

Avila Valley Advisory Council (AVAC)

San Luis Obispo, CA

PO Box 65

Avila Beach, CA 93424

Date 05/08/2023

www.avac-avila.org

1. **Call to Order:** by the chair, Steve Benedict, for regular meeting at 18:02 hrs., via Zoom. Roll call (present): Denise Allen, Mary El Hansen, Mary Matakovich, Carol Hayden, Julia Hartzell, Kirt Collins, Ken Thompson, Steve Benedict, Curtis Cole, Margaret Greenough, John Janowicz, Bob Pusanik (alt), Michael Clayton. Quorum was established.
2. **Approval of Minutes:**
 - A motion was made by Curtis Cole and seconded by Mary Matakovich to approve minutes of the April 10, 2023, AVAC meeting, as presented. The motion carried.
3. **Chair's Comments:**
 - No comments.
4. **Public Comment:**
 - **Vicki Book** wrote: Please give my regards to the CHP representative for the speed detector that was placed on San Luis St. in Avila Beach. I live on San Luis St. and people drive way too fast coming down our street. I believe the CHP machine has helped to slow traffic during the time it has been placed. I have been planning on recommending that we have a sign placed at the top of San Luis St. that indicates "you are entering a residential zone, please decrease speed and vehicle noise.
 - Written comments: **SLBE Roads Committee** wrote: Beginning **Tuesday, May 9**, please be advised there will be Fire Clearance and Weed Abatement shoulder work being performed on **Lupine Canyon Road and Firehouse Canyon Road**. Please be attentive & cautious when driving these roads for the safety of the crews that are helping to maintain SLBE's roads and overall environment.
 - **Oral comments:**
 - **Celia Zarate** commented that the speed trailer was placed to assess speeds west bound on San Luis Bay Drive, and wanted it placed on east bound side. Captain Greg Klingenberg commented on scarcity of trailer units and staffing issues. He will investigate the issue and relocate the unit.
 - **Mary Matakovich** commented that the speed trailer tends to slow people down.
 - **Bob Pusanik** wishes a vote on Zoom vs. open AVAC meetings. Issue tabled for member inquiry/survey and will be discussed next AVAC meeting.
 - **Lois Wilson** commented on the proposed number of events (#144, 12/month and 3/week) scheduled at the Avila Barn stating concerns on traffic congestion, the number of public and private events, and impact on the community. A lesser number of events would be a benefit to the Avila Community. The topic will be taken up later in the Land Use section.

Katie Sturtevant, representing the Avila Beach Golf Resort stated that no events are planned for the Memorial Day weekend. Live music at Mulligan’s Restaurant will be ongoing.

5. Treasurer’s Report: Denise Allen reports:

- Balance of Checking Account: \$ 1,043.32.
- Expenses: \$ 15.99 for Zoom.

6. County and Local Agency Reports:

A. Sheriff: Sgt. Abbas reports in absence

- 118 calls for service, 32 in Avila Beach proper. Cave Landing had 13 calls for service. CFS were down significantly from 2022.

B. Highway Patrol: Captain Greg Klingenberg reports:

- 2 collisions in April. Collisions were vehicle vs. parked vehicle. No injuries.

C. Cal Fire: Battalion Chief Paul Lee reports:

- 31 calls for service 17 were medically related.
- See Canyon vegetation fire with arrest and four citations issued.
- Last week, Cal Fire with masticator, was working Ontario Ridge and Cave Landing to maintain fuel breaks and protect important communication infrastructure.
- Burning is complete for the season. Two prescribed burns, Thousand Hills behind Pismo Beach and Lighthouse two, scheduled for late fall.
- See Canyon fuel reduction project has come and gone, with twelve days and \$120,000. Thanks to Firesafe Council for funds and hopeful for additional funds in the next month.
- Permits for Burn Season is closed, only agriculture burning where Chief Lee personally inspects those.
- Coming into weed-abatement season, so clear your property before 10:00 AM.
- Curtis Cole asks about SLBE update ABR project evacuation plans. All materials have been supplied to County Planning by Cal Fire.

D. Planning: Nicole Ellis/Susan Strachan reports in absence:

Update 1: The May 2023 Project Spreadsheet has been updated to reflect project status updates. The following projects have been updated:

AVILA COMMITTEE PROJECT UPDATES

- C-SUB2022-00005- (item 1 on the Active/In Process list)- revised Project Updates to reflect “Avila Committee comments prepared; presented before AVAC for recommendation and AVAC approved sending comments 4/10/23.”
- C-SUB2022-00006- (item 2 on the Active/In Process list)- revised Project Updates to reflect “Avila Committee comments prepared; presented before AVAC for recommendation and AVAC approved sending comments 4/10/23.”
- C-SUB2022-00001- (item 5 on the Active/In Process list)- revised Project Updates to reflect “Planning Commission hearing date scheduled for May 25, 2023.”

- SUB2020-00067 (item 8 on the Active/In Process list)- revised Project Updates to reflect “The project was heard and approved at the February 9, 2023, Planning Commission hearing. The project has cleared the appeal periods and is officially approved. ** This project-case will be removed from the "ACTIVE/IN PROCESS" project list in June and will be relocated to the "Completed" project list in June.”

AVILA VALLEY COMMITTEE PROJECT UPDATE

- N-DRC2023-00016 (NEW item 9 on the Active/In Process list)- Minor Use Permit- A request for an approximately 4,300 square foot, single story with tower, single family residence on a vacant lot. Project request includes an approximately 700 square foot guest house, a detached 2-car garage, a new driveway with entry gate leading to a privately maintained road (Bassi Dr), landscaping, approximately 16,000 sq ft hard scaping, ground mount solar panels, with use of an onsite septic system and use of community water (Bassi Ranch Mutual Water Co). The project site is located within the Residential Rural Land Use Category (RR) at 710 Bassi Dr within Bassi Ranch, San Luis Obispo APN: 076-233-018 Project Updates reflect “Submitted 4/06/23. Referrals distributed 4/26/23. Project initial review in process”

LAND USE COMMITTEE PROJECT UPDATE

- DRC2021-00015- Avila Valley Barn Temporary Event Venue Request- (item 12 on the Active/In Process list)- revised Project Updates to reflect “4/17/23 Received Environmental Health Re-Referral response letter. 4/26/23 Received Public Works Re-Referral review conditions of approval (prior information hold items from Public Works have been addressed). On 4/24/23 the agent met with the Land Use Committee to discuss the project proposal. Pending AVAC recommendations.”
- DRC2019-00235 (item 13 on the Active/In Process list)- revised Project Updates to reflect “3/3/22/23 Agent resubmitted to the County for re-review. Planning conducted re-review and prepared an information hold letter dated 4/18/23 and re-referred the project for comment(s). Land Use Committee meeting with agent for McCarthy Residence Cave Landing Road project scheduled for May 17, 2023 at 1:00 PM.”

SAN LUIS BAY ESTATES COMMITTEE PROJECT UPDATE

- N-DRC2022-00042 (NEW item 14 on the Active/In Process list)- A Conditional Use Permit and Variance request by Jane Miller to construct a residence, a caretaker home, a yoga studio, and an equestrian facility at APN: 076-180-076.” Project Updates reflect “Submitted 10.28.22. Information Hold Letter 12.27.2022 sent out Referral to AVAC and subcommittee will be initiated once the project description and plans are refined, and information hold items are substantially addressed.”

SEE CANYON COMMITTEE PROJECT UPDATE

- N-SUB2023-00008- (item 17 on the Active/In Process list)- revised Project Updates to reflect “Project is still on Info Hold as of 5/1/2023 for Planning, Public Works, and Environmental Health. Currently awaiting applicant response to first Info Hold letter.”

Comments:

Bob Pusanik and **Denise Allen** both requested a representative from the County Planning Department be present to answer questions and provide commentary on Nicole Ellis' reports. Kelly Abbas will address this with Supervisor Ortiz-Legg.

Brian LaConte had questions on McCarthy project. The committee will review next week and make suggestions to AVAC.

E. Public Works: John Waddell reports in absence:

- We are continuing to focus on storm damage recovery throughout the County. The Avila Beach Drive at US 101 roundabout project is moving forward, with bidding for the project for construction delayed slightly to later this summer.
- Our Road Crews are able to address routine maintenance issues, so if there are road hazard issues that need attention residents can call 805-781-5252, submit a comment through the form on our PW website, or email publicworks@co.slo.ca.us.

F. County Parks: Nick Franco reports:

- Farmer's Market has started back up on the plaza.
- Avila Park restrooms doors are very old and will be replaced this month. Some restrooms will be out of commission.
- Bob Jones pathway repairs start this week with tree roots, buckling and shoulder repairs.
- There will be times when the BJT will be closed. These will be posted.
- Cave Landing parking lot work begins shortly after geotechnical inspection is completed. Beginning at the end of May and lasting two months. Should be completed in summer.
- Nick Franco announces his retirement on June 2nd, replaced by Tanya Richardson, who introduced herself to AVAC members. Welcome Tanya and many thanks expressed to Nick Franco for his service.

G. Port San Luis: Mary Matakovich reports for Suzy Watkins-Harbor Director:

- Suzy up in Sacramento with Supervisor Ortiz-Legg talking about offshore wind projects.

H. County Supervisor: Kelley Abbas reports for Supervisor Dawn Ortiz-Legg, absent:

• **Waste Connections (WC):**

Does service trash with big truck on Black Walnut Road. The rest of See Canyon after Black Walnut Road is serviced with small trucks. Only willing to offer recycling services with big trucks in the highlighted areas (see map). If constituents within that area desire to start recycling, call WC at 805-543-0875. If recycling cans are full at Kelsey Winery, call the above number. Recycle bins available 24/7.

• **Introducing John Nilon:**

Selected as interim CAO. He has 30years experience with 8 as Kern County CAO. He is retired, lives in Cambria, and does not wish for a permanent position with SLO County. He is pleased to assist while the County continues its national search for a permanent replacement.

- **Community Meeting:**
Supervisor Ortiz-Legg will be holding a community meeting, June date TBD. Items on the agenda will include Planning and Building Department updates, Avila Beach Drive roundabout, Avila Beach Resort concerts, Avila Beach Community Plan, and offshore wind.
- **Happy May from Dawn and Kelley:**
Special shout outs to County staff, National Correctional Officers and employees, National Police Officers week and our County Works Department’s recognition from APWA.
- **Comments:**
Curtis Cole asks about ocean windmill fabrication facility. Feasibility study only, nothing done just feasibility study, no plans. Will AVAC be receiving a presentation at some point? Probably, but no date planned yet.
Denise Allen thanks Kelley for recycling now in See Canyon.
Ken Thompson asks for update on impact of redistricting on Avila Beach. No impact for District 3 and Supervisor Ortiz-Legg remains our supervisor.

7. Old Business:

- No Report.

8. New Business:

- No report.

9. Community Liaisons:

- **Avila Beach Civic Association: Mary Matakovich reports:**
 - Open invite to 4th of July pancake breakfast, revenues go to the facility.
- **Avila Beach Foundation: Rick Cohen reports:**
No report.
- **PG&E / Diablo Canyon: Eric Daniels reports:**
 - Report card from the NRC on industry-wide safety and performance objectives in 2022. In their end-of-cycle report the NRC established that PG&E operated the facility safely throughout 2022.
 - PG&E is planning on submitting a license renewal application for continued operations by December of 2022.
 - Discussed safety and environmental reviews that will be performed throughout that licensing process.
 - Measures are consistent with SB 846.
 - Additional opportunities for public input as the process moves along.
 - Denise Allen praises Eric Daniels about “Avila Spotlight” news article.

10. AVAC Committees:

a. Land Use:

- Committee met on April 24, 2023, and hosted by Jim Hartig.

- Need a chairperson for this committee. Interested individuals to contact Steve Benedict directly.
- Met with developer Addressing Avila Barn events/year and events up to 200 people. Concerns about ingress and egress from Avila Valley Road and Ontario Road as well as turn lanes. Safety is of concern.
- Please refer to distributed letter from the Land Use Committee.
- Comments:
Curtis Cole praised the noise and traffic consultant's report which was thorough and reassuring.
- A motion was made to accept the letter by Curtis Cole and seconded by Mary Matakovich. The motion carried.

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

- NRC is looking for PG&E to submit a relicensing application by December 2023. A Recording of the meeting mentioned by Eric Daniels earlier by going to: <http://CAL.SPAN.ORG> and go to Recent State Meetings, look for May 3rd tab titled [Video: Nuclear Regulatory Commission- May 3, 2023, 6 p.m.](#)
- Awaiting County to complete EIR draft on decommissioning. Susan will present that draft to the board on June 6, 2023. Thanks to Susan for uploading 16 revised documents PG&E documents on the Planning Department Website.

Questions:

- **Eric Daniels** asks for clarification on if Susan will present a final draft or just a status report at Board meeting June 6th. Probably a status report only due to volume of materials and consultant reports.

c. **Port: Mary Matakovich reports:**

- Clean-up continues with grant support to restore facilities.
- Participated in NRC meeting centering about Diablo on two separate courses on parallel tracts ongoing.
- Hosted Coast Guard History Event at the Yacht Club, thanking Coast Guard keeping us safe and sound.
- Gathering information on Off shore Wind. Awaiting information from Sacramento for more specifics.
- Friends of Avila Pier have funded light poles to be replaced on Avila Pier.
- Opportunities for plaque naming/contribution recognition on the Friends of Avila Pier website.
- Discontinued seasonal fire rings on beach with recommendation of Cal Fire and Port concerns. Not sure if they will be brought back and subject undergoing reviewed by ad-hoc committee.

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

- The committee dealt with Avila Barn Land use matters, already presented.

- Please attend the July 4th Pancake Breakfast which will help our building fund.
- e. **San Luis Bay Estates: Curtis Cole reports:**
- Property being developed in SLBE mentioned in the Planning spreadsheet. Glad Planning did supply in spreadsheet, but noticed by homeowners is that the notice just came out now. Submitted 10.28.2022 with a hold letter 12.27.2022.
 - Constituents concerns for Avila Bay concerning Tribune article.
- f. **Avila Valley:** Julia Hartzell reports:
- The committee continues to review the Bassi Ranch project requesting information from the Planning Department and should have a report next month.
- g. **See Canyon: Denise Allen reports:**
- Fire at Kelsey Winery with rapid response from Cal Fire.
 - Stolen packages continue in See Canyon.
 - Denise feels individual homeowner comments would be more colorful to Planning than just Land Use Committee letter alone. Some See Canyon residents have not received information in a timely manner, allowing for responses.
- Comments:**
- **Julia Hartzell** mentions that some residents do not receive notices due to the distance between residences being greater than fifty feet.
- h. **Squire Canyon: Kirt Collins and Margaret Greenough report:**
- Met with neighborhood members regarding Kirt Collins' proposed project, from which he abstained, and met with Planning, who answered many questions well. The committee had no further comments. No issues with the project.
 - The plan is to change the AG designation to rural residential. Not being used as AG land.
 - The proposal is to have two 2.5-acre parcels and one 10-acre open parcel. Parcel map was presented.
 - Motion made to accept project, drafting a letter stating as such. Motion made by Ken Thompson and seconded by Curtis Cole. Motion carried.
- i. **Ad Hoc APU (Avila Plan update): Jim Hartig absent:**
- No report.

11. Next Meeting Date:

- June 12, 2023, at 6:00 pm.

12. Adjourn:

- 7:08 PM.