

Winchester Municipal Advisory Council

MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 8, 2012

Place: Winchester Community Center, 32655 Haddock Street, Winchester

Attendees:

Winchester MAC:

Andy Domenigoni, Chairman
Dirk Meredith, Vice-Chairman
James Horecka, Secretary
Jimmy Sheldrake
(Fifth Seat still vacant)

Ex Officio:

Opal Hellweg, Legislative Assistant for Supervisor Jeff Stone

Members of the Public

Guests

Call to Order: Call to Order by Andy Domenigoni at 6:31 PM.

Flag Salute. Introductions.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve: Sheldrake. Second: Meredith. Approved: Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from February 9, 2012:

Motion to approve: Meredith. Second: Sheldrake. Approved: Unanimously.

Guests:

1. Juan Perez, Directory of Riverside County Transportation Dept: Hwy 79 Widening Project.
 - Contract awarded to SEMA Construction. Several years to complete.
 - Dennis Green, Public Relations, RCTC, brought graphic flyer, emphasized safety, communication. Web page and phone number on flyer. April 23rd meeting. Discussed blasting, etc.
 - Benji Chou, Resident Engineer, also emphasized safety and discussed process, time table, etc.
 - Parties discussed details of construction, emergency vehicles nearby during blasting, passes, creation of new jobs including local, sources of funding, access to local properties, detour routes. Current plan will build to four lane standard. Future will be six-lane expressway standard. Lights will be synchronized.
 - Juan noted that the Highway 79 Realignment Project is still in review. Attempting to get EIR out for public comment. Cannot say time frame; likely very long. Potentially a billion dollar project; phased.

New Business:

1. City of Menifee, General Plan Update:
 - The Preliminary Map was approved; 4:1 vote. Eastern limit remains at Briggs Road (Andy).
2. Other New Business:
 - None.

Old Business:

- A. Update - Opal Hellweg, 3rd District Legislative Assistant
 - Opal announced that the 3rd District has a Designated Planner: Matt Straite. All projects will be funneled through him.
 - Winchester Town Association will write a letter to Matt Straite regarding EIR 376 & SP 288.
 - Andy Domenigoni & Jimmy Sheldrake will attend Harvest Valley Community Council meeting.
 - Also Sup. Stone will write a letter regarding 'processes,' to help ensure we know what's going on.

- B. Land Use Committee Meeting - (Sheldrake)
 - Recent Planning Session with Gary Thornhill & community: Good turnout, due in part to mass mailing over broad scope; some newcomers. Mixed input. Overall a good meeting.
- C. EMWD Updates - Longfellow Recycle Water Tank
 - Cindy: Meeting with EMWD regarding signage on the recycled water tank. Suggested asking: Since the tank is in Winchester but 65% of the water is to be exported, would it be possible for EMWD to cover costs of painting the signage as “mitigation” for impacts, in a way? Perhaps Stone could write a letter in support? Window for decision coming up: June.
 - It was noted that the landscaping at the reclaimed water ponds along Simpson is not related to Tank.
- D. Highway 79 - Update on widening.
 - See above Guest.
- E. MWD Proposed Solar Farm (Andy Domenigoni)
 - Andy Domenigoni has a meeting scheduled April 26th with Ralph Hicks, head of real property, MWD.
- F. New MAC Member
 - Harvest Valley possibly considering a merge with WMAC, to mutual benefit.
 - WMAC requested Maps showing areas, limits. Opal Hellweg said she will bring a Map.
- G. Sheriff Dept: Lieutenant Charles Wilhite
 - Crime ‘steady.’
- H. Other Old Business
 - None.

Open Forum:

- Cindy D. announced that the Winchester Town Assoc will sponsor a banner to be placed recognizing the 125th anniversary of the Winchester Post Office.
- Dirk Meredith announced Monday’s Planning Session (w/ Thornhill) will be on WMAC webpage.

Next WMAC Meeting:

The next WMAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 12, 2012, 6:30 PM, at the Community Center.

Adjournment: WMAC Adjourned 7:50 PM.