

AVILA VALLEY ADVISORY COUNCIL (AVAC),

San Luis Obispo County, CA

PO Box 65

Avila Beach, CA 93424

June 8, 2020

www.avac-avila.org

1. **Call to Order:** by the Chair, Jim Hartig, for a regular meeting at 7:00pm, via Zoom.

Roll Call (present): Mary Matakovich, Anne Brown, Julia Hartzell, MaryEl Hansen, Marti Brand, Jim Hartig, Ken Thompson, Steve Benedict, Michael Clayton, Carol Hayden, Bill Crewe, Kirt Collins. Denise Allen,. Quorum was established.

2. **Approve Minutes:** Motion was made and seconded (Hansen/Hartzell) to approve the March 9, 2020 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

3. **Chair's Comments:** Jim Hartig shared the fact that we are in trying times and that this is a new adventure to be meeting via Zoom for the next several months. Public social distancing will be a requirement to hold a public meeting in-person.

4. **Public Comment:** No comments

5. **Treasurer's Report:** Julia Hartzell reported that there was one expense, Zoom Meeting fee - \$14.99, for the June meeting. The balance is \$1,071.14.

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

a) **Sheriff** – No report

b) Highway Patrol – No report

c) **CAL Fire** - Batt. Chief Paul Lee provided comments as he is "in-training" and unable to attend the meeting. There were 42 calls for service; 20 were medically-related. He stated that the vegetation clearing grant is underway at the San Luis Bay Estates and Squire Canyon. Ontario Ridge and Cave Landing are also being served by hand crews. He suggests that if you have vegetation projects, plan to be finished by 10AM. Also, wash your hands.

d) **Planning** - Planner Kimmie Nguyen reviewed projects #9, 13, 14. Regarding the Community Plan the Rincon consultants are working to ensure that there is no duplication of work and also that the previous work is being used to create the draft which will be available by October/November. There are plans for 2-3 workshops with the first one right after the next AVAC meeting in July. Question as to whether there will be a budget for this project. As of this meeting there has been no talk of removing funds from this project.

e) **County Parks – No report**

f) **Public Works** - John Waddell addressed questions previously raised by the council. There are no plans for a street light for San Luis Bay Drive. County collects road/traffic impact for special events via permits. Fees are collected to pay for future road improvements to accommodate growth. Encroachment fees cover staff costs to review traffic handling plans and conditions. County also requires extra-resources for special signs and traffic control staff. Events are considered to be "first-come, first-serve" basis with established events worked around to ensure that there are no conflicting traffic. Public Works cooperates with other beach communities to follow the State guidelines for reopening the beaches, ec. Crossing signal for the Bob Jones Trail is in progress. Avila Beach Drive and 101 Project is moving into the permitting and design phase. If there are any road maintenance issues, please call the Public Works Office immediately, 805-781-5252 and a work order will be completed. Pippin Lane Bridge was temporarily repaired in conjunction with CalTrans within a week of determining the problem.

g) Harbor District – Harbor Manager Andrea Lueker shared that the Harbor Terrace Project is in its 16th week and has finished the grading and now is going into the trenching phase which will cause a swifiting of lanes for a couple of weeks. The Preliminary Budget was approved at he May 26 Commission meeting; the final budget will be acted upon at the June meeting. Conservative planning is in place. The staff has been challenged by the need to be responsive to the public as well to follow the safety mandates relative to the virus. Questions as to “when will camping open up?” are on the public’s mind. Please check the website including for the latest information. The Junior Lifeguard Program will be amended to meet the guidelines, possibly 10 students will participate starting July 5. Avila Beach Pier grant from the Wildlife Conservation Board was awarded to the Port for \$1.25M. There are three other grants in the future: Coastal Conservancy (\$200K) and the Department of Boating and Waterways (Tier 1 - \$250K and Tier 2 - \$1.5M); hopefully, these will be awarded in the near future.

h) County Supervisor – No report

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Community Liaisons:

- a) **Avila Beach Civic Association** – Anne Brown stated the Avila Beach Civic Association Building is closed; therefore, no scheduled e vents nor activities.
- b) **Avila Beach Foundation** – Rick Cohen shared that the Foundation has remained in business since the beginning of the pandemic and issued funding to their grant recipients who have been providing services during this period as well. Unfortunately, several of the grantees have been temporarily closed or are re-scheduling activities/projects for a later date. Grantees are on-hold pending State-approved to re-open including: the Avila Beach Civic Association/Community Center, Central Coast Aquarium, Avila Free Trolley, Junior Lifeguards, PathPoint downtown cleaning project, Operation Surf Central Coast, Bellevue Santa Fe Charter School. Ongoing effort to replace the mural panel stolen late last year from Avila Beach Lifeguard Tower is crawling along. Arts Obispo finally reached out to its local insurance broker, which filed a formal case with the insurance carrier. They are still waiting for word from the claims adjuster.
- c) **PG&E/Diablo Canyon** – Eric Daniels reported that both reactors are 100%. June 24 the Decommissioning Panel will meet to discuss Transportation. The UCLA Study is available as background information for this meeting. Coastal trails have been closed pending providing preventive gear for the docents; more information forthcoming.

10. AVAC Committees:

- a. **Land Use** – No report
- b. **Diablo** - Ken Thompson reiterated comments made by Eric about the Decommissioning Panel. He also talked about the NRC providing a draft of the EIR with a plan to move spent fuel rods to New Mexico as a temporary location; meeting on June 23, at 2 PM. There will be an Independent Safety Meeting on July 1-2, look for the information about the virtual meeting.
- c. **Port** – Mary Matakovich wanted the Council to know how critical it’s been to have a Harbor District staff, with Harbor Patrol officers and lifeguard, who have been very flexible and understanding about the guidelines for the public to follow to be safe during this pandemic.
- d. **Avila Beach** – Anne Brown indicated that the committee recommends that the Libertine Brewery be able to sell beer and wine. This will be communicated to the appropriate County staff.
- e. **San Luis Bay Estates** - No report.
- f. **Avila Valley**: - Julia Hartzell distributed a letter with recommendations from the committee to the planner of the 22 lots parcel on Ontario Rd. Emphasis was placed on traffic and water. Motion was made and seconded (Hartzell/Hartig) that the recommendation/letter be sent to Planning. Motion carried. Julia thanked Terry Taylor for volunteering his expertise on this project; his work is invaluable to the work of this committee.

- g. See Canyon** – Denise Allen expressed thanks to the County for repairing the bridge. She also indicated that the Fire Safety Committee is active with all property owners.
- h. Squire Canyon** – No report
- i. Ad Hoc Committees** – No report
- 11. Next meeting date:** Monday, July 13 , 7PM
- 12. Adjourn:** Meeting was adjourned at 7:52 PM

Respectfully submitted:
Mary Matakovich, Secretary