

AVILA VALLEY ADVISORY COUNCIL (AVAC),

San Luis Obispo County, CA

PO Box 65

Avila Beach, CA 93424

July 13, 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, Jim Hartig, Ken Thompson, Martin Suits, Steve Benedict, Michael Clayton, Carol Hayden, Margaret Greenough, Denise Allen, Sherri Danoff. Quorum was established.

2. **Approve Minutes:** Motion was made and seconded (Danoff/Benedict) to approve the June 8, 2020 meeting minutes as amended. Motion carried.
3. **Chair's Comments:** Jim Hartig advised the Council that given the current directive from the Governor, it looks like Zoom meetings will be the way the Council will be meeting through this year.
4. **Public Comment:** No comments
5. **Treasurer's Report:** Julia Hartzell reported that there was one expense, Zoom Meeting fee - \$14.99, for the July meeting. The balance is \$1,056.15.

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

a) Sheriff – Commander Justin Nelson stated there were 236 calls for service compared to 180 last year. No batteries or assaults reported. Seven calls for burglaries, including credit cards being stolen. Eight suspicious circumstances reported.

b) Highway Patrol – Commander Greg Kligenburg was welcomed as our new liaison; he was hired the first of April and appreciates this opportunity. There was a minor collision at Cave Landing resulting in a DUI arrest. The Avila Fire was a coordinated agencies response. Council members commented on the impressive job done.

c) CAL Fire - Batt. Chief Paul Lee provided comments. There were 55 calls for service; 22 were medically-related. The Cal Fire suppression repair has been completed. Call volumes are 60% in the Avila Valley. A reminder that any activity that could start a fire needs to be reported to 911. All mowing should be completed by 10am. He wishes everyone a safe week.

d) Planning - Planner Kimmie Nguyen reviewed projects # 1 and 12 will have a new planner. She commented on projects #9,13, 15. Projects # 11 and 15 will have follow-up with the Council. The Avila Community Plan will have a virtual workshop on 7/25 at 11AM; the community will be notified of the details, involving a brief presentation and survey. The Planner agreed to check on closing the Chevron Resort application, #5 on Planning's list, due to inactivity for 3.5 years.

e) County Parks – Nick Franco provided a report. The increased volume of park use and take-out containers have dramatically increased trash throughout the county and especially at beach areas including Avila. Staff has increased trashcans, dumpsters and collection frequency. The county budget impacts from COVID have also necessitated budget reductions and since parks is primarily a service-based operation, that means a reduction in seasonal staff to meet the budget reduction needs. The department is currently at the capacity to service trashcans without the ability to add any additional staff to service them more frequently. Staff is grateful for the many volunteers who have stepped up to help out and staff will do their best to keep up with the current demands. Staff has posted signs in compliance with distancing requirements and reducing gatherings especially at the Bob Jones Pathway and at the basketball courts. Playgrounds remain closed. They have had challenges with compliance with these restrictions and the signs are removed frequently. Staff

attempts to replace them rapidly and to contact those who are seen not complying with these restrictions. Staff is applying for permitting and for funding for the installation of trash cans and the repair to the parking lot at Cave Landing. There is no timeline on when there may be a hearing or action on permitting. Staff will update the Council once there is information. Many physically-distanced volunteers safely gathered to replace the interpretive signs along the Bob Jones Pathway. The new signs look great and thank-you to everyone who made that happen.

f) Public Works - John Waddell provided a report. MaryEl Hansen followed up with him about the streetlight issue. She indicated that the location on San Luis Bay Drive that was previously discussed with Dave Flynn is at the Northbound 101 on the ramp and off ramp. As John said at the last meeting, department does not have any plans for new streetlights on San Luis Bay Drive. However, this information did help the staff remember that it was previously discussed with Caltrans. Staff is reaching back out to Caltrans to see if there is any potential for a streetlight. Nothing new to update at the July meeting on this issue. John will have an update at a future meeting.

g) Harbor District – Harbor Manager Andrea Lueker shared that the Harbor Terrace Project continues to move forward and is entering week 21. The trenching has been held up due to some issues with Cultural Resources. The expectation is for the trenching work to begin this week. It also appears that the off-site work that was going to disrupt parking on Avila Beach Drive has been rescheduled for later in the fall. Fishermen’s Gear Storage in Avila Parking Lot - The County held a hearing at the Planning Commission meeting on July 9 regarding the Minor Use Permit for the use of the parking lot for the Fishermen’s Gear Storage – the District had requested this hearing be continued. After the County and Harbor District provided their presentations, the Planning Commission agreed to continue the hearing to early December. Mermaid Market – Avila Paddlesports has almost completed the tenant improvements on the Mermaid Market, slated to open this week. The Market will feature a selection of grab-and-go items, beverages and camping supplies. The Market is between Avila Paddlesports and the Boatyard Chandlery. The Covid-19 Pandemic continues to be a challenge to the District and to all agencies. The District continues to work a balance with the facility closures and being responsive to the public. The Harbor District Office is closed but is staffed. Most of the businesses at the District are operating with restrictions and limitations. The Fish Cleaning Station and the Avila Pier remain closed due to the inability of the staff to handle the additional impact of visitors. Currently, the District staff is sanitizing all “high touch” areas twice per day with the exception of the parking machines and change machines.

h) County Supervisor – Nicole Nix, Legislative Assistant, provided an overview of the COVID directive placed by the Governor state-wide today. She stated that Supervisor Adam Hill will be returning in August and that she is available in the interim to assist in any way that she can.

Old Business: None

New Business: PG&E DCPD Decommissioning Waste Classification and Transportation overview presented by Tom Jones. He presented details of the timeline, the application for the Coastal Development Permit, an explanation of the types of Waste, truck/truck and rail/barge transportation and accident rates, and routes. There were no questions raised from the presentation.

Community Liaisons:

a) Avila Beach Civic Association – Anne Brown stated the Avila Beach Civic Association Building is closed; therefore, no scheduled events nor activities.

b) Avila Beach Foundation – Rick Cohen provided a report. The Foundation continues to remain in touch with our various grantees awarded funds for 2020. Several agencies and/or projects are still in limbo, such as: the Central Coast Aquarium, Avila Community Center, the Avila Trolley, Blue Water Task Force and Bellevue-Santa Fe Charter School. Others are operating at stand-by or modified levels, such as: the Jr. Lifeguards Program, Lachen Tara supportive housing project, SLO Noor Foundation, Cancer Well-Fit and Operation Surf. Good news! The insurance claim filed by Arts Obispo to replace the mural panel stolen from the Lifeguard station late last year has finally been approved. Artist Colleen Gnos has indicated that work to complete

the new panel is scheduled for the 4th quarter 2020. More good news! The PathPoint summer beach clean-up project to remove sand and debris from along the beach boardwalk areas began this morning. Agency staff will be employed to do the work until State-approval is given to bring their agency client workers back onboard.

- c) **PG&E/Diablo Canyon** – Eric Daniels reported that both towers are 100%. Pathways are closed due to the pandemic. July 29 there will be a Public Safety webinar; invitations to participate will be sent out to the public. Eric will provide a presentation based on the webinar to the Council in August.

10. AVAC Committees:

- a. **Land Use** – No report
- b. **Diablo** - Ken Thompson commented on the Diablo Independent Safety Meeting on July 1-2. The NRC held a public meeting about the Consolidated Interim Storage Facility in New Mexico and Ken has the NRC Presentation materials available.
- c. **Port** – No report
- d. **Avila Beach** – Anne Brown asked the Council to approve a letter denying the 95 San Antonio's request to move their vacation rental. Motion was made and seconded (Brown/Hartig) to deny the request. Motion carried.
- e. **San Luis Bay Estates** - No report.
- f. **Avila Valley**: - Julia Hartzell requested Project #11 Planner give the Council the timeline that this project is under.
- g. **See Canyon** – No report
- h. **Squire Canyon** – No report – Though Margaret Greenough thanked the agencies for their response to the fire. The area was evacuated and saved due to the first responders' skill.
- i. **Ad Hoc Committees** – Meeting to be set by Jim H.

11. Next meeting date: Monday, August 10, 7 PM

12. Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM

Respectfully submitted:
Mary Matakovich, Secretary