

AVILA VALLEY ADVISORY COUNCIL (AVAC)

San Luis Obispo County, CA

MINUTES (Draft)

May 14, 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: Mary Matakovich, Anne Brown, Julia Hartzell, Mary El Hansen, Marti Brand (alt), Martin Suits, Carol Hayden (alt), Mike Casola, Kirt Collins, Margaret Greenough. Quorum established. Excused: Lynn Walter, Lisa Newton, Sherri Danoff, Ken Thompson, Steve Benedict, Saul Goldberg, Denise Allen.
2. **Approve Minutes:** Motion made and seconded (Brown/Matakovich) to approve the amended Minutes of April 9, 2018. Motion carried.
3. **Chair's Comments:** Chair Hartig reminded the Council of the training on the 25th for Council members. If anyone is still interested, contact him directly.
4. **Public Comments:** Steve Rossi, ABR (Golf Course) shared that they are willing to present their project. July meeting was suggested but Steve indicated August might work better. Shirely Goetz resident and founder of the Avila Beach Bird Sanctuary stated that she has no affiliation or involvement with a non profit called "Avila Beach Bird Sanctuary, Inc.", The organization does not have a website. Ms. Goetz stated it is unclear how this organization is representing the Avila Beach Bird Sanctuary, since it's forming on February 5th, 2014.
5. **Treasurer's Report:** Julia Hartzell stated that there was no fiscal activity over the past month. The current balance is \$1824.63.
6. **County Reports:**
 - a) **Sheriff:** Officer Mark Carreiro noted that there were 47 calls for service including, but not limited to: phone scams, assault at Pirates' Cove involving over 20 people, suicidal services and vehicle burglaries. He cautioned people to lock their cars and keep their valuable in the trunk or at home.
 - b) **Highway Patrol:** Sergeant Heiderbrink reported that there have been a number of DUI arrests around Avila. He addressed golf carts on the promenade indicating that only licensed vehicles can drive the streets and park in legal parking spots; the promenade is not a legal parking zone. If a golf cart, now referred to as a Neighborhood Electric Vehicle, is parked on the promenade or illegally, the CHP should be called directly to the CHP Dispatch Number for an officer to handle the violation. A question was raised about traffic control over the 26th - 28th weekend events and the Sergeant indicated that if the CHP is contracted to be there, then they will handle the traffic. Steve Rossi confirmed the officers have been contracted to be present. Betty Hartig asked about the Evacuation Plan that would be put in place in the event of an emergency during a weekend with heavy traffic; she raised this because of the one-way-in and one-way-out. Sergeant Heiderbrink referred to Chief Lee for the details of the evacuation plan.
 - c) **CAL Fire:** Batt. Chief Paul Lee indicated that they had 38 calls for service with 15 medically-related. He noted that his staff assisted with various incidents involving the Sheriff and CHP. Their OTS Grant was approved for \$50K for vehicle eviction equipment, which will allow them to be within sixty minutes to get a victim to the trauma center. The staff is involved in boat training. He suggested that all property owners get their weed abatement done, as fire season is here. Yes, he said that there is an Evacuation Plan which is coordinated by all of the agencies involved in this area. Shirley Goetz thanked the Chief and his staff for keeping us safe.
 - d) **Planning:** Sara Sanders reviewed the updated Avila Planning and Building Project list highlighting numbers: 1,4,7,8 - now 16, 10 and 14. Questions surfaced around Planning Department practices and permit requirements. Sara referred the Council members to Matt Jansen.

- e) **Public Works:** Dave Flynn stated that the bid for the Avila Beach Seismic Retrofit of the Bridge is underway. After May 31, the work begins under the bridge and after Labor Day the road surface will be handled. Capacity notices will go to the Land Use Committee for review at the end of the month. Parking Committee will look at basic options to propose to the Land Use Committee and then, they will be brought to the public for comment. Parking capacity ideas will also be discussed like one-way roads. The bicycle parking on First Street needs to be eliminated with an alternative plan. If no plan, this will go to the Board of Supervisors for their final action. They are continuing to look at all-way stops on San Luis Bay Drive and Ontario Road, as well possibly a stop sign on the East-side. It was suggested that the shrubs at the off-ramp onto San Luis Bay Drive need to be trimmed again; this will be referred to CalTrans. The Ontario Road and San Luis Drive intersection is very confusing when one has to determine his/her right of way. Traffic signals were suggested and this would take cooperation from CalTrans to determine the need for a state right of way. CalTrans would need to be convinced.
- f) **County Parks:** Nick Franco was pleased to share that the Public Workshop on Pirates' Cove and Cave Landing resulted in some proposed next steps: removal of the trash and graffiti, improved signage and regular patrols. The next phase would involve the Parking Lot which has environmental and cultural rules and restrictions that need to be observed. Getting the project together to apply for a permitted project to take its scope to the Coastal Commission was in the past sticky because of the opposition raised by the community. After the scope is set, the project will come back to AVAC and then to the Board of Supervisors for approval. Staff is hopeful for a solution that is lasting and will preserve the natural resources at the site.
- g) **Port San Luis:** Andrea Lueker reported that at the Commissioners' Meeting on April 24, the Commissioners directed staff to: resulted in funding a study by an engineer/engineering group to look at the condition of the Pier and provide a more specific cost estimate for repairs/replacement. 1) Create a scope of work for the study. 2) Solicit estimates for the study. 3) Board approval of funding for the study. 4) Study commences. 5) Present the study to the Board for consideration and action on the Avila Pier. The Economic Impact Report for Commercial Fishing is posted on the Port's website. Harbor Terrace Project is underway with grading beginning. Dogs on the beaches is an issue; it is important to note: Avila Beach - dogs can be on the beach before 10 and after 5PM. Ole Port Beach - dogs can be off leash. Fishermen's Beach does not permit dogs. The beach at the Lighthouse is open to dogs up to the tideline. Sea lions and dogs on the beach together continues to be a concern for the Harbor Patrol. There are five Harbor Patrol officers and one Chief Officer. Stats for the past month are: four rescues in the harbor and four outside the harbor, eight assists to other agencies and 131 Water Taxi (free) rides to boats moored in the harbor.
- h) **County Supervisor:** Blake Fixler, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Adam Hill, shared that the Board of Supervisors are in the middle of their deliberations on the budget, in particular the need to address the homeless issues in the County. There were four appeals for vacation rentals before the Board and they were all denied. Dawn Ortiz-Legg was introduced as Adam Hill's new Planning Commissioner; she has extensive experience mitigating solar projects with neighborhoods and she is looking forward to serving in her new position. Mary Matakovich requested information about the 2% tax levied on all lodging business with the SLO County Tourism Business Improvement District, realizing \$1-\$1.2million in revenue dedicated to tourism promotions and marketing projects in the County. The interest is in the amount Avila Beach raises and what are the projects reflecting that public contribution. More information to follow. Nick Franco clarified that this is different from the TOT tax collected.

7. **Old Business:** None

- 8. New Business:** Fred Collins, Northern Chumash Tribal Council Chair and representing the Tribal Government, addressed the Somera Capital Management Project, which is on Information Hold as of 5/10/18. This is a proposed development plan needing a Coastal Development Permit, and a San Luis Bay Estate Master Plan Amendment to develop a 50-room cottage style hotel in the Avila Beach area. Fred gave an overview of the Chumash history going back eighteen thousand years. He reminded the council that in 2005, SB18 was passed which allows Tribal Governments to have input into development plans. In 2010, the Coastal Resources Act was put in place and the Tribal Government worked four years with Planner Caruso. The Tribal Government has been involved with the cities of Morro Bay, Pismo Beach, Paso Robles and Atascadero. Recently, SB 852 has given Tribal Governments the right to provide input into the guiding of a project through communication with the developers and the planners. Every project is to be reviewed together. Fred indicated that the Tribal Government wants to be engaged at the front-end of any project, particularly this Chiefs' Ridge, as this area is a burial ground for their greatest chiefs. Both Chumash Tribal Governments have great concerns about this project and will work together to ensure this sacred area is preserved. Fred asked to be included in any further discussions about it. County Planning and the San Luis Bay Estates Committee will look forward to the Chumash Tribal Governments being involved from the beginning of this project.
- 9. Community Liaisons:**
- a) **Avila Beach Civic Association:** Anne Brown invited everyone to the July 4th Pancake Breakfast at the Avila Beach Civic Association followed by the Dog Parade.
 - b) **Avila Beach Foundation:** No report
 - c) **PG&E/Diablo Canyon:** Suzanne Hosn reported that both units are operating at full power. July 13-14 there will be tours of the plant available. SB 1090 is moving through the Senate to the Assembly for action. The Community Engagement Plan's Formation Community Panel reviewed over 100 applications. Thank you goes to Ken Thompson who served on this panel representing AVAC. They selected two Avila Beach representatives: Sherri Danoff and Nancy O'Malley for the Decommissioning Engagement Panel; thank them for their service. A question about the exit gate in the PG&E parking lot came up and Suzanne just caution people exiting in vehicles from the parking lot to stop at the white painted line and the gate will automatically open.
- 10. AVAC Committees:**
- a) **Land Use:** Sherri Danoff - No report
 - b) **Diablo:** Ken Thompson - No report
 - c) **Port:** Mary Matakovich - No report
 - d) **Avila Beach:** Anne Brown stated that there are two project under appeal.
 - e) **San Luis Bay Estates:** Jim Hartig indicated this committee now has three projects under review.
 - f) **Avila Valley:** Julia Hartzell reported that the King Project is on Information Hold with an additional information hold letter as of 4/5/18.
 - g) **See Canyon:** Denise Allen - No report
 - h) **Squire Canyon:** Kirt Collins: - No report
 - i) **Ad Hoc Committees:** APU (Avila Plan Update) Jim Hartig reminded the committee of a meeting on Thursday, May 31, at 3PM at the County Office.
- 11. Next meeting date:** June 11, 2018 - 7PM
- 12. Adjourn:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:50PM.

Respectfully submitted: Substitute Secretary, Mary Matakovich