

Avila Valley Advisory Council (AVAC)

San Luis Obispo, CA

PO Box 65

Avila Beach, CA 93424

Date 06/12/2023

www.avac-avila.org

1. **Call to Order:** by the chair, Steve Benedict, for regular meeting at 6:03 pm, via Zoom.
Roll call (present): Mary Matakovich, John Janowicz, Lisa Newton, Julia Hartzell, Mary El Hansen, Carol Hayden, Jim Hartig, Ken Thompson, Curtis Cole, Steve Benedict, Curtis Cole, Bob Pusanik, Denise Allen, Kirt Collins, Margaret Greenough
Quorum was established.
 2. **Approval of Minutes:**
 - Motion was made and seconded (Hartig/Thompson) to approve minutes of the May 8, 2023, AVAC meeting, as presented. Motion carried.
 3. **Chair's Comments:**
 - No comments.
 4. **Public Comment:**
 - Written comments: None
 - Oral comments:

Matt Matters: Across the creek from the Bob Jones Trail there are tires in the creek. They need to be cleared out. Supervisor suggested the Environmental Health Dept can handle this issue.

Avila Beach Drive and Ontario Road by Sycamore Hot Springs has a lot of brush growing into the bike lane. Public Works is the department responsible for the maintenance of the roads.

Celia Zarate noted that graffiti in twenty different spots was cleaned up under the bridge and rails thanks to the Public Works Department.
- Treasurer's Report: Denise Allen reports:**
- Balance of Checking Account: \$ 1,527.33 with one charge for Zoom - \$15.99.
 - Expenses: \$ 15.99 for Zoom.
- County and Local Agency Reports:**
- a. **Sheriff: Sgt. Abbas reports**
 - 137 calls for service (same as last year), 41 in Avila Beach and 6 at Cave Landing. There is a 4th of July deployment plan being developed.
 - Front Street parked vehicle purportedly running a non-profit barber shop business.

b. Highway Patrol: Captain Greg Klingenberg reports:

- One collision in May on Front Street and San Luis Street, hit-and-run.
- Unlicensed golf carts are not legal to drive on the streets. Also, golf carts are not to be parked nor driven on the Promenade; the CHP is to be contacted if this occurs.

c. Cal Fire: Battalion Chief Paul Lee reports:

- 35 calls for service 18 were medically related.
- A structural, electrical fire (¼ acre) in See Canyon was contained quickly.
- July 4th - There will be no fireworks permitted in the area. Stay safe.
- July 3rd - additional aircraft and equipment will be delivered.
- A prescribed burn, east of Pismo Beach, is completed.

d. Planning: Nicole Ellis/Susan Strachan (not present) shared written reports:

- Nicole presented the June 2023 Planning Update and Project Spreadsheet was presented. Reports are attached for reference.
- Susan is working on the draft ERA and will be providing the Quarterly Diablo Report by July 11.

e. Public Works: John Waddell reports:

- Good news! The Avila Beach Round-about is moving forward. Construction details will be released this fall.
- Drainage study of the flooded areas will present a preliminary design which is already funded. This design will be used to secure grant funding. Stakeholders will be involved in this process.
- SLOCOG and Cal Trans plan at 101 and Pismo adding another lane costing \$65M will take several years to complete.
- Storm damage recovery has opened several roads, i.e. Old Creek Road. See the New Times article for more details. The needed repairs will take the next four years to complete and will anticipate reimbursement funds up to \$20M.
- Public Works has received \$10M to deal with 250 roads and 52 damaged sites.
- Ongoing routine maintenance issues continue to be addressed. 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.
- Denise Allen complimented Public Works for their work in See Canyon

f. County Parks: Tanya Richardson reports:

- Cave Landing Project will begin June 19 and last for 6-8 weeks. During this time period, the public will have access to Pirates' Cove. However, Cave Landing will

be closed from July 3 - 5, in order to maintain a secure work site during the 4th of July holiday.

- Bob Jones pathway and parking lots are being repaired along with the root damage by the Village Market.
- Bob Jones Trail extension is underway with property owners' negotiations.
- Bob Jones trail will have posted speed limit signs.

g. Port San Luis: Suzy Watkins shared a written report:

- A sports launch dock has been installed and available for patrons. This was funded by the Department of Boating and Waterways.
- Connelly Pacific is preparing to start their second season of work on the breakwater repair. They have been waiting for better marin conditions to mobilize the equipment up from southern California. They plan to mobilize their week and begin work at the end of the week. This is being funded by the Army Corps of Engineers.

h) County Supervisor: Dawn Ortiz-Legg reported:

- Budget Hearings are occurring July 12-14 with the focus on priorities in this transition. She spoke to the State of the Work Force, the turnover and vacancy rate. The cost is significant. There is a need to meet the budget while creating service
- \$5.5M is in the contingency fund. Now with the raises next year, there will be a \$16M deficit.
- \$900M budget needs to meet its obligations.
- Nicole, the Planning Dept Lead, will be attending the AVAC meeting quarterly.
- Dawn and Jimmie Paulding are working on a draft of Consistency Rules for Advisory Councils. They are using the survey results from the Council.
- SLOCOG wants to go out with a ½ cent sales tax to create funds for building. This would create SLO County as a self-help County which would be entitled to access state funds. General public opinion is favorable.
- Dawn will not have office hours this month; but can be reached by contacting her office.

7) Old Business:

- No Report.

8) New Business:

- Kara Woodruff for Senator John Laird - "The Diablo Lands - Future Conservation/Public Access Opportunities Under SB 846." Kara presented a timeline with a comprehensive overview of the Issues involved. The issues under the CA Natural Resources and Economic Plan: Economic Impact, Management of the Spent Fuel, Management of Demolition, and the Future of Diablo Canyon. She will provide her slideshow to the Council for posting on the AVAC website. For more information: www.diablocanyonland.org.
- Review Live Meetings - Steve indicated that most of the Council members prefer Zoom; so, the Council will continue with Zoom meetings.

9) Community Liaison:

Avila Beach Civic Association: Mary Matakovich reports:

- Join the Civic Association at the 4th of July pancake breakfast, revenues go to the facility.
- Avila Beach Foundation: Rick Cohen reports:
Grants will be available shortly. Consider making an application for funding.
- PG&E / Diablo Canyon: Eric Daniels reports:
 - Tom Jones reported to temper the reactions to the Wild Cherry Canyon legal issues will not be settled this year.
 - Eric indicated that the Land Conservancy has approved the use of the Tidal Zone for Diablo Canyon until October 21, 2030. This is one step in a series of this process.

AVAC Committees:

Land Use: Jim Hartig presented:

- Letter for Council action on the McCarthy project. Motion was made and seconded (Hartig/Thompson) to accept the letter as presented. Motion carried.
- Need a chairperson for this committee. Interested individuals to contact Steve Benedict directly.

Diablo Canyon: Ken Thompson reports:

- The Independent Safety Committee is meeting June 28 and 29. The agenda will be out shortly, and Ken will forward it to the Council members.
- Decommissioning documents are posted on the website. There are 10 separate topics to be reviewed.

Port: Mary Matakovich reports:

- The Off-shore Wind Energy Meeting was held at Cal Poly and the Port was able to share information on the Port. There were three federal waters lessees who visited the Port and Morro Bay.

Avila Beach: Mary Matakovich reports:

- The committee is reviewing the Parrish Project and will bring its recommendations to the Council at the next meeting.

San Luis Bay Estates: Curtis Cole reports:

- No report

Avila Valley: Julia Hartzell reports:

- The committee continues to review Bassi Ranch project.

See Canyon: Denise Allen reports:

- No report

Squire Canyon: Kirt Collins reports:

- No report

Ad Hoc APU (Avila Plan update: Jim Hartig reports:

- No report.

Next Meeting Date:

- July 10, 2023, at 6:00 pm.

Adjourn:

- 7:30 PM.