

# BIG PARK REGIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL, INC.

## REGULAR MEETING - JUNE 2009

Thursday, 11 June 2009 9:00 AM Sedona Fire Station #3 - 125 Slide Rock Road, Sedona, AZ 86351

(Note - previous **MINUTES** and **EXHIBITS** may be viewed at [www.BigParkCouncil.org](http://www.BigParkCouncil.org))

Call to order - Pledge of Allegiance

1. **Determine Quorum by Roll Call** - **23 out of 27 Members were present. The 4 absent Members** are: ~~Canyon Mesa~~, Cathedral Rock Ranch, Firecliff, Oak Creek Country Club Estates III, and Pinon Woods I.
2. **Agenda changes** - The Executive Board had its monthly meeting at the Forest Service Ranger Station Administrative Offices, Conference Room, on Monday, 8 June 2009 at 10:00 AM. The revised agenda, subsequently emailed to Council Members, reflects actions taken by the Executive Board.
3. **President's report** - Dorothy O'Brien – advised that at approximately 10:00 AM item # 9 of the Agenda will be taken up, consisting of a panel discussion on the pros and cons of the proposed National Scenic Designation. Upon completion of this item, the meeting will resume its regular Agenda.

**Dorothy announced that we have a provisional date for Senator Steve Pierce to speak at the Council's July meeting and provide a legislative update – please be sure to attend.**

4. **New Members/Member Changes** – none this month
5. **Secretary's Report** - Henry Reiter – several comments were received on the May draft minutes and displayed in highlighted form on the screen for the Council's consideration. On motion made and seconded, the draft **May** minutes as amended were unanimously approved by voice vote with no objections.
6. **Treasurer's Report** - Dave Norton made his report and reviewed insurance policy liability limits - see website [www.BigParkCouncil.org](http://www.BigParkCouncil.org)
7. **Corresponding Secretary's report** - Fran McWherter reported receiving 3 letters and numerous emails on the use of weed control chemicals for State Route 179. Pursuant to directions from the Executive Board, Fran responds to these communications by directing inquiries and comments to appropriate regulatory agencies.
8. **Committee Reports** -
  - (a) **Website** - Jane Petty/Dave Norton – no report this month.
  - (b) **Recreation Committee** - Don Beard – Summer of Fun update – the Recreation Committee was informed that due to construction at Big Park Community School we would be unable to use the school for our summer program, five days before we were to open. We were able to obtain the use of VOCA and Kiwanis Park. Thanks VOCA for allowing us the use of these facilities. The program started slow the first week due to the uncertainty caused by the change in location. Also, we were competing with a Bible School at a local church. Attendance is picking up and we are well on our way to a successful program.
  - (c) **P&Z Committee** - Mark Mumaw –
    - (1) **Guest Home Rental Use Amendment (HA H9038)** – Mark presented points on why the Committee recommended against support for this proposed ordinance amendment. While the Council is aware that the current Ordinance on this issue is difficult to enforce, that difficulty is outweighed by the importance of the current restriction without which the Ordinance would effectively allow multi-family dwellings in single-family zoned neighborhoods that could negatively change the character of those neighborhoods. **On motion made and seconded, the Council voted unanimously to oppose the amendment of the Yavapai County Zoning Ordinance by HA H9038 by voice vote with no objection.**

- (2) **Open Space & Sustainable Planning Ordinances (Sections 441 and 442)** – the Committee presented several points it considered on each of these two ordinances, recommending support for both. **A motion was made and seconded to support the proposed ordinances, including a recommendation that there be deed restrictions to maintain open space – that motion passed unanimously by voice vote without objection.**
- (3) **Red Rock Suite Special Use Permit** – Mark outlined the elements of this special use permit application, which consists of converting an existing 4-unit apartment complex on Canyon Circle to a lodging use. The 4-unit apartment complex, which has had a reported history of short-term rentals in violation of the County Zoning Ordinance, is owned by the same owners of the existing Graham Inn bed and breakfast and the Adobe Village suites – and who propose to operate all three properties as a lodging use. Mark noted though the proposed use would be that of a commercial C-1 zoning district, no zoning change is being proposed. Based on certain findings, including adjacent uses including multi-family dwellings and lodging uses to the east and south, and single-family residential to the west, the Committee recommended supporting the Special Use Permit application to operate the facility consistent with the Letter of Intent dated 20 May 2009. **On motion made and seconded, the Council unanimously voted to support the application as recommended by the P&Z Committee on a voice vote with no objection.**
- (4) **Adobe Hacienda Bed & Breakfast** – This 5-unit Bed and Breakfast Inn is considering plans to add a 6<sup>th</sup> unit. The first citizen's participation meeting is scheduled later today at the facility on Rojo Drive off State Route 179, with the community invited from Noon to 3:00 PM. The P&Z Committee is considering this item and may have a recommendation at the July meeting of the Council.
- (5) **1,000' Citizen Participation Notification Radius** – The Committee recommended the adoption of an amendment to the County Ordinance requiring a 1,000-foot Citizen Participation notification radius to replace the current 300-foot notification radius. **On motion made and seconded, the Council unanimously supported the proposed amendment by a voice vote with no objection.**
- (6) **Landscape Lighting Shielding/Dark Sky requirements** – There may be a proposal pending before the County P&Z Commission to change the Dark Sky provisions of the Zoning Ordinance pertaining to landscape lighting. This matter may be taken up at a public hearing scheduled on 17 June 2009. There was a general sense that there is lack of specific information on proposed changes on light shielding. **On motion made and seconded, Bob Carabell was designated to represent the Council at the hearing, and, in the event of possible action, he was authorized to advise the Commission that the Council recommends against any change in that would reduce landscape light shielding and that the matter be referred back to staff for further review and comment from the public.**
- (d) **Transportation Committee** – John Gillam reported on ADOT/County's response on State Route 179 signage requests, especially in the Village roundabouts. After some discussion, including ADOT's roundabout street identification signage on State Route 89A between Cottonwood and Clarkdale, the Council asked the Transportation Committee to research and report on why such signage is not being used on the Village roundabouts.
- (e) **Community Plan Review Committee** – Mel Copen advised of joint meeting on 8 June 2009 of the Council's Executive Board, the Plan Review Committee and the P&Z Committee to review the County's Community Plan Review Policy and Procedures draft. Proposed edits were unanimously adopted at that joint meeting and presented to the Council. **On motion made and seconded, the Council unanimously supported the proposed edits by a voice vote with no objection.**
- (e) **Vision and Enhancement Committee** - Mel presented a plan for Council reps to take to their organizations, calling it an experiment. (There was a handout). The results will be nonbinding and will give the committee some feedback. Council members are asked to report back to the Council at the August meeting: "Jump ahead to the year 2020. Your community has been asked to provide an article for The Villager on the three most significant changes that have taken place in the last 10 years. What would you like that article to say?" The Council agreed to try Mel's experiment.

9. **Visitor Presentations** - Panel on National Scenic Area (NSA) designation - Pro and Con points, plus the Forest Service. The three presentations are scheduled for 10 minutes each, plus 5 minutes for redirect – a total of 45 minutes of panel time after which 10 minutes is allocated to answer questions. Panel members were **FOR DESIGNATION**: Bob Carabell and Steve DeVol, **AGAINST DESIGNATION**: Ron Volkman, **FOREST SERVICE**: Heather Provencio, Red Rock District Ranger. A copy of the proposed NSA legislation and a “Planning Area Overview Coconino National Forest Plan for the Sedona Area Amendment 12” map by the City of Sedona dated 10 May 2003 were available at the meeting.

**FOR NSA DESIGNATION**: Steve DeVol’s presentation included the following points: the proposed NSA legislation was drafted by Senator McCain’s staff with input from the Sedona Red-Rock National Scenic Area task force and Keep Sedona Beautiful, Inc.; the designation would not effect private lands; it would prohibit land trades while maintaining Forest Service management; is good for tourism and business; grants authority for local application to the Secretary of Agriculture for changes; Amendment 12 is an administrative tool that can be changed administratively; there are 7 other NSA areas – the Red Rock NSA would be the 8<sup>th</sup> and largest such designated area; since Amendment 12 works, why not make it permanent – the Red Rock NSA would be identical to the Amendment 12 area; Land swaps are provided for within the Amendment 12 area and the NSA designation wouldn’t change that except such land swaps with areas outside the NSA designated area would no longer **be** permitted.

**AGAINST NSA DESIGNATION**: Ron Volkman’s presentation included the following points: the NSA designation is not needed – Amendment 12 already stops land exchanges; the intent of NSA designations are to protect areas that are in danger – which is not the case of the 160,000 acres of the Amendment 12 area; the previous Forest Service Ranger, Ken Andersen, didn’t support the NSA’s additional legislation; the additional legislative elements in the NSA may hamper future management flexibility for public purpose projects such as schools or an airport; once NSA legislation is proposed, there is no guarantee that what comes out of Congress resembles what the community wants – no one can control the outcome of the congressional process; NSA’s are new legal entities with potential stumbling blocks for future “handling of local problems”.

**FOREST SERVICE**: Heather Provencio’s presentation included the following points: the Forest Service is neutral on the NSA designation issue – the FS wants a “community driven process”; agrees that the protection of an NSA designation is similar to the existing Amendment 12 legislation, with some differences – e.g. land exchanges in an NSA are not permitted with property outside the NSA, and the NSA has some Forest Service management constraints; an NSA designation will probably not secure additional funding; and under the NSA the Forest Service management will be locked into existing Amendment 12 legislation.

**On motion made and seconded the Council voted 22 to 1 to support the proposed National Scenic Designation.**

10. **Other reports** – (BPRCC seeks to have attendees at meetings of the following organizations – in the interest of shortening meetings, these reports will be made on a rotating schedule of 2-3 per month)
- (a) ADOT Executive Team (Gillam/Berkshire) – the team meets twice a year; next meeting is in September
  - (b) Yavapai County Regional Planners Workshop (Mumaw)
  - (c) **Verde Valley Master Regional Trails Plan** – Keran O’Brien reported on the committee meeting of April 23, 2009. A map of the trails covered by this plan was displayed on the screen and will be posted on the BPRCC website.
  - (d) Verde Valley Regional Transportation - John Gillam
  - (e) Red Rock Road Enhancement Maintenance District – (need representative)
  - (f) Sedona Fire District – Bert Berkshire
  - (g) Sedona-Oak Creek School District – Jan Montgomery
  - (h) Yavapai County Schools – (need representative)
  - (i) **Big Park Domestic Wastewater Improvement District** – Mark Mumaw reported on public meetings regarding district budgets and proposed rate increases.
  - (j) **Village Library Center** – in Carolyn Fisher’s absence, Dorothy O’Brien reported that the recent book sale made \$3,500, 50% more than last year. Dorothy suggested another sale might be held in the fall.
  - (k) **Sedona Village Business Association** – Judy Hill, as the new **Representative** of the Sedona Village Business Association, reported that the association raised money for Camp Soaring Eagle. There is

substantial new interest in the association and improved participation; and finally, the association is reviewing its Bylaws.

(l) Chamber of Commerce Community Issues Committee – Dave Norton

(m) **Verde Valley Intergovernmental Meetings** – Dorothy O'Brien reported that she attends the meetings. At the last meeting Chip Davis, our District 3 Supervisor, gave a presentation on the effective way the County is handling the current economic situation. The possibility of a new Verde County did not come up.

(n) All-American Road Committee – Bob Carabell

**11. Old business** - none this month

**12. New business** – Mark Mumaw, chair of the P&Z Committee, reported there was an upcoming Public Hearing on a proposed Ridge Trail Drive ¾-acre right-of-way land exchange - the Council was not notified of this proposal so he will attend the meeting and seek answers to several concerns, including who will maintain the parcel to be carved out of the right-of-way, and will that parcel be subject to the existing adjacent Planned Area Development restrictions. Mark will report back to the Council once he learns of the specific provisions of the proposed land exchange.

**13. Announcements:**

(a) **Agenda items** - Agenda items should be submitted to Dave Norton the Friday of the week before the Council meeting. He will send a reminder to Council members the Monday prior to the Friday deadline.

(c) **June 5<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> – Native American Festival** - see flyer still going on - please support it, especially the Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> the event at the Hilton.

(e) **June 25<sup>th</sup> – Magical Journeys - Hilton Caribbean Pool Party** – a flyer was distributed and the information is on the BPRCC calendar. Cost is \$54.95 per person including tax, but not a gratuity. **Several Magical Journey events have sold out and had waiting lists** – so make reservations early.

(f) **July 4<sup>th</sup> – All-American Road Committee Celebration** - in addition to the known festivities, Dana DeLuz will be offering a dance class for children - there will be a comprehensive article for the July 1<sup>st</sup> Villager featuring all activities, and a timeline – all are invited.

(g) **September 19<sup>th</sup> – Celtic Harvest Festival** – a flyer was distributed “sing, dance, shop, eat, drink, and be merry”- volunteers are needed – for more information see [www.CelticHarvestFestival.com](http://www.CelticHarvestFestival.com).

(h) **Date Pending - Town Hall Meeting** – Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick - Edgar Lozoya has offered the Hilton for a meeting with Congresswoman Kirkpatrick. We just need to have a date from her.

**14. Adjournment:** the meeting adjourned a few minutes after 12:00 Noon