

## Avila Valley Advisory Council (AVAC)

San Luis Obispo, California

P.O. Box 65

Avila Beach, CA 93424

January 10, 2022

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

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

Roll call (present): Denise Allen, Marti Brand, Steve Benedict, Michael Clayton, Curtis Cole, Kirt Collins, Bill Crewe, Sherri Danoff, Julia Hartzell, Mary El Hansen, Carol Hayden, Jim Hartig, Mary Matakovich, Lisa Newton, Ken Thompson. A quorum was established.

2. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion was made and seconded to approve the AVAC December 13, 2021 meeting minutes as amended. Motion carried.
3. **Vote on approval of 2022 Officers:** Motion was made and seconded to approve the officers for 2022. The motion was carried.

Chair, Steve Benedict,  
Vice Chair Kurt Collins  
Secretary, Michael Clayton  
Treasurer, Denise Allen

4. **Chair's Comments:** Steve Benedict welcomes the AVAC group to the first meeting of 2022. He welcomed the 2022 AVAC officers and thanked past officers for their service
5. **Public Comment:**
  - A. Stacy Korsgaden, political candidate running for 3<sup>rd</sup> District County Supervisor, presented her campaign platform, as it applies to several AVAC concerns, such as, Evacuation Planning and a moratorium on growth, until such time, that a comprehensive Safety Evacuation Plan can be developed.  
There were no further comments or questions voiced.
6. **Treasurer's Report:** Denise Allen reports.  
Balance of Checking Account: \$ 2,130.35  
Expenses: \$ 14.99 Zoom Fee and a \$17.99 domain fee
7. **County and Local Agency Reports:**
  - A. **Sheriff:** Sargent Hank Abbas absent, without absentee representation, and therefore, no sheriff report.
  - B. **Highway Patrol:** Captain Greg Klingenberg reports
    - a. no collisions in Avila Beach area
    - b. one DUI arrest
    - c. Captain Klingenberg has been unable to compile a report on citations in our area due to technical matters. He will, however, report on this matter at the next AVAC meeting.
  - C. **Cal Fire:** Battalion Chief Paul Lee reports  
28 calls to service. 18 medically related.

A fall on Ontario Ridge come in transported to trauma center  
A stuck climber below Fossil Point, Port San Luis and lifeguards from Pismo Beach responded.  
Chief Lee reports that, on average, 50% of calls are medical related, 25% vegetation fires, and 25% rescues.  
82 Total incidents at Pirates Cove and Pirates Cove Parking Lot were recorded from December 1, 2016, thru December 1, 2021.  
16 incidents for 2021. The last 5 years are very consistent in numbers.

A Heat Map of Incidents December 1, 2016 – December 1, 2021 was presented.  
2037 total incidents, 454 in 2021, slightly higher than previous years. Recreational areas have the highest call volume.

Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) from Cal Poly has chosen the Avila Valley and Pismo Beach this year.  
A 12-person, senior level class, with faculty leadership, has chosen the study area to include Ontario Ridge including Pirates Cove, El Portal, the Resort and the Bluffs.  
A briefing took place on January 10, 2022 at 12:30 at the Avila Valley Fire Station. CAL FIRE and attendees conducted a hiking tour of the project areas.  
Fire prevention with weed abatement, will require more effort than last year.

Denise Allen made a request that the possibility of See Canyon be considered for the next Cal Poly study.

**D. Planning:** Nicole Ellis / Susan Strachan report:

**a. Written planning updates provided by Nicole Ellis**

The January 2022 project list has been updated to reflect project status updated. Updates are highlighted in the various spreadsheet cells. See “Active/In Progress Avila Planning & Building Projects” Spreadsheet

**DRC2021-00015** Minor Use Permit/Coastal Development Permit for temporary events using outdoor areas (existing field and lawns) at Avila Valley Barn has been updated to reflect status “Information Hold letter sent 2/24/21. Application materials resubmitted 12/2/21. In re-review and referral.”

**DRC2018-00067** A phased Development Plan/Coastal Development Permit to add hotel accommodations and related facilities including various sized temporary events to the Avila Beach Golf Resort (Resort), has been updated to reflect status “County began to solicit proposals January 3, 2022, for RFP – EIR #1646 – Avila Beach Resort (ABR). Proposals are due by 16:30 PST on January 28, 2022. Request for Proposal (RFP), Detailed Project Description and Scoping Document – Preliminary Environmental Checklist available at CCS link under attachments.

**DRC2018-00067 (sloplanning.org)**

The “Basic Scoping Document- Preliminary Environmental Checklist” will provide a detailed discussion of the scope of services requested and further analysis required. I hope these documents will help respond to questions related to the processing of this application, scope of work and sequence of steps moving forward.

[Bid/RFP Opportunities - County of San Luis Obispo \(ca.gov\)](#)

Once the RFP is posted, members will find information related to the SLBE Master Plan, including but not limited to the following:

The project includes a request to concurrently amend and update the **San Luis Bay Estates Master Development Plan** (text and exhibits) to provide consistency between **the Master Development Plan and the San Luis Bay Coastal Area Plan**. This application will require amendment of the SLBE MDP to include overnight lodging on the project site." "The EIR will need to provide a discussion of project impacts for each alternative and mitigation measures for project activities including events. Consistency with the applicable conditions, regulations and standards in the SLBE MDP, San Luis Bay Area Plan, CZLUO and policy consistency with SLO County Local Coastal Program should be evaluated as part of EIR discussion."

**E. Public Works:** John Waddell reports

Rachel Naccarati sent notice of a Transportation Division Public Works "Clean California Grant" application to beautify traffic two signal boxes located at Avila Bay Drive at San Luis Bay Drive and Avila Bay Drive at First Street.

The grant application is due February 1, 2022. If awarded projects would probably begin in early 2023.

John Waddell reports no Public Works items for presentation

**F. County Parks:** Nick Franco / Shaun Cooper report

Park staff have been busy cleaning up storms. Bob Jones pathway had several trees down and a large number of debris after last month's storms.

Avila Park: Increased amounts of graffiti on the concrete walls with Rangers have been cleaning that up.

Interpretive panels have been requested to be replaced

Cave Landing: Staff is tracking data which will be used manage parks. Future data analysis will determine whether future regulations will need to be adopted

Building permits are being obtained and under final review. Once these permits are completed, the Parks Department will be able to begin work. The permitting process is the rate-limiting event. Once permitting completed, a full construction timeline is estimated to be 8-10 weeks. The parking lot closure is anticipated to require 2-3 weeks of closure, requiring one half of the lot closed, followed by the other.

Questions by Brian LaConte as to frequency of park patrols of the sites: Nick Franko noted that currently, early morning and sundown patrols survey for fires, trash status, and to discourage overnight camping. Should the status require additional patrols or measures, the Parks Department will allocate resources.

**G. Port San Luis:** Mary Matakovich reports

Susie Watkins will join the Port San Luis staff on February 4 2022

Hartford pier workshop #3 will be held Thursday at the Coastal Gateway Building

The 2022 polar bear plunge was a big success and raised \$4000 for the homeless shelter. Special thanks to Julia and Jerry Hartzell for their help.

Denise Allen suggested that a floating dock be moored along the pier near Mersea's Restaurant, as this is a great tourist attraction for people visiting Harford Pier.

**H. County Supervisor:** Supervisor Dawn Ortiz-Legg reports

Kudos to Mary Matakovich and her staff for an excellent the polar plunge.

The next Supervisors Meeting will be addressing several important issues:

Harbor funding and resource problems

Flooding issues  
Childcare  
Business grants  
Staff restoration

Supervisor Ortiz-Legg will provide a PDF file of the fund's disbursement and financial breakdown is available from Supervisor Ortiz-Legg. Her open meeting is scheduled for 1-13-2022 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM in Avila Beach Community Center.

New Fire Regulations are forthcoming at state level. New requirements for landowners, financial requirements for roads and liability for landowners will be addressed. It is expected that rural areas will be providing strong pushback. The planning Department has hired a new long-range planner, who has just started. The Avila Plan, first submitted in 2016-2017 will be revisited. EIR and other key environment and safety issues will ensue. Details will be forthcoming. Planning Department individuals will be here next month to attend a committee event and further updates will be discussed at that time, especially land use issues and laws. This entire process will be clarified further by Supervisor Ortiz-Legg

Ken Thompson ask about possible funding decreases and impact to the Sheriff's Department. Supervisor Ortiz-Legg stated that that will not occur.

PDF file of the fund's disbursement is available from supervisor Don Ortiz-Legg



2021-22 Avila Valley  
Budget Brochure (12-

**8. Old Business:**

None

**9. New Business:**

A copy of the 2022 AVAC meeting dates was presented

**10. Community Liaisons:**

**A. Avila Beach Civic Association:** Mary Matakovich reports

No issues ongoing on the Avila Beach Civic Association at this time

**B. Avila Beach foundation:** Rick Cohen reports

Nothing new to report this month

**C. PG&E / Diablo Canyon:** Eric Daniels reports

Comments & Questions for Mr. Daniels:

The physical location of the heliport is on PG&E property.

Helicopters will be used for transmission line repair in the coming weeks

The power outage experienced on 12-15-2021 affecting customers was caused by a downed wire.

Decommissioning funds of \$3.9 billion have been allocated. Cost analysis is recalculated every three years.

The 2018 cost analysis has just been approved, and the 2021 cost analysis will be similar.

Funds are collected from rates and placed into a trust fund

**11. AVAC Committees:**

**A. Land Use:** Sherri Danoff reports

Cool Property, LLC: Notice of public hearing for Thursday, January 13, 2022 at the Department of Planning & Building.

Sherrri Danoff has questions for the Planning Committee as to the set back of the proposed barn, and the building envelopes for the other two proposed structures. AVAC is requesting the ability to comment on the elevations and floor plans for the other two buildings proposed. A letter has been drafted, a motion was made, seconded, and vote carried, to forward this letter of concern to the Planning Committee.

B. **Diablo Canyon:** Ken Thompson reports

Scott Jalbert, manager of SLO OES, reported that the FEMA/NRC Evaluated Emergency Exercise was held last year. Preliminary feedback at that time from the NRC was that the drill was a “success” with “no findings”. A final FEMA report is due soon.

The Emergency Drills occur every two years and involve key individuals from Federal, State, County, and local agencies plus PG&E to participate and primarily involve Diablo Canyon PP.

Mr. Jalbert, graciously offered to Mr. Thompson, to present his plans for the OES Department, possibly when our meetings can once again take place at the PG&E Education Center. A copy of the OES presentation from 12-13-2021 has been distributed via email.

The independent safety Committee holds next public meetings on February 15th and 16<sup>th</sup>. An agenda will be sent out to everyone along with a Zoom invite so members can watch the meeting via zoom.

C. **Port:** Mary Matakovich reports

No Report

D. **Avila Beach:** Mary Matakovich reports

No Report

E. **San Luis Bay Estates:** Curtis Cole reports

Litigation will take place on January 13th 9:30 AM

F. **Avila Valley:** Julia Hartzell reports

King Property. Planning resort across from Bob Jones Trail, on hold due to numerous changes. They will need to start over again with new permitting process.

G. **See Canyon:** Denise Allen reports

No report

H. **Squire Canyon:** Kirt Collins reports

A call out of praise to John Waddell and his crews for timely and efficient road clearance of debris from the most recent storms.

I. **Ad Hoc APU (Avila Plan Update):** Jim Hartig reports

Jim Hartig gave his observations and opinion for dissolving the Ad Hoc APU committee. Several members have left the committee, only scattered meeting dates have been utilized. After substantive discussions from AVAC members and Supervisor Ortiz-Legg, it was decided to table dissolving the Committee and consider later whether to continue or replace the committee to review the new RPF and EIR plans, once the new planner is installed, AVAC should be involved in the RFP where possible, and ideally, contribute AVAC comments to the upcoming revised community plan, before the draft is forwarded for public comment.

12. **Next Meeting Date:** February 14, 2022, 7:00 PM

13. **Adjourn:** 8:32 PM