

# Winchester/Homeland Municipal Advisory Council

## MEETING MINUTES

Date: June 4, 2015

Place: Winchester Community Center, 32655 Haddock Street, Winchester

### Attendees:

Winchester MAC:

Andy Domenigoni, Chairman; Dirk Meredith, Vice-Chairman; James Horecka, Secretary; Jimmy Sheldrake; Jeff Logan.

Ex Officio:

Opal Hellweg, Legislative Assistant for Third District Supervisor

Members of the Public

Call to Order: Call to Order by Andy Domenigoni at 6:42 PM, after a brief meeting of the Winchester Town Assn.

### Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve: Meredith; Second: Sheldrake. Approved, unanimous.

### Approval of May Meeting Minutes:

Motion to approve: Logan; Second: Meredith. Approved, unanimous.

### New Business.

Motion to suspend: Sheldrake; Second: Logan. Approved, unanimous.

### Old Business:

Motion to suspend: Sheldrake; Second: Logan. Approved, unanimous.

### Guests:

**Town Hall Meeting with Winchester Town Association and Winchester-Homeland Municipal Advisory Council, with Riverside County Third District Supervisor Chuck Washington.**

Other guests were in attendance, including among others:

- Supervisor Washington's Staff: Opal Hellweg, Olivia Balderrama, Claudia Maunz-McLellan, Sundae Sayles, Robin Rhodes (intern via EDA), and Brian Tisdale (Legislative Assistant for Riverside County Third District Supervisor Chuck Washington & Mayor Pro-Tem of Lake Elsinore).
- Steve Weiss, AICP, Planning Director, County of Riverside Planning Dept.
- Mojahed Salama, Deputy Director, County of Riverside Transportation Dept.
- Two from Code Enforcement
- Phil Paule from EMWD
- Linda Krupa, Mayor of Hemet and a Hemet City Councilman.

Supervisor Washington presented. Topics covered included: His biography. In Riv. Co. since 1989. Appointed to this position by Governor Brown. Supervisors each represent about 400,000 people. Third District runs from Pu'eska Mountain to Mount San Jacinto. Lived in Temecula 11 years; sat on City Council. Lived in Murrieta 15 years; sat on City Council.

Opened the floor to questions. Questions on a wide range of topics ensued. Not all noted here. Sampling:

Q: What is timeline for Hwy 79 Realignment? A: Mr. Salama will research and report back.

Q: Issues with hwy 70 realignment? A: Many. Somewhat stalled, mainly due to lack of resources (money).

Q: Why not funding for more police? A: Safety is of concern to all. Funding limited.

Q: Drought; why not put a moratorium on building? A: Doing so would immediately trigger a recession. Ag has certain priorities. Property owners have existing entitlements, some of which are decades old. There are mitigation measures in place. Various lawsuits have attempted to force infrastructure before housing growth. CW noted that growth does not bring in funding, Sales Tax does; housing causes red ink. Costs \$.

- Q: Various citizens have concerns over troubles perceived from Group Homes, used for rehab. A: Steve Weiss, Planning Director, said that County has no jurisdiction over State run Group Homes. Greg Flannery, Code Enforcement Official, may be of assistance; Mary Ortiz, Supervising Code Enforcement Officer, will help. The stated that Code Enforcement will be playing a bigger role moving forward. Check license, etc.
- Q: Various concerns that our area is not given the attention it should be: Like a step child of Riv. County.
- Q: Citizens upset about State Fire Prevention Fees on Tax Bills. A: State has say-so; not County.
- Q: What are the large excavations along Briggs Rd? A: Part of a Flood Control project.
- Q: Citizen feels that Homeland is being left out. A: Come to meetings!
- Q: Agenda 21? A: Suggested citizens attend meetings to stay abreast of what is going on.
- C: Dennis C of French Valley complimented us on this meeting; among the best he's attended. Called for slow growth. Pointed out that the last recession was not caused by growth, but packaging bad loans into securities, then selling them. Took issue with the small radius of notifications for a 105 acre project.
- C: Feliz Conaly stated that she is an advocate for disabled persons in our area (physical, mental).
- C: Jim Horecka read the Mission Statement of the Winchester-Homeland Municipal Advisory Council.
- C: Gregg Cowdery, Winchester Historian, stated that the WTA & MAC help guide our future. 4,500 flyers.
- C: Andy Domenigoni stated the website URL of the WHMAC. Told of his concerns regarding proposed tax to fund Vector Control, which he feels should be on homes, not on open land. Told of history of V.C.
- C: Various Veterans were announced and honored.
- C: Lynn Maddox (served a decade on Trails Commission) offered his help in such matters. Knows trails well.
- Q: Citizens concerned about marijuana growth and side effects on neighborhoods. A: CW noted that it is illegal to make money selling marijuana in California. Noted the challenges for law enforcement, with unclear laws. Restated that "Marijuana growing, for profit, is illegal in the State of California." Collectives and personal use are allowed.
- C: Greg Flannery of Code Enforcement told of the new County Ordinance #925, covering the cultivation of marijuana in Riverside County. The Second Reading of the 925 was recently held. See the ordinance for details, not covered in these minutes. Ordinance #925 is slated to go into effect on July 2nd, 2015. Enforcement of the new Ordinance may then proceed, in accordance with the ordinance and applicable laws.
- Q: Patricia Genheim of Homeland expressed concerns over secondhand smoke from marijuana on her property. A: Advised that such issues are likely civil matters.
- Q: How for find out about criteria for Sober Living group homes? A: Check on-line.

All present expressed thanks for Supervisor Chuck Washington's visit, as well as the time and attention of other special guests in attendance. The entire evening was very well received by all in attendance.

Next WMAC Meeting:

The next WMAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 13, 2015, 6:30 PM, at the Community Center. There will not be a MAC Meeting in July.

Adjournment: The WMAC adjourned at 8:39 PM.