

# Winchester/Homeland Municipal Advisory Council

## MEETING MINUTES

Date: May 08, 2014

Place: Winchester Community Center, 32655 Haddock Street, Winchester

### Attendees:

#### Winchester MAC:

Dirk Meredith, Vice-Chairman

James Horecka, Secretary

Jimmy Sheldrake

Jeff Logan

Andy Domenigoni, Chairman

#### Ex Officio:

Opal Hellweg, Legislative Assistant for Supervisor Jeff Stone

Members of the Public

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

Flag Salute. Introductions.

### Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve: Horecka; Second: Sheldrake. Approved, unanimously.

### Approval of March Meeting Minutes:

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

Guest: Barbara Howison; Administrator, Riverside County Library System

1. Barbara introduced us to the Bookmobile available in certain Riverside County neighborhoods that are presently underserved by bricks & mortar library facilities. County has 35 libraries and two Bookmobiles. She described the boundaries. Does not include incorporated cities: For example, Hemet has a city library, but Val Vista and Nuevo are County libraries. She mentioned that she was recently alerted that our area has need of a Bookmobile. She described various types of bookmobiles, sizes, and licenses required to drive (Class B for the large ones, which limits their mobility due to having to arrange for such drivers. Barbara noted that the current stop listed as "Winchester" actually serves French Valley, which they were not aware of until recently (thinking our area was already served, as it was listed. So we are not presently served, but could be and should be. She suggested that our community get together and decided on a day of the week, time and location, with good parking, perhaps other nearby activities, etc. Then see Supervisor Stone, whose office would follow up.
  - Q: What is source of funding? A: County Libraries are funded by property taxes.
  - Q: Are volunteers accepted? A: Yes, and welcomed!
  - Q: Steps from here? A: Barbara will contact Opal Hellweg, now that Barbara knows we are interested.

### New Business:

1. Winchester Downtown: Feasibility Study for Rail station and Funding for the Downtown Core Plan. The WMAC Quarterly Meeting with Stone is next Thursday. We will ask the Supervisors for funding. However, receiving that may be unlikely, as this is near the end of the fiscal year. It is desired to get something put together for the County General Plan, which next gets revised January, 2016. Public Comment period will be open for 30 days.
  - Q: How much detail would be needed? A: Need to look into. Suggest focus on Land Use changes.

### Old Business:

- A. Update – Opal Hellweg, 3rd District Legislative Assistant on vacation. Rose not present.
- B. Sheriff Dept; Lt. Charles Guillen and Agriculture Deputy Santiago spoke.

- Guillen noted that burglaries and vehicle thefts are up. Mentioned the Canyon Lake home-invasion robbery. Also marijuana grove busts: 100#, \$22K cash, firearms; captured four suspects. Told of 'plywood' cultivation, greenhouses, etc. Reminded the public of the We Tip Hotline.
  - Q: What is to be done about growers & dispensaries? A: A "Recommendation Card" allows up to 99 plants per person. You get three persons on a property, that's nearly 300 plants. The County Ordinance, State and Federal are mismatched, so difficult to enforce. The Marijuana Eradication Team (MET) is awaiting 'clarity' in laws.
  - Agriculture Deputy Santiago attended training in Los Angeles, regarding metal theft. Told of some lessons.
  - Q (Andy): What about fruit theft, e.g. avocados? A: Santiago's beat is limited to Perris Station; limited fruit.
  - Q (Andy): Is there a program for equipment ID? A: Not that he knows of. Discussed painting brands on gear. Guillen stated that there is a statewide program for marking equipment with ID tags to help thwart theft and aid recovery efforts.
  - Q (Andy): Tips for legitimate recycling of metals? A: Best to have a Bill of Sale; Sheriff will still follow-up.
  - Q: Recent incident, involving a robbery, in which the suspect wielded a large knife.
  - Guillen announced certain internal changes at Perris Sta: Sgt Lamb moves to Hemet; Sgt Chris Durham replaces.
- C. MWD Updates: Guest Phil Paule spoke.
- Paule discussed the drought and water shortage. Told of the Prop 218 Notices that were mailed out, alerting customers to a meeting regarding proposed rate increases. Noted that EMWD's costs are going up ~4%. He urged that those folks who are interested in such to make their voices heard. He also described how EMWD has increased capacity and use of recycled water. Note that EMWD has also been getting hit hard with metal theft. EMWD has been helping put forward bills in Sacramento, with other districts, sponsoring legislation regarding metal theft, with higher penalties and such.
- D. Highway 79 - Update on widening.
- Traffic signals are now "on." Phase II moving ahead. Ribbon cutting slated for the end of the month. CHP is actively patrolling the new highway, as motorists are speeding, upwards of 80 MPH.
- E. MWD Proposed Solar Farm:  
Sun Edison pulled out. However, another may come forward to pursue developing solar on the west end.
- F. Land Use:
- See discussion above for overall planning, Downtown Core, etc.
  - Solar Project proposed for Grand Avenue (10 acres). The Developer is continuing to work through the process. About to close escrow on the property. There was a public meeting, which Andy & Cindy Domenigoni attended. However, no landowners attended, not even those within the Radius Map. There were no comments.
- G. Gangs in Winchester: See Sheriff, above.
- H. City of Hemet: Jeff Logan reported on various items:
- Logan attended their May 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. Logan mentioned various projects.
  - Among them, the Ramona Specific Plan: Proponent requesting increases from 2.1-5 to 5.1-8 DUA.
  - He showed a flyer regarding Hwy 74 improvements, including a median, etc. (in our area).
  - Logan stated that he will acquire a Hemet General Plan Map.
  - Andy Domenigoni gave Logan a CD with general info about the City of Menifee.
- I. Citizens Patrol: Bob Gibbons was not present.
- J. Marijuana Dispensaries in Winchester: See Sheriff, above.
- K. Other Old Business: None.

Open Forum:

1. No topics from the public.

Next WMAC Meeting:

The next WMAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 12th, 2014, 6:30 PM, at the Community Center.

Adjournment: The WMAC adjourned 7:53 PM.