

Winchester-Homeland Municipal Advisory Council

MEETING MINUTES

Date: June 13, 2019

Place: Winchester Community Center, 32655 Haddock Street, Winchester

Attendees:

Winchester MAC:

Dirk Meredith, Vice-Chairman; James Horecka, Secretary; Jeff Logan.

Absent: Andy Domenigoni, Chairman; Jimmy Sheldrake.

Ex Officio:

(None)

Members of the Public

Call to Order: Call to Order by Dirk Meredith at 6:42 PM.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve agenda: Motion by Horecka; second by Logan. Approved unanimously (3).

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Motion to approve March Meeting Minutes: Motion by Horecka; 2nd by Logan. Approved U (3).

Guest Speakers: Fire Prevention Technicians, Karen Fetcher, Shelby Bradford, and Tim Chavez from the Office of the Fire Marshal, CAL-Fire / Riverside County Fire Department.

- The speakers discussed fire safety, including:
- Weed abatement: Once a notice is made, the property owner has 30 days to comply.
- Must be abated 50' off a road right of way, 100' from a structure.
- If not cleared within 30 days, then they will clear it, and send a bill.
- If not paid in the time limit, a lien will be placed on the property.
- Inspectors go out to follow up. The local inspector will be in Winchester next week.
- The area they cover runs from Temescal to San Diego, Orange County through Aguanga. Also Hemet, San Jacinto, Temecula, and unincorporated areas.
- Fires are sometimes triggered by power lines. Karen and an SCC person will be featured in a publication regarding fire safety and power lines. Maintain 10 feet clear at poles and under lines.
- Inspections begin in August. They have been going on for many decades.
- Q: Who makes the call to shut off power to a portion of the grid? A: The Purveyor.
- Q: Is there a way to respond back to Fire that a parcel has been abated? A: No. They just check it as usual. They have their process. Even if you were to call & say you did it, they would still check. This is all a legal matter. They must show proof of notice, of receipt, etc.
- They also take complaints. Though not many come in.
- Q: With all the rain we had, is there more growth? A: Yes. Multiple clears may be necessary.
- Q: With so many parcels, how do you cover them all? A: Well-established process. Every parcel is looked at.
- Tim Chavez: Residential Inspections: A Premises Inspection can be made by Cal-Fire. The objective is the safety and survival of residents.
- Recommended clear space is 300 feet, if possible. If not, 100 feet, or to property line.
- Vegetal Management Burns to reduce fuel build-up. Clearing vegetation on ridge tops, etc.
- Q: Can I disc at a creek? A: Be very careful: Discs against rocks can spark, igniting fires. Use power tools in the morning, when conditions are cool and damp. Sparks often start fires. Futher: A blue line stream is likely a conservation area. Do your research: Could lose your house!

- Q: What about growth up at Double Butte Park? A: That is under State jurisdiction. Mountains, hills and watershed areas are under State jurisdiction.
- Q: What is looked for in premises inspections? A: Defensible space of 300', 100'.
- Also recommended: "Harden" your structure: Lollipop the trees, no firewood near the home, no junk stored near the home, special fencing near the home (non-combustible), fire resistant roofing.
- See also: NIST: "The Dragon." National Institute of Standards and Testing.

Old Business:

- A. General County update; Opal Hellweg, 3rd District Legislative Assistant:
 - Opal not present.
- B. Sheriff Department update; Deputy Andrew Showalter:
 - Crime stats: April: 217 calls; 4 arrests; May: 218 calls, 12 arrests.
 - Q: Local bad guys, gangs? A: Not much 'organized' gang activity. In general, unincorporated rural areas have less gang activity than denser urban areas and cities.
 - Q: Are there many accidents on the highway? A: That's a question for Highway Patrol.
 - Q: How to get security at a church event? A: Seek out and engage private security.
 - Captain Greg Fellows, Commander of the Perris Station, chimed in. Mentioned budget constraints. They also handle County-wide forensics.
 - Updates: Sheriffs face challenges in hiring in 2018 & 2019. They have changed their hiring process to be more 'friendly.' The goal of the Academy is to get 100 per class. The Sheriff has doubled the number hired on. They have doubled deployment, which is good. Also changed to a 12-hour shift model. They have a canine department.
 - There are also some volunteer opportunities. Nuevo, e.g., traffic blocking labor, etc.
 - Be wary of: Porch pirates. Mail theft, which is everywhere, though not rampant. Take steps to not be a victim. Identity theft.
 - There is a goal to set up a Community Action Team.
- C. EMWD Updates; Director Phil Paule:
 - A great year for rain, and snow pack in the Sierras.
 - In the past 25 days, enough water for a million persons a day has flowed out through the San Francisco Bay into the sea. That could have been captured and stored.
 - The State was still considering a water tax, but the bill died in the legislature last week.
 - EMWD has a Rate Hearing coming up: June 19th, 9:00 AM, at EMWD HQ in Perris. Their goal is to keep rates low, yet maintain excellent infrastructure.
 - EMWD's area is only about 40% built-out at present.
 - Q: Rainbow may buy water from EMWD? A: That's MWD.
 - Q: Why is water being released from Diamond Valley Lake? A: Normal. That is the emergency water supply for all of Southern California; three months' worth.
- D. Code Enforcement; Marr Christian:
 - They are planning a street cleanup on Creag Street. Going north to the bee keeper. That will jump off on June 29th. The effort was approved today. They will work from 7:00 AM to noon. Only that street. SCE is partnering; they will also help with refreshments.
 - The next official Community Cleanup is slated for October.
 - Last fiscal year, Code Enforcement hit 14 dispensaries. Two more are in process. They are also responding to cannabis cultivation.
- E. Assemblywoman Melissa Melendez' Office; Casey Deavor:
 - Casey mentioned various bills, some of which have died in process.
 - One July 12, 10:00 AM, there will be a Town Hall Meeting, here at the Winchester Community Center.
- F. Senator Stone District Director, Darrell Connerton:
 - Darrel Connerton not present.

G. Highway 79: No news.

H. Land Use update; Cindy Domenigoni, et al.:

1. Winchester Community Planning update:
 - a. Winchester-Homeland General Plan Amendment #1207 is still in process. Heading for the Notice of Preparation of the EIR.
2. Winchester Ranch Marketplace: In the Public Hearing process.
3. Stone Creek (TR 36365): Pending TPC hearings. Held up due to the Highway 79 Policy Area (47 units over the maximum allowance).
4. Domenigoni Plaza – Commercial development at Winchester Rd & Domenigoni Parkway. Citizens had expressed concerns over the very bland designs. The proponent team has brought some new designed, which seemed better received. Maynor Vojoquez represents the developer. In general, the input from citizens in attendance at the MAC were better pleased with the new efforts. Dirk Meredith made a motion to concur with the WTA & Land Use Committee opinion to support the project. Dirk Meredith motioned to send the letter of memorandum dated June 12th from the WTA, forwarding to Thrid District County Supervisor Chuck Washington. Seconded by Logan. Unanimous.
5. Intersection of Scott Road & Leon Road.
6. Menifee North Specific Plan TTM 37533 & TTM 29322. In Homeland. Many changes have been made. They have included a small park. Changes to lot sizes. There is grave concern that our WHAT and WHMAC were not aware of fresh activities on this project. A local read about it on social media, rather than the County advising us: NOT good. Even Loretta of Valley Wide Recreation and Parks was not aware of the new changes going doen.

I. City of Hemet update; Jeff Logan: No news.

J. City of Menifee update:

- Tamara Harrison, City Planner in the City of Menifee: They are in the process of revising their Development Code. They just approved a Tesla super-charging station. She noted that the Smart & Final project has been delayed.

K. Other Old Business:

- None.

Open Forum:

- Angela Little congratulated Disney on the opening of “Star Wars: Galaxy’s Edge.”
- Angela Little asked for citizens of Homeland to please consider being on the board of the WHAT.

Next WHMAC Meeting:

The next WHMAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 8, 2019 6:30 PM, at the Community Center. NO JULY MEETING

Adjournment:

The WHMAC adjourned at 8:51 PM JL/JH/Un).