

Winchester Municipal Advisory Council

MEETING MINUTES

Date: August 9, 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

Guest: Gary Thornhill of Tierra Verde Planning

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

Flag Salute (led by Cub Scout Troop 383). Introductions.

Approval of Agenda:

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

Guests:

1. Guest: Gary Thornhill of Tierra Verde Planning, regarding Winchester Land Use Study
 - GT presented the latest on the work his team has been doing on the Winchester Land Use Study.
 - GT noted that both Hemet and Menifee are planning land uses out to Highway 79 as a line.
 - Suggested that we ask LAFCO to designate Winchester as a Community of Interest; locals would have to vote on this.
 - Reviewed the Land Use Map, incl. areas that already have entitlements, bubble diagrams for others. Reviewed Circulation facets. GT fielded questions.
 - Dave Jeffers, who owns a consulting firm representing landowners in the NE part of town, presented a map that proposed spreading the BP land use further west, to optimize land use and local job opportunities. Some pushback from citizens, some liked the idea.
 - A citizen noted that GT's study doesn't include Homeland; true; that is not in the WMAC at this time.
 - Cindy Domenigoni stated: The WTA board met earlier this day. They have some comments on GT's document that they will put in writing. It should be a top priority to bring infrastructure to the area. Applicants of existing Tract Maps have been asking for increases in density, piecemeal; a growing concern over impacts of higher densities on our community. Civic Center location? Downtown? (Y)
 - Citizen queried on influence & limitations of the Airport.
 - Horecka urged GT to include a Topographic Map, noting Lite Indust currently shown on mountain.
 - Sheldrake asked for definition of the various Densities in the key.
 - Generally, all agreed that we need more time to review what GT presented.

Sheriff's Report (*item moved up in agenda as a courtesy*)

- Lieutenant Charles Wilhite introduced Lieutenant Charles Guillen, as the new Field Lieutenant for Southwest Riverside County. The two advised us of the slow but steady rise in crime.

New Business:

1. Update on Harvest Valley Community
 - The WMAC spoke with Sup. Stone at the Quarterly Meeting. There was general agreement that Harvest Valley should be added to the WMAC, in accordance with appropriate processes.

- Cindy Domenigoni delivered a letter to WMAC in support of adding Harvest Valley to the WMAC.
- 2. WMAC Quarterly Meeting with Supervisor Stone
 - WMAC supported adding Harvest Valley to WMAC; see above (general support).
 - WMAC continued to express concern over MWD Recreation at the reservoir (broken promises, etc.).
 - WMAC expressed concerns re Regent & other developers/properties: Revisions to plans, supplemental amendments and other methods. Changes without community involvement rushed?
 - Discussed what Hemet sees as its Sphere.
 - Hwy 79 realignment: Stone hasn't heard news from RCTC/CalTrans.
 - Discussed Longfellow Tank, Solar Farm, other minor items.
 - Discussed filling the vacant seat on the WMAC. This will most likely be resolved if/when Harvest Valley is folded into the WMAC.
 - WMAC expressed concern that the County is doing piecemeal revisions/amendments to developments existing & in the works; also not notifying WMAC of new developments, tracts, changes, etc.
 - WMAC advised Stone that the WTA voted to *explore* adding Homeland & Green Acres into the WMAC. At the appropriate time, Stone would have to put this forward to the County Board of Supe's. Would require support from the community at large.
- 3. Other New Business:
 - None.

Old Business:

- A. Update - Opal Hellweg, 3rd District Legislative Assistant
 - None.
- B. Land Use Committee Meeting - (Sheldrake)
 - a. None.
- C. EMWD Updates - Longfellow Recycle Water Tank
 - Pipeline project moving along.
 - Mike Rowe commented that the new "landscaping" along the recycled water ponds are an 'insult.'
- D. Highway 79 - Update on widening.
 - The project is coming along. Blasting going well. Citizens noted that speed enforcement is lacking.
- E. MWD Proposed Solar Farm (Andy Domenigoni)
 - Andy Domenigoni met with Sun Edison, who is still proposing solar on both ends of reservoir property. The options are still open for a year. Christina White, representative of Sun Edison.
- F. New MAC Member
 - Covered above.
- G. Sheriff Dept:
 - Covered above.
- H. City of Hemet update:
 - None.
- I. Other Old Business
 - None.

Open Forum:

- Gregg Cowdery reminded us of the upcoming fundraiser for Houses for Vets.
- Dirk stated that the WTA letter says that they support *exploring possibility* of adding Harvest Valley.
- Mike Rowe stated that he does *not* support adding Harvest Valley to the WMAC.
- A member of the Citizens Patrol gave brief update; tho down to one car, continue to support Sheriff.
- Mike Rowe commended the Winchester Park; others agreed, grateful of Valley Wide Parks & Rec.
- Citizens lauded the start of this evening's meeting.

Next WMAC Meeting:

The next WMAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 13, 2012, 6:30 PM, at the Community Center.

Adjournment:

WMAC adjourned 8:38 PM.