

## AVILA VALLEY ADVISORY COUNCIL (AVAC)

San Luis Obispo County, CA

PO Box 65

Avila Beach, CA 93424

March 8, 2021

[www.avac-avila.org](http://www.avac-avila.org)

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

Roll Call (present): Steve Benedict, Mary Matakovich, Julia Hartzell, Mary El Hansen, Marti Brand, Sherri Danoff, Jim Hartig, Ken Thompson, Curtis, Carol Hayden, Margaret Greenough, Anne Brown, Lisa Newton, Bill Crewe. Quorum was established.

2. **Approve Minutes:** Motion was made and seconded to approve the February, 2020 meeting minutes as amended. Motion carried.
3. **Chair's Comments:** Steve Benedict thanks new officers, indicates future possibility of meeting in person sometime this year.
4. **Public Comment:** No written comments received.
5. **Treasurer's Report:** Julia Hartzell gives the February report for Denise Allen.  
No Expenses This month  
Balance in Checking Acct: \$3092.22
6. **County and Local Agency Reports:**
  - a) **Sheriff** – Sgt Arauza is present as a representative. Report received. 35 Calls for service. 10 for disturbance, 4 burglary, 1 theft, 2 vandalism, 1 phone scam, 9 enforcement stop, 9 preventative patrol. Last year was 29 calls.  
Ken Thompson: Several questions and one request
    - a. Reported on KSBY on Feb. 24 - multiple Burglaries and Break-Ins have been happening across the Central Coast. SLO Police Capt. Amoroso said “a big increase in commercial burglaries here is SLO, about a 50% Increase”. Policy in many cases had the suspects booked into County Jail but released soon after.
    - b. Has the Sheriff Dept also experienced a significant increase in Burglaries within the past several months?
    - c. What is the process the Sheriff utilizes after apprehension? Is it “Catch & Release”?
    - d. A request: Because of the Pandemic, AVAC was DARK for a number of months last year and we did not receive Sheriff Stats for those months. I believe that your office probably has Year End 2020 Stats for Avila Beach and I would like you to share that information next month. With that, please comment on any trends that you see in the numbers in comparison to previous years.
  - b) **Highway Patrol** – Captain Klingenberg. Property damage collision: 2 Injury: 2, Hit and Run (non- injury), 1 DUI 1. Total Collisions: 6

- c) **Cal Fire:** Battalion Chief Paul Lee. 46 calls for service, 29 medically related. Up slightly from last year. Activity on grants and vegetation management, he gave us a rundown. They are specifically set a fire break for any fire coming in from Avila valley. Squire Canyon has a grant, looking for a project manager. Looking for second escape route. SLBE being considered for \$100k from PGE, looking for project manager. Cave landing, working with Nick Franco. Recommends following the fire department on pulse point and following on Twitter. With Daylight savings time, check your CO and fire alarm batteries.
- d) **Planning** - Planner Kimmie Nguyen. The project spreadsheet was reviewed with written updates from Kimmie: March **2021 Project Spreadsheet:**
- a. **#1:** On information hold.
  - b. **#2:** On information hold.
  - c. **#5:** Mixed use building. Scheduled for subdivision review board.
  - d. **#15:** Approved at February meeting.
  - e. **#16:** At Coastal Commission, found major issues. Denied relocation of the trail.
  - f. **#23:** Construction permit issued for new deck.
  - g. **Avila Community Plan:** Looking at late March release on public comments.
  - h. **Questions:** Sherri Danoff, Has the golf course resort application been augmented to include events, per the applicant's commitment upon withdrawing the events application in October? Kimmie Nguyen: no update. Representative from a local cyclist advocacy group expressed concern over the increased traffic to Avila Valley Barn if the permit is approved. It is a narrow road and dangerous to cyclists. Kimmie Nguyen and John Waddell respond. They are evaluating it. There is some discussion re. bike safety and traffic on this road. Anything from the golf course? Kimmie Nguyen: no update. Representative from a local cyclist advocacy group expressed concern over the increased traffic to Avila Valley Barn if the permit is approved. It is a narrow road and dangerous to cyclists. Kimmie Nguyen and John Waddell respond. They are evaluating it. There is some discussion re. bike safety and traffic on this road.
- e) **Public Works** – John Waddell. Perfumo Canyon road washout repaired. Flooding on first St, they are looking for funding on solutions.
- a. Avila Beach Dr and 101 project manager Ganaro Diaz gave a brief power point presentation on the status of the project. In summary:  
They are entering phase 3, Cal Trans has approved 40% of the design. Unfortunately, the area below the park and ride needs revision for drainage purposes. They are working with county parks on a new route for the Ontario Ridge trail. Although the project tis moving forward, he reminds us there is no funding. Plans should be shovel ready in 2023.
- f) **County Parks** –
- a. Nick Franco reports. Moving forward with the Cave Landing project. They will present at the upcoming Board of Supervisors meeting and ask for funding approval. In the future, they will need funding for a ranger as well. Everyone is ecstatic that they received an 18.5 million dollar grant to extend the Bob Jones trail from the Octagon Barn to Ontario road.
- g) **Harbor District** – Harbor Manager Andrea Lueker could not attend but sends notes:
- **Harbor Terrace Project** – the project continues to move ahead and is entering week 54. Currently road base is being installed which will be followed by curb and gutter taking about 2-3 weeks and then paving of

the roads. Pending is utility work along Avila Beach Drive, but that work may begin as soon as next week.

- **Fishing Openers** – recreational rock cod season is opening on April 1<sup>st</sup> and recreational salmon season is expected to open on May 1<sup>st</sup>. This means there will be trucks/trailers likely parked along Avila Beach Drive on those days and the weekend immediately following the opener. Construction along with the season openers is likely to cause some congestion over the next few months on Avila Beach Drive.
- **Dredging** – March 1<sup>st</sup> marks the day the District began dredging. You may have noted that at low tide both the Sport Launch and Mobile Boat Hoist are unusable due to the significant accumulation of sand. The District typically dredges up to 25,000 cubic yards of sand during the dredge season. The District's dredging is permitted through several regulatory agencies.
- **Breakwater Repair** – the repair to the breakwater is funded at approximately 14.4M Federal dollars and the Army Corps of Engineers is expected to have the project out to bid in June/July 2021 with a bid award in August 2021. Construction will not begin until April 2022.
- **Harbor Patrol Key Statistics** – January 2021  
Harbor Tows - 2  
Inner Harbor Vessel Assists – 1  
Inner Harbor Rescues – 1  
Water Taxi – 145 runs, with 251 people  
Assist Other Agencies (Sheriff, Highway Patrol, CalFire, Fish and Wildlife)  
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- h) **County Supervisor** –Supervisor Ortiz-Legg: Thanks all contributors to the friends of the Bob Jones trail and mentions the funding approval. She recently met with numerous community organizations within the Avila Valley on various dilemmas facing the region. She looks forward to being partners in the future. She and her team are working on the Cave Landing encampment issue with 6 other different service leaders in the county. They are looking into finding money for a roll off dumpster, possibly through the community fund.
- a. Kirt Collins offers to help work on the trash issue in the San Luis Creek.
  - b. Mary El Hansen thanks Supervisor Ortiz-Legg for her work on the South Higuera encampment. She urges the supervisor and her colleague to include Cuesta College in the discussion on Diablo Decommissioning, specifically a green energy certificate program.
  - c. Dawn is available by: email – [dortizlegg@co.slo.ca.us](mailto:dortizlegg@co.slo.ca.us) and phone 805-781-5450.

7. **Old Business:** None

8. **New Business:** None

## 9. **Community Liaisons**

- a. **Avila Beach Civic Association** – The Avila Beach Community Center is still not allowed to reopen even though SLO County has moved into the Red Tier. We are really looking forward to welcoming the community to join us at the

Center, and hope it will be soon as people continue to mask and social distance in addition to being vaccinated.

The one project that we are moving forward with is the Little Free Library outside the Post Office by our Healing Garden. We are very fortunate to have the Library structure being built under the leadership of Sylvia Remmenga and the Avila Bookies. We will announce when we can host the Grand Opening. Keep in mind that books will be available for free at the Little Free Library and you can donate your book or books to lend to your neighbors.

Thanks to all of you who have renewed your Avila Beach Civic Association memberships. Please let us know if you have any questions or want to be involved in preparing the Center when we are allowed to reopen. Call 805-627-1997 or email [avilabeachcc@gmail.com](mailto:avilabeachcc@gmail.com).

- b. **Avila Beach Foundation** – Rick Cohen. Replacement panel painted and installed on the lifeguard station. Sand removal needs to be performed 3x weekly, the foundation manages Pathpoint to come and assist. Steve Benedict thanks.
- c. **PG&E/Diablo Canyon** – Eric Daniels. Update on unit 2, they are still working to resolve the non-nuclear vibration issues with Siemens. Again, the Spring outage was moved to March and began about a week ago. Refueling and repairs will take place. He also gave updates on NRC safety inspections.

#### 10. AVAC Committees:

- a. **Land Use** – Sherri Danoff no report
- b. **Diablo** – Ken Thompson.  
**Diablo Canyon Independent Safety Committee** held Public Meetings last month. Here are a few takeaways from those meetings.
  - Tier 2 Employee Retention Agreement – Greater than 90% of employees who were asked to stay on signed the Agreement.
  - Trained & Certified Control Room Operators fully staffed with Back-Ups until Reactor Decommissioning. The last Operator License class of 20 Operators just completed.**Diablo Canyon Decommissioning Engagement Panel**
  - The Decommissioning Engagement Panel is seeking 3 members to join this nonregulatory stakeholder group of 11 members. These 3 positions are open and the application period runs through March 13. I encourage any interested Council Member to submit an application which is attached to my e-mail or on the Panel's website.
  - The Decommissioning Engagement Panel is now modifying its March meeting agenda based on information from Eric Daniels and Sherri Danoff that the CPUC ruling on the 2018 Nuclear Decommissioning Cost Triennial will not be available until later this year. I will keep the Council posted when the Decommissioning Engagement Panel schedules their next public meeting.
- c. **Port** – Mary Matakovich. No report
- d. **Avila Beach** – Lisa Newton. No report.
- e. **San Luis Bay Estates** – Jim Hartig no report.
- f. **Avila Valley** – Julia Hartzell No Report
- g. **See Canyon** – Denise Allen unable to attend.

- h. **Squire Canyon** – Kirk Collins 30 high school students are raising money for Leukemia and Lymphoma society. Running 5 miles starting on Monte Rd, 'Fun Run' 4/18/21. Motion to support is approved.
- i. **Ad Hoc Committee** – Jim Hartig no new information.

**11. Next meeting date:** Monday, **April 12th, 2021** - 7 PM

**12. Adjourn:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:21 PM

Respectfully submitted:  
Margaret Greenough, Secretary