

## AVILA VALLEY ADVISORY COUNCIL (AVAC)

San Luis Obispo County, CA

PO Box 65

Avila Beach, CA 93424

**November 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): Mary Matakovich, Julia Hartzell, Mary El Hansen, Sherri Danoff, Ken Thompson, Curtis Cole, Steve Benedict, Kirt Collins, Denise Allen, Michael Clayton, Margaret Greenough. Quorum was established.

2. **Approve Minutes**: Motion was made and seconded to approve the October 4, 2021; meeting minutes as amended. Motion carried.
3. **Chair's Comments**: Steve Benedict welcomes the group. Chair's comments, remembering Anne Brown, long time AVAC member and mentions her memorial. Sherri mentions Anne served on AVAC for 20 years, she will be greatly missed.
4. **Public Comment**:
  - a. Denise Allen's neighbor comments on quite a bit of construction going on deeper in See Canyon. This include sites for the website 'Hip Camp', there are campgrounds. There is the possibility they are being set up with no guidelines. Sherri mentions they could contact code enforcement. Dept of planning mentioned they can reach out.
  - b. M. Greenough mentions Fred Collins passing.
5. **Treasurer's Report**: Denise Allen reports.  
Balance in Checking Acct: \$2178.32  
Expense: \$14.99 in Zoom fees
6. **County and Local Agency Reports**:
  - a) **Sheriff** – Sgt H Abbas attends. Written report provided. 10 thefts, 1 assault, 8 disturbance, 1 vandalism, 1 phone scam, 1 suspicious circumstance, 14 enforcement stops, 11 preventative patrol activity. Mary el Hansen mentions package theft from Bassi Ranch. Kirt Collins notes mail theft from Monte Rd. Mary Chu reports similar activity in See Canyon
    - a. Julia Hartzell: criminal activity seems to be increasing. They had an abandoned vehicle reported.
    - b. S. Danoff: any statistics in the last several months re. Cave Landing. Statistics are broken down by region, not specifically Cave Landing. S. Danoff Could we get a breakdown.
    - c. R. Robinson: you can look at the Sherriff's blotter for that information.
    - d. B. LoConte: on the sheriff's website there is a link that catalogues all of their activity.
  - b) **Highway Patrol** – Captain Klingenberg. October 3 DUI arrests, 3 traffic collisions, one with DUI. 2 non-injury collisions, one on See Canyon. Many citations on ABD administered.
    - a. **Public comment**: Richard Robinson would like to have the speed on ABD between Fat Cats and Avila Beach reduced from 40 mph
      - i. John Waddell, public works: there are regular analyses regarding this issue.
      - ii. Sherri Danoff: AVAC had recommended a lower speed limit there as well.
    - b. Ken Thompson: does your data only reflect stops on ABD not SLBD? They are separated by beats.
    - c. Sherri Danoff: It's concerning there isn't better data or more specific data because we don't know if something needs to be addressed. CK: we have better collision data. We need to make SLBD a 'line beat'. The collision data is more specific.
  - c) **Cal Fire**: 57 Calls for service. 2 small vegetation fires, first started by vehicle dragging a chain. Second was at Pirate's Cove after a recreational fire was kicked over the cliff. The battalion received \$207k for vegetation management. Edna Valley and Pismo Beach also received funds

for wildfire protection plan. There will be a new focus group in See Canyon. Grant season is open for the fire safe council. The Lighthouse prescribed burn is going to proceed but they are waiting for the correct wind direction. Potentially happening this week.

- a. D. Allen: thanks to Chief Lee for vegetation management on Pippin in See Canyon
- b. Brian Lo Conte: why does the grant stop at the gate for coon creek?
  - i. Chief Lee: the grants are community driven, you have a voice, we could extend it
  - ii. Regarding the fires at Cave Landing, what are we going to do about it?
- c. S. Danoff: is there an attempt to provide a report on Cave landing to see if we need a gate at Cave Landing? Chief Lee: a gate would slow down the fires because most of the time the fire fuel is being driven into the area.
- d. K. Collins: mentions there is quite a bit of crime up at Cave Landing, this would lend to the argument for a gate.

**d) Planning:**

- a. Nicole Ellis: Unable to attend but submitted the following: There is one new project which have been added to the list, C-DRC2021-00028- Request for a Minor Use Permit/ Coastal Development Permit to dismantle and rehabilitate the existing historic Avila Schoolhouse per the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Structures to accommodate a new use as an 8-unit bed and breakfast including the addition of a basement with kitchen, laundry, and storage areas. The project is located in the Residential Multi-Family Land Use Category The level of permit may be subject to change, but it will not affect the submitted application materials for review. Location: 190 SAN ANTONIA STREET, AVILA BEACH.
- b. Susan Strachan: county accepted application for Diablo Decommissioning. They have a notice to proceed. The public will have the opportunity to make comments on the EIR. There will be 5 virtual meetings, the information is on the planning website. You don't have to attend to make comments. Can submit on the website or via the mail. Comment period ends Dec 6

**e) Public Works – John Waddell. Bob Jones trailhead pedestrian signal materials will be delivered in January, and we will start site work next month. There will be vegetation clearance from See Canyon rd. During rainy season please keep your eyes peeled and report any maintenance issues via the phone or website.**

- a. D. Allen: thank you for addressing concerns up the canyon, everyone was very grateful.
- b. Introducing R. Naccarati: from traffic engineering. Update on the San Luis Bay Fee Area Annual Road Improvement Fee update. For FY 2021 there were 5 permits subject to road fees, fees received \$474,215, interest \$4500, expenses \$66879. Ending balance on 6/30/21 \$733,230. There are some proposed fee increases of 3% based on construction cost index. She gives an update on the fee study project lists and next steps.
  - i. K. Thompson: PGE decommissioning will have heavy road use. Are there fees attached to that project? No fees are collected to date but there will likely be road improvement fees. J. Waddell: road fees are based on new development so there might not be. K. Thompson, so there might not be any fees collected? J. Waddell, that is a possibility, it is all based on the permits and the peak hour trips. Traffic could be decreased over time.
  - ii. S. Danoff: *feed was garbled, unable to record*
  - iii. B. LoConte: *feed garbled, unable to record completely*. Issues with seeing the road on See and Perfumo canyon, this is from the reflectors on the side of the road being removed by the mowers. Is there a problem with pave and maintenance schedule that has fallen behind? Can we get more car counters on cave landing?
- c. After the meeting J. Waddell sent written responses to some questions during the meeting, recorded below
  - i. Speed concerns and speed survey for Avila Beach Drive near Cal Poly pier. A speed survey near the pier was conducted in June 2021. Our traffic engineering team is working on an update to the speed zones on Avila Beach Drive, based on this survey. Expect to see recommendations in the near future, which are likely to reduce the speed limit.
  - ii. See Canyon Road and Perfumo Canyon Road maintenance questions.

Comment that it seemed reflective markers were damaged or missing, resulting in difficulty following road at night.

Road crews have checked See Canyon and Perfumo Canyon roads and replaced 20 reflective markers this year

Comment about pavement resurfacing plans and numerous potholes.

Road crews completed patching potholes and clearing vegetation along the shoulders on See Canyon Road this week.

Perfumo Canyon Road is planned to receive a Surface Treatment in 2023. See Canyon Road does not have any paving planned.

- f) **County Parks** – Shaun Cooper reports on Ontario Ridge trail. The county has acquired the property near Cave Landing and easements on private property are in process. There will be future trail building down from the ridge to the future round-about. It is almost a 2-mile route.
- g) **Harbor District** – M. Matakovich reports. Harbor Terrace is open and taking reservations. Many campers are enjoying the site. In the process of hiring a new Harbor Manager. Avila Pier in the process of securing permits from the Coastal Commission to begin the rehabilitation process of the pier. Hartford Pier is in the process of finding a way to support the Pier. The district is undergoing redistricting. Avila is currently an at-large district.
  - C. Cole: does the port authority have a plan for returning to the public the two lots that are on the beach side? M. Matakovich: yes, we have another year to keep our access there.
- h) **County Supervisor** –Supervisor Ortiz-Legg reports. She has a report on the Avila Community plan, comments have been placed on hold while waiting for the consulting company to revise the plan. It is too confusing. She comments on the possibility of redistricting. Legally, they don't need to but there is a push for it. The fight will likely be contentious. Supervisor Ortiz-Legg will update the Council monthly on the progress of this action. Also, Dawn's office hours (1-3pm) on October 28 are at the Avila Beach Civic Association/Community Center on San Miguel Street.
  - a. 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:** Sheri Danoff has accepted appointment as the temporary Nominating Committee Chair to seek AVAC officers for 2022.

9. **Community Liaisons**

- a. **Avila Beach Civic Association** – Mary Matakovich reports, Dog parade on December 11.
- b. **Avila Beach Foundation** – Rick Cohen. Donate to the foundation for the public art fund. You can get a license plate frame
- c. **PG&E/Diablo Canyon** – Eric Daniels reported Unit 1 was ramped down during the storm because of the storm surge and kelp in the intake structure, it was ramped up after the storm. Unit 2 was shut down for a Feedwater Tube repair and Unit 2 is now back online. On October 21, PG&E requested the NRC to terminate the Humboldt Bay license and PG&E will use that decommissioning learning experience at the Diablo Canyon Power Plant. Eric responded to Ken Thompson's questions about the inspection of Spent Fuel Dry Casks for deterioration and cracks. There were some inspections, but the complete inspection was postponed until a crane can be installed. A redesign of the Dry Fuel Storage Casks is undergoing changes and has multiple RFP bidders. Also, the electrical power outage on October 4 that put our AVAC meeting at risk last month was related to potential fire threat. The PG&E circuits automatically sense a foreign object and de-energize. It takes time to reset, and the outages might become longer.

10. **AVAC Committees:**

- a. **Land Use** – Sherri Danoff no report.
- b. **Diablo** – The **Diablo Canyon Independent Safety Committee** held their scheduled Public Meetings on Oct. 19 & 20. Takeaways from the PG&E presentations
  - i. The Tier 2 Retention Package has led to a stable workforce with continued Replacement Hiring due to retirements.
  - ii. Tom Jones had talked about 5 different modeling options that PG&E is considering taking for the Decommissioning Operations from Self Perform to complete Asset

Transfer. Last Wednesday at the Decommissioning Engagement Panel Meeting, Tom announced that PG&E has decided on the Hybrid Model where PG&E remains responsible for the Decommissioning Project, retain their staff in areas of their expertise while having the option to use a Decommissioning General Contractor for specialized or unique work.

- iii. He has e-mailed a **reminder** to Council Members about the Planning Department Notice to hold (5) Scoping Meetings in preparation for the EIR over the next 4 weeks.
- iv. The DRAFT Letter about the Diablo Canyon Decommissioning Permit listed additional issues for County Planning consideration was presented
- v. Mary Matakovich made a comment to be inserted. The Council voted on the Letter with an additional sentence, and it was approved to be sent to County Planning.

c. **Port** – No Report

d. **Avila Beach** – MM covered the letter on Project C-SUB2021-00001 - Rourke. Motion made and seconded (Danoff/Cole) to accept the letter. Motion carried.

e. **San Luis Bay Estates** – Curtis Cole no report.

f. **Avila Valley** – Julia Hartzell No Report

g. **See Canyon** – Denise Allen. No report

h. **Squire Canyon** – Kirt Collins. No Report

i. **Avila Plan Update Committee** – Jim Hartig on Vacation. No Report

j. **Meeting Adjourns 9:22 pm**

**13. Next meeting date:** Monday, **December 13, 2021** - 7 PM

**14. Adjourn:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Margaret Greenough, Secretary