

Winchester/Homeland Municipal Advisory Council

MEETING MINUTES

Date: February 11, 2016

Place: Winchester Community Center, 32655 Haddock Street, Winchester

Attendees:

Winchester MAC:

Andy Domenigoni, Chairman; Dirk Meredith, Vice-Chairman; James Horecka, Secretary;

Absent: Jeff Logan, Jimmy Sheldrake.

Ex Officio:

Not present: Opal Hellweg, Legislative Assistant for Third District Supervisor

Members of the Public

Call to Order: Call to Order by Andy Domenigoni at 6:30 PM.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve: Motion by Meredith; second by Horecka; approved, unanimous.

Approval of November Meeting Minutes:

Motion to approve: Motion by Meredith; second by Horecka; approved, unanimous.

Guest Speaker: Aspen Environmental Group: Sandra Alarcón-Lopez & Lisa Blewitt.

Sandra & Lisa discussed environmental aspects of the proposed Valley South Subtransmission Project. Aspen is the company that has prepared the EIR for this project. They brought a map, showing the proposed route(s). SCE is seeking a Permit to Construct. The line would run from the Valley Substation some 15 miles south, toward Murrieta & Temecula. The EIR is now in the 45-day review period. Monday, February 22nd, will be a meeting, open to the public, at the Residence Marriot in Murrieta. A copy of the EIR is at local libraries, or may be viewed electronically at the PUC website. Sandra & Lisa noted that it would be best for those with questions or concerns to submit them in writing, as that assures they are accounted for.

They also fielded a few general questions this evening:

Q: Will the lines be underground? A: No. (See also Minutes of previous MAC meetings on this topic.)

Q: Is Aspen a California company? A: Yes. HQ in Agoura Hills.

Q: Will portions of the ROW need to be expanded? A: Perhaps, along certain alignments.

Q: What width does the EIR cover? A: Typically 500 feet wide. Biological impact studies are even wider.

Q: Why needed? A: SCE foresees an increase in demand in the area.

Q: New easements? A: Most easements likely exist; some zones may need different. Not yet known.

Q: Wood poles or concrete poles? A: Mostly wood; a few steel.

Q: Horse Trails? A: They did not know answer.

Q: Voltages? A: Subtransmission lines: 110-115 KV.

Q: EMFs? A: See EIR; disclosed.

Q: Can others tie into this line? A: Sandra did not know that detail (they did EIR only).

Sandra reinforced that the best way to submit questions or concerns is in writing. Contact info:

www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/aspen/valleysouth/valleysouth.html

Hotline: 888-400-3930

Email: valley-south-project@aspen.com

New Business.

A. Grant funding prospects for Land Use Planning in the MAC.

Andy said that Opal has discussed this some with Supervisor Washington. Also, Juan Perez reportedly is hopeful that he may be able to find a grant for some funding in this year's budget.

B. Winchester Clean-Up Day: Slated for February 20th, 2016, 8:00 AM to Noon.

C. Other: Gregg Cowdery noted that a local citizen wishes to inquire into what laws or rules might apply to hot air balloons landing on private property. Sometimes damages happen. "Report to FAA; # on balloon."

Old Business:

- A. Update – Opal Hellweg, 3rd District Legislative Assistant:
 - Opal was no present; no update.
- B. Sheriff Dept.:
 - Lt. Fellows reported: 139 calls in January; 5 arrests. Thefts from vehicles is an ongoing issue.
 - Fellows announced the appointment of Captain Brandon Ford as the Commander of the Perris Sheriff's Station. Ford, present, gave a brief bio (a Valley local), and shared some thoughts with us.
 - Lt. Fellows advised that the number for non-emergency calls is 951-776-1099.
 - Questions:
 - Q: Dumping? A: Call Code Enforcement.
- C. EMWD Updates:
 - Kevin Pearson & Phil Paule advised us of the current situation with the drought. Cut back water use.
 - The State Water Board held a meeting February 2nd. There may be some relief in the future.
 - Winchester Pond Site Recovery: This project is moving ahead. Perhaps July.
- D. Highway 79 (realignment) update.
 - Construction has begun on a detention basin near Zeny's Swap Meet, to mitigate runoff issues.
- E. Land Use:
 - La Ventana project, GPA 1129: This has not moved forward yet.
 - GPA 921, 78 acres at Scott Road & El Centro.
 - GPA 943, 56.8 acres at Winchester Road & Stowe Road.
 - The Land Use Committee of the WTA continues to track the above projects. The WTA presented their letter regarding GPA 921 to County Planning. Reportedly, Supervisor Marion Ashley stated that the project is not in our area; the letter was put aside, and the action on the table was passed. GPA 943: Postponed until March 1st. Petitions from 426 people were presented.
- F. City of Hemet update:
 - Jeff Logan not present.
- G. City of Meniffee
 - Andy stated that he has not yet scheduled a meeting.
- H. Other Old Business:
 - Other: None.

Open Forum:

1. Gregg Cowdery noted that a Mexican restaurant is being bjkuilt in the building near Winchester Store.
2. Gregg Cowdery noted that the Bum Steer restaurant has been gutted (after having sold).
3. Jeff Peterson, Assistant to Melissa Melendez, gave a brief update on her activities at the Capitol. He noted that there is a "Coffee with the Assembly Woman" event coming up, at the Meniffee Breakfast Club.
4. Gregg noted that John Hunneman called (publicist for Jeff Stone). He announced that on March 4th, from 9:00 AM to noon, Jeff Stone will be here: "Ask him anything!"

Next WMAC Meeting:

The next WMAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 10, 2016, 6:30 PM, at the Community Center.

Adjournment: The WMAC adjourned at 8:17 PM.