# SOUTH COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES FOR THE JANUARY 26, 2015 MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairwoman Sandra Caughell. Dan Woodson led the Pledge of Allegiance and Secretary Elaine

Thomas called the roll. The following members were present:

Sandra Caughell

Bill Dorland

Art Herbon

Elaine Thomas

Dan Woodson

Vern Dahl. LMUSD

Patricia Duron

El-Jay Hansson

Gary Spelbring

Harry Walls

Richard Wright

Susan Cholakian

The following members were absent:

Vince McCarthy Dan Gaddis, NCSD

A quorum was declared.

**Additions or Deletions to the Agenda:** The Nichols property request for a Minor Use Permit will be discussed in this meeting.

A review of several items previously discussed at the SCAC meetings will be discussed.

**Approval of Minutes for the November 24, 2014 Meeting:** El-Jay Hansson moved, seconded by Harry Walls that the minutes be approved. Motion carried.

# **Treasurer's Report: Gary Spelbring, Treasurer** reported the following: December, 2014:

| Grant Funds | \$1,368.00 | Dump Fees | \$895.76   |
|-------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Library     | \$ 952.42  | Total     | \$3,216.18 |

January, 2015

Grant Funds \$1,318.00 Dump Fees

Library \$ 895.76 Total \$3,166.18

Art Herbon moved that the Treasurer's Report be approved and filed, seconded by Dick Wright. Motion passed.

**Correspondence: Chairwoman Sandra Caughell** said she had received a letter from Public Works in reference to the traffic light at Camino Caballo

and Willow. The letter also mentioned a traffic light at Thompson and Titan Ave. These items will be discussed later in this meeting.

Comments from the Chair: Chairwoman Sandra Caughell introduced our the member of the Board of Supervisors Lynn Compton. Mrs. Compton was welcomed to the meeting and presented a letter from the SCAC congratulating her on winning the election and inviting her to all future meetings.

# **Community Presentations:**

**Board of Supervisors Lynn Compton** thanked the SCAC for the letter and announced her assistant is Jocelyn Brennan. Supervisor Compton and Mrs. Brennen will be available two days per week in the Nipomo area. The place of meeting has not yet been decided but appointments can be made and walk-in will also be welcomed. Mrs. Brennen phone number: 781-5450. Supervisors Compton urged the SCAC and members of the community to call either herself or Mrs. Brennen.

SLO Sheriff's Officer - Sheriff Deputy Brian Mollenkopt reporting for Commander Jay Donovan. He said there has been a welcomed lull in crime in the area. The crimes being reported presently are mail thefts from rural mailboxes. It makes it very difficult for residents whose mail is stolen to make sure the bank, credit cards, and other personal information is secure. These thefts should be reported immediately

California Highway Patrol - Captain Mike Bueno the new Captain for our area has had over 20 years experience and said he is a "hometown boy" having attended Arroyo Grande High School and lived in this area all his life.

Capt. Bueno reported 10 traffic collisions so far in January. None of the collisions caused injuries and none were alcohol related.

**Nipomo Community Services District - Dan Woodson** reporting for Dan Gaddis. Everyone is invited to an open house on Wednesday, January 28, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the NCSD Building to celebrate the **50** year anniversary of the NCSD.

Lucia Mar School District - Vern Dahl introduced Tom Butler, Superintendent of Curriculum, LUMSD. Mr. Butler said the most power from the newly installed solar units is being generated at Arroyo Grande High School and Dana Elementary School. The District is very pleased with the new solar units and hopes to save a great deal of money as time goes by.

The District hosted an Advance Placement Summer Institute and over 200 teachers from California and out of state attended. California Students Assessment Performance Program also has taken place for English and Math for students 3rd - 8th grades.

Mesa Middle School has continues their Nature Trip to Yosemite each year. It has been shown to be very beneficial for the children and they look forward to it and raise the money needed.

Mr. Butler congratulated Nipomo High School for their recent win of CIF.

Mr. Butler was thanked for his presentation and thanked Vern Dahl for inviting him to our meeting.

**Nipomo Chamber of Commerce - Jeanne Taylor** reported the following: A recent study said that 22 U.S. veterans per day are committing suicide and the Chamber is requesting residents place 22 flags in their yard on Feb. 1, 2015 for the Stand Up to Veterans Suicide Program.

Relay For Life to fight cancer kickoff is January 29, 205 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Me N Ed's Pizza, 110 Mary Ave. Nipomo.

Chamber Luncheon is Feb. 26 at Blacklake Golf Resort, with speaker Hernaldo Baltodano, Attorney at Law discussing 10 Pitfalls for Employers to avoid.

Valentine's Day Gala: a fun night of Rock & Roll will take place Saturday, Feb. 14, 2015 at Pismo Bach Veterans Memorial Hall beginning at 5:00 p.m.

#### **Public Comment:**

**Mike Berry, Nipomo resident** said the truck traffic continues on Camino Caballo and plants from out of state continue to be distributed from Viva Farms. Supervisor Compton said this was going to be a topic at the Board of Supervisors meeting on January 27, 2015. The Supervisors and Harley Voss of Codes is aware of this on-going problem.

# **Consent Agenda:**

# Istar Holliday, Land Use Committee Chairwoman

- 1. DRC 2014-00052 Verizon MUP for new antenna at Mehlchau Rd and North Thompson, Nipomo APN:090-151-0017
- 2. DRC 2014-00049 Nipomo Group CUP Verizon antenna on Swap Meet sign, 263 N. Frontage Rd., Nipomo APN 091-328-024
- 3. DRC 2014 00059 MUP for modification of distane requirement for secondary dwelling, 1446 La Loma Dr. Nipomo, APN 092-447-016

The Land Use Committee examined each of these request and found them to be compatible with the property as well as the surrounding neighbors. Mrs. Holliday requested the SCAC approve these applications. Art Herbon, moved, seconded by El-Jay Hansson that these items be approved. Motion carried.

**Logan and Jessica Nichols, Nipomo residents** are requesting approval for a Conditional Use Permit for a winery on their property at 1543 Los Berros Rd., Arroyo Grande. In the past 18 years they have a tomato and cucumber farms and are proposing 2.7 acres of wine grapes, .22 acres of orchard and .85 acres of seasonal vegetables. There would be wine tasting on the property, but no party events allowed. This would be a boutique winery with approximately 2500 cases total.

The request for a Conditional Use Permit was compatible with the land and there have been no objections from the neighbors. The Land Use Committee urged approval of this permit. Harry Walls moved, seconded by Bill Dorland that this permit be approved. Motion carried.

#### **New Business:**

Mr.Kevin Drabinski, Senior Field Representative aide to California Congressman Katcho Achadjian Mr. Drabinski said the main issue he would discuss was water issues and he said, "pray for rain." The Northern Sierra snow pack is presently only 30% of normal.

The State of California is working on conservation plans for each County, however Representative Katcho believes local issues should be decided at the local level wherever possible. The State will give a 2 year window for the Counties to comply and if the conservation level is not reach after a reasonable wait-time, a penalty will be attached.

The Board of Supervisors meeting on Tues. January 27, will primarily discuss water issues for the County. Again Mr. Drabinski asked for us to "pray for rain."

**Public Works Representative Genaro Diaz** reported on the updates on the traffic light at Willow and Pomeroy. The cost of this light would be approximately \$400K and the consensus at this meeting was that the stop sign is working well and that the light was not needed. However the money allocated for this project cannot be shifted to another project. The traffic light will be installed in 2016.

There is a consideration for a traffic light at North Thompson and Titan Ave. The cost will be approximately \$470K and would be installed in 2016. The traffic in and out of Nipomo High School is heavy at certain times of day.

#### **Old Business**

**Ethnobotanica** is applying for a permit for a Medical Marijuana dispensary at 2122 Hutton Rd. in Nipomo (at the crossroads of Highway 166 and Joshua Rd. adjacent to Highway 101) DRC 2-14-00070 APN 090-301-064. Planner Airlin Singwald, who was not present, was invited to this meeting, however he can be reached at 805-781-5198.

Dick Wright pointed out that according to California Supreme Court Rules/Cities/Counties Can Ban Dispensaries: "local governments may ban medical marijuana dispensaries as they see fit." The SCAC sought denial of a marijuana permit in the past because it did not comply with proximity to school and children activities. However, the location of this facility would comply with that requirement. Dick said this would bring in traffic from Santa Barbara County since that County has chosen to deny all marijuana facilities. Other counties have banned operation of dispensaries and has designated them as "public nuisances." Dick also said crime also follows these dispensaries but that users can order marijuana from San Luis Obispo and it will be delivered to their home.

When this issue was discussed previously the community attended the SCAC meeting with the room filled and people out the door, mostly saying NO to the dispensary. Art Herbon will notify the newspapers, and try to get an announcement on the radio that the Land Use Committee meeting will be

held on Feb. 9. The issue will be discussed and the public is invited to attend and speak.

## **Art Herbon** suggested that we review:

- 1. Laettitia Housing plans with golf course and conference center.
- 2. Phillips 66 Rail Spur proposal
- 3. Hazzardous waste being truck on Willow toward highway 101
- 4. Porter Ranch with traffic on highway 166 on to highway 101

Art suggested that we aggendize these items for the February meeting.

# **Committee Reports**

Land Use Committee, Istar Holliday - nothing further

Election Committee, Susan Cholakian- update for coming election:

Those running for position on the SCAC can obtain applications on the SCAC website.

The following are up for re-election:

Area 1 Vince McCarthy
Area 2 DanWoodson
Area 3 Elaine Thomas
Area 5 Bill Dorland
Area 6 El-Jay Hansson
Agriculture Patricia Duron

Susan has placed a press release for the those wishing to run for membership on the SCAC.

Town Hall meeting - March 3
Election - March 16
Swearing In - March 23

#### **Traffic and Circulation Committee - Dan Woodson:**

Speed bumps on Sequoia Lane/Humboldt Dr. between Golden Leaf Lane and Cascade. County Public Works presented the following two alternatives for consideration.

- 1. Recommend installation of the speed bumps and forward to the BOS via South County Advisory Council
- 2. Recommend Public Works install 2 additional (one in each direction) 25MPH speed limit signs and 25 MPH pavement marking on the entrance to the Sequoia/Humboldt curve and collect speed/volume data 2-3 months after installation for comparison to the baseline speeds measured in Sept. 2014. If

speed bumps are still desired require 60% of the traffic shed to vote for approval.

Following discussion the committee voted unanimously to recommend the second alternative and have it presented to the SCAC.

Dan offered the following information:

The regions transportation for the next 20 years is almost \$2.2 billion.

**Public Transportation** 

**Bus Express Service** 

Regional & Local Bus Service \$589 million

**Intercity Passenger Rail Station** 

Service Improvements

Active Transportation \$132 million

Shared Use Paths

Bikeways, Streetscape Sidewalk Enhancements Safe Route to School

**Additional Safety Programs** 

Highway, Street and Roads \$1.36 billion

Street & Road improvements

US Highway 01

SR 46/41

Other Highway Improvements

Local Street & Road Maintenance

Maximize System Efficiency \$91 million

Ridesharing, Park & Ride Lots Traffic Operation & Safety

**Intelligent Transportation Systems** 

## PM10 - Patricia Duron, Chairwoman

The Coastal Commission hearing on the operations of the Off Highway Vehicles is Wed., Feb. 11 at 9:00 a.m. (although not first on the agenda) at The Cliffs. We will be asking supporters to write emails to the Coastal Commission citing concerns about the air quality and lack of progress. If the SCAC could write such an email, it would be very helpful. The email should be addressed to Justin Buhr who is overseeing the annual review process at: Justin.Buhr@coastal.ca.gov. Attending the meeting and saying a few words about our concern would be appreciated.

The second hearing on the MCA lawsuit is Feb. 25, 2015.

At the Nov. 12 APCS Board meeting, we heard for the first time that the compliance date set by Rule 1001 (May 31, 2015)will not be met. Instead of bringing the pollution levels down to meet the State standards designed to protect public health,, the focus now is to make sure the far more lenient FEDERAL standards are met so that the U.S.Environmental Protection Agency will not intervene. This does nothing to protect the residents and in making the effort, State Parks will try to "game the monitor" by putting up temporary project hay bales and wind fencing JUST to affect the readings at the CDF monitor site. CCCA has asked APCD to reinstate community monitors so residents will know what their actual exposure is. So far APCD says it does not have the money or staff to do that but we will continue to press. The SCAC could help by writing to the APCD's Larry Allen in support of installing those monitors.

This items will be on the agenda for the Feb. SCAC meeting and will be published in the newspaper too encourage public comment.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45. Next meeting Feb. 23, 2015