Thursday.
- b. **Diablo** - Ken Thompson: The Diablo Canyon Independent Safety Committee will be coming back to the Avila Light house Suites conference room on October 24 and 25. Ken will send out more information as he learns of it. He reminded AVAC that videos of the proceedings of the Decommissioning Engagement Panel can be viewed on the SLO-Span.org site.
- c. **Port** – Mary Matakovich: Mary introduced Commissioner Bob Vessley to AVAC and thanked him for being present at these advisory meetings. She gave an update on the Avila Pier and confirmed that the Commission has hired an engineering firm to present an estimate as to the rehabilitation of the pier. It should be available within the next three months. At that time the Commission will decide the project scope. Since the Netzel-Grisby feasibility consultants indicated that our community could raise \$2M, a non-profit Friends of Avila Pier was formed to do just that. Their next meeting is October 16 at 6PM at the San Luis Yacht Club. The agenda's focus is to brainstorm fundraising strategies. These meetings are open to the interested public. The Harbor Terrace Project is underway with the grading plan close to being submitted to the County. The soft opening of this campground is set for November 2019. Some marketing material for the Restaurant Lease at the East side of Harford Pier is being posted with the Request For Proposals coming out shortly. This is the result of the Olde Port Inn's lease being up in 2020. There is a need to fix the pier and pilings under the restaurant; so, the plan is to move the restaurant lease site to the east side of the pier, and fix the pier/pilings. Paid Parking at Harford Landing is in the development stage. Since the joint County/Port Parking Study, this area was identified with a need to turn-over parking spaces for the businesses in that area. Some of the parking lot will require permits. A Coastal Development Permit from the Coastal Commission is required to begin the project. Diablo Decommissioning/Purposing Meeting was attended by the Port staff and a list of items were proposed to the committee for their consideration. Mary thanked PG&E's Eric Daniels for providing the tours for the Harbor staff and commission.
- d. **Avila Beach** - Anne Brown: Anne spoke about their appeal to Planning Commission regarding the Salucci Hodge project. Though the appeal wasn't entirely successful, they were last on the agenda and the meeting went over time, they were able to get a 2ft setback from the sidewalk which was a partial win. Also they plan on attending the board of supervisor meeting to continue to appeal on especially the issue of density.
- e. **San Luis Bay Estates** - Jim Hartig: nothing to report.
- f. **Avila Valley**: - Julia Hartzell: nothing to report.
- g. **See Canyon** - Denise Allen: It is apple season, wedding season and wine season in See Canyon.
- h. **Squire Canyon** – Kirt Collins: Kirt mentioned that the grading at the end of San Luis Bay Drive is a Wetlands restoration project.

- i. **Ad Hoc Committees** - Jim Hartig: No Ad Hoc committee meetings this last month, they are waiting for the RFP process to begin.

11. **Next meeting date:** Monday, **November 5, 2018** (note: not the usual second Monday)*

*date change due to County Holiday on Veteran's Day Nov 11

12. **Adjourn:** Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted:
Lynn Walter
Secretary