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Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 13, 2011
4:00 pm ~ 1469 East Valley Road

APPROVED MINUTES

Present: Atwill, Colin, Cook, Denson, Feinberg, Kent, Nordlund, Petersen, Short, van Duinwyk, von Wittenburg, Weider

Absent: Aptaker, Bollay, Kern, Schleck, Sinsler

I. Roll Call / Establishment of Quorum

President Nordlund called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. Public Comment for Items Not on Agenda

Phyllis Marble, MERRAG, volunteers are providing public service information at the local Farmer's Market. She invited community members to ongoing regular volunteer training on the second Thursday of every month at 10am at the San Ysidro firehouse. The Great California Shake Out will be occurring on October 20th at 10:20 a.m., encouraged participation to "Drop, Cover, and Hold."

Dana Newquist reported the "Christmas Tree" at San Ysidro Road and Highway 101. He is seeking contributions to purchase a new tree. Denson advised the intention is to make the replacement tree and surrounding area a memorial to former MFPD Chief Don Hathaway, who passed away in July.

III. Approval of Minutes ~ August 9, 2011

MSC Kent/von Wittenburg, unanimous with revisions to show Colin was in attendance and Atwill was absent.

IV. Community Reports

Discussion with Santa Barbara County Sheriff Regarding Large Events - Undersheriff Jim Petersen and Lieutenant David Brookshire

Undersheriff Jim Petersen advised the Sheriff's department's main concern is safety and understands the community's concern pertaining to the Kim Kardashian wedding. A security company hired for the event cooperated with their department. The Sheriff's department, along with CHP and Santa Barbara Police Department were under a paid service contract for the event. The matter of peace being disturbed was already considered and anticipated, admitted there were noise complaint calls received and in response the department communicated with the affected individuals.

Short stated nobody was notified about event by the county government or the Sheriff's office, questioned why the community was ignored. Petersen stated interaction between appropriate authorities was not restricted and no information was hidden. The lack of communication between agencies is an issue that will be addressed with procedures that are being developed by the County Executive Office. Questions regarding Brown's attendance at the

event were addressed. Diane Pannkuk advised this type of event had happened in the past and the Association was assured then that communication would improve, this did not happen and is concerned this type of incident will happen again. Questions how this residential community will be protected from this type of event, and wants a plan in place for future events. Nordlund questioned the last minute road closure. Petersen understands the community's concern. Advised County CEO Chandra Waller is working to improve communication and will continue to do so until they get it right. David Brookshire, County Sheriff Deputy, commented that deputies were dispatched as needed. Nordlund advised a public meeting is being planned to address future events. Petersen stressed the Sheriff's Department wants to work for the community.

Kevin Wallace, MFPD, noted the District's opposition to the proposed temporary road closures at Cold Springs Creek and Romero Creek and encouraged the Association to provide input to the County.

A proposal to create a fee for property owners in the State Responsibility Area (for fire protection) was recently defeated in Sacramento. The fee would have applied to properties above Highway 192. Area fire chiefs are continuing to work on reopening the Santa Maria air tanker base to full time status and are getting support in Washington. Wallace confirmed that he will retire in May. The District's goal is to select a new chief prior to that date for a smooth transition. The District will present the architectural plans for Fire Station 3 to the Land Use Committee in October.

David Brookshire, County Sheriff, urged the community and visitors to not leave valuables in their vehicles, especially at trail heads and encourages residents to lock the doors to their homes. Greene advised there is a rash of vandalism and destruction to the street signs in the Hedgerow district, as well as car racing being reported late in the evenings, requested increased patrols in the affected areas. Brookshire encouraged community members to call 911 if they notice suspicious activity.

Tammy Murphy, Montecito Union School, reported on upcoming events at the school, including the fall sock hop. Montecito Union School and Cold Spring Scholl rated very well in the state's standardized testing, MUS ranked first in the county.

V. President's Docket

Birnam Wood Trees – Nordlund advised that letters have been submitted by all concerned entities in regards to a request for Caltrans to provide maintenance to the eucalyptus trees along East Valley Road.

Manning Park Ranger House – Dana Newquist advised that David Myrick is considering donating his history collection to the Association. Given the limited space available in the current history room, Nordlund is looking for a location with adequate space and climate control. He has discussed the potential use of the ranger house for this purpose with Supervisor Carbajal. It could also serve as a Sheriff's substation. He will meet in the near future with Parks Department to discuss. Diane Pannkuk advised the house is in disrepair and the Association should be concerned that there is no longer a resident ranger to monitor and protect the park. Pannkuk made the recommendation that Westmont College be considered for relocation of the archive.

Replacement of Pine Tree at San Ysidro/Highway101/North Jameson – Besides the memorial for Don Hathaway, Nordlund would like the area to be considered for a wall and a welcome marker to Montecito.

Land Trust Acquisition of Hot Springs Canyon – Leslie Turnbull with The Land Trust's Campaign to Save Hot Springs Canyon stated that they still need 1.7 million dollars to complete the purchase. Considerations are being made to arrange parking for hikers and visitors to the trail. Thirty people attended a recent community forum. Kellam De Forest is concerned the issue from a preservationist

standpoint that the hot springs and the old structures on the property also need to be acknowledged. He is also concerned the trails will be blocked off when handed over to forest service. An audience member stated the historical and environmental resources have not been addressed and is concerned the forest service will not be able to properly maintain the property and protect these resources, believes there are solutions to be offered and that more town halls are needed to address issues. Nordlund recommended a he submit a letter of concern to the Association so we might host a meeting.

VI. Conference Agenda

Consider Comments to the Board of Supervisors Regarding Temporary Closures of East Mountain Drive at Cold Springs Creek and Bella Vista Drive at Romero Creek –Dace Morgan, Deputy Director with Public Works recently presented the proposal to Greene. The roads would be closed with gates when there was water present at the Arizona crossings. This is intended to minimize the County's exposure/liability resulting from bicyclists falling and being injured. The closures would be temporary until bridges can be constructed at each location, approximately five years. Public Works has explored and dismissed alternatives due to the remaining liability. They will present the proposal to the Board of Supervisors in October. At that time, if the Board elects not to approve the closures, they can substantially reduce liability by implementing other measures to improve safety. The Land Use Committee has recommended a letter opposing the closure and supporting implementation of other measures to address safety. Kent said if there are road closures and there is an emergency this will likely reduce assistance which will invoke lawsuits. Kevin Wallace said the Association's letter addresses the concern and will be proposing a letter be written by the MFPD to be approved by their board. MSC Petersen/Short, unanimous.

Additions to Nominating Committee - Cook advised the Committee has begun to meet to identify potential nominees for upcoming Board vacancies and committee service. Since the Board's action last month, several new members have been identified and require ratification by the Board. These are James Jackson, Sally Jordan, Tariq Kadri, and Dr. Barbara Matthews. MSC to add these individuals to the Nominating Committee, van Duinwyk/Cook, unanimous.

VII. Committee Reports

Land Use – Kent advised the 789 Rockbridge project was reviewed, with the committee giving overall support of the project. Revisions to a mixed-use project at 1255 Coast Village Road were presented and the committee was favorable to the project. The project will be presented to the MPC of courtesy review in October. Reported on the follow-up to the YMCA forum, in which there was a large turnout of neighbors at the Land Use meeting. Public comment and concerns were heard, particularly regarding the design of the gymnasium and adequacy of parking. Land Use recommended the YMCA take the community's concerns into consideration. van Duinwyk advised there have been neighbors who were not noticed of the project, would like to see greater outreach to the community. Kent stated noticing had been done through various outlets. Greene clarified that the LUC considered commenting YMCA since they have not yet submitted their application to the county. The committee did not reach consensus on comments so no action was taken.

The transportation subcommittee is concerned with Sheffield portion of the proposed 101 HOV project and will continue its efforts to investigate the project and recommend solutions that would be least impactive to the community. Land Use will also be watching for a proposed tear-down and rebuild of a three story home at 1301 East Mountain.

Beautification – Denson advised that this year's Citizen of the Year to be honored at Beautification Day is Dick Thielscher for his major contributions to the community.

Community Services – Cook reported the Sinaloa Lane issue is continuing. He is working with the appropriate people at the county to resolve.

History - Atwill reported on visitor and volunteer statistics for the history office. The office is looking into digitally preserving the audio cassette recordings in their archive and will be approaching the Montecito Community Foundation to use current grant funds for purpose.

Publicity and Communications – van Duinwyk advised the new website design is in progress and believes it will be effective in representing the Association and the community.

VIII. Treasurer's Report – Greene referred the Board to Sinser's report. Membership is at 935.

IX. Executive Director's Report - Greene advised the membership committee will be meeting to discuss strategies for next year. The Association will be participating in Creek Week with activities to include Coastal Cleanup Day on September 17 and a creek walk at the Ennisbrook trail on September 22.

X. New Business - Kent commended Nordlund and the Montecito Journal for their response to a letter to the editor regarding the Association's Transportation Subcommittee efforts on the 101 HOV project.

XI. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

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