

BIG PARK REGIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL, INC.
REGULAR MEETING - October 2009

Thursday, 8 October 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)

Call to order - Pledge of Allegiance – **Gary Johnson**, Sedona Fire District

1. **Determine Quorum by Roll Call** – **21 out of 27 Members are present. The 6 absent Members are: Canyon Mesa, La Barranta I, Oak Creek Country Club Estates III, Oak Creek Estados, Pinon Woods II East, and Ridge at Sedona.**
2. **Agenda changes/Executive Board Meeting** – The Executive Board met this month at the Red Rock Ranger Station, 8375 SR 179 – October 5th at 8:30 A.M. The revised agenda, subsequently emailed to Council Members, reflects actions taken by the Executive Board.
3. **President's Report** - Dorothy O'Brien
 - (a) **Sedona City Council** – on 7 Oct 09 the Council voted to endorse Amendment 12, but took no action on endorsing the Natural Scenic Area designation previously supported by the BPRCC.
 - (b) **Verde River Basin Partnership** – President O'Brien reported that Tom O'Halleran had joined the ongoing effort for funding a study.
 - (c) **Celtic Harvest Festival** – with the permission of the Members, a short video was played of the first annual Celtic Harvest Festival that took place on September 19th.
4. **New Members/Member Changes** – none this month
5. **Secretary's Report** - Henry Reiter reported receiving Dave Norton's comments on 5 grammatical corrections. The changes were highlighted in red and **on motion made and seconded, the September draft minutes were unanimously adopted with those changes by voice vote with no objections.**
6. **Treasurer's Report** - Dave Norton reported that no bank statement has been received to date and when one is received he will distribute his report as of the end of September. That report will be presented to the Council along with the end of October report.
7. **Corresponding Secretary's report** - Fran McWherter – no report this month
8. **Committee Reports**
 - (a) **Website** - Jane Petty/Dave Norton – please see the Council's website at www.BigParkCouncil.org
 - (b) **Recreation Committee** - Don Beard – no report this month
 - (c) **P&Z Committee** - Mark Mumaw
 - (1) **Park Model** – The County has proposed an amendment to the zoning ordinance to provide for “Park Models”. Park Models are small mobile homes that range from 320 to 400 square feet. The State currently classifies them as “RV/Travel Trailer”. Like true RV and Travel Trailers they were NOT permitted as a permanent residence. The proposed County amendment would treat them as any other mobile home. The only area that permits mobile homes in the Big Park Planning District is Pine Creek south of Jack's Canyon. The P & Z Committee recommends “No Comment”. On motion made and seconded, the following resolution was adopted by voice vote without objection: **RESOLVED, that the Big Park Regional Coordinating Council has no comment on the Park Model Zoning Ordinance Amendment to the Yavapai County Zoning HA #H9089 and Administrative Code Ordinances (Zoning Sections 301, 412 & 565; Admin Code Section 102.7).**
 - (2) **Dark Skies** – The County has proposed the attached corrections to the Dark Sky Ordinance. Our local Dark Sky expert, Bob Carabell, has met with County which resulted in the attached language. The P & Z Committee recommends support for the amendment. On motion made and seconded, by voice vote with no objections, the Council adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the **Big Park Regional Coordinating Council** supports adoption of the proposed amendments to the **Dark Sky Zoning Ordinance** to the **Yavapai County Zoning Ordinance (Section 603C.3.f)** with the following changes:

The following fixtures are exempt from shielding and lumen requirements unless

- **Street lighting (excluding mercury vapor lights) provided they are fully shielded**
- **Low wattage (four watts or less) decorative lighting for recognized holidays**
- **Permanent low wattage (four watts or less) landscape lighting provided they are fully shielded**
- **Motion sensor security lighting as defined provided fixture is shielded, designed and adjusted in such a fashion to prevent spill onto adjacent parcels**
- **Flag lighting provided they are down-lighted**

(d) **Transportation Committee** – John Gillam

(1) **Roundabout Signage** – John advised that the project is now deemed “closed” by ADOT and the village roundabouts have the “minimum” signage pursuant to the Needs Based Implementation protocols for single lane roundabouts – ADOT points out that the 89A roundabouts are all 2-lane. But, ADOT is offering their new 8’x12’ white lettering on green roundabout signs, if that they would be acceptable by the community. After some discussion, Council members thought the 8’x12’ signs were too large and out of scale for that portion of Scenic State Route 179 within the village – the Committee was requested to continue working with ADOT for more appropriately sized roundabout signage.

(2) **I-17 Interchange** – Dave Gill has been spearheading the Council’s participation in ADOT’s I-17 improvement project which extends from the Sedona Exit 298 all the way to the northern terminus of I-17 in Flagstaff, at Interstate 40. He made a PowerPoint presentation outlining the project, including the 4 phases that ADOT will follow to implement the project, which may not be funded for at least 5 years. In addition, Dave presented some examples of iconic bridge/overpass designs to stimulate consideration of possible improvements for Exit 298. ADOT’s four phases for the project are:

Phase One – Design Concept Report has been completed by Stanley Consultants – that report will be available for public comment early next year. This is the project phase in which stakeholders have the greatest input. Dave advised that the design scope of work for Exit 298 includes a completely reconstructed interchange providing for a new bridge overpass, extended ramps, and new lighting.

Phase Two – Environmental Studies will commence once the Design Concept Phase is completed. This process typically takes about 2 years.

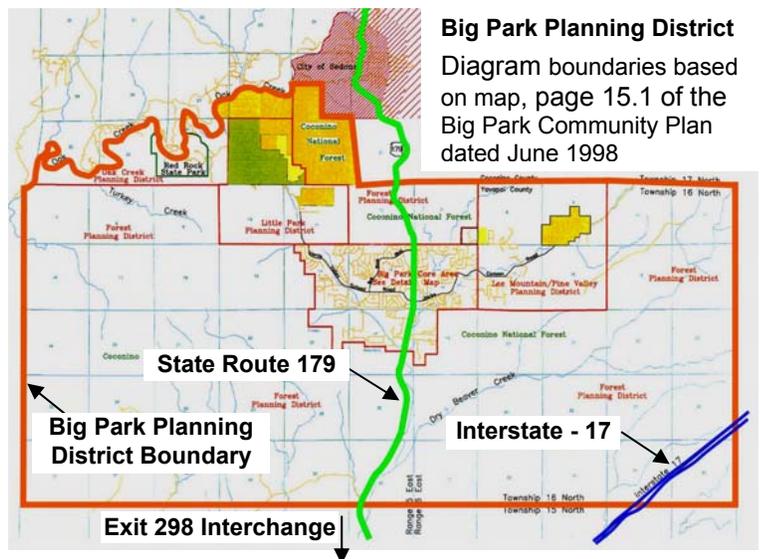
Phase Three - Design and Construction Documents are done after all environmental work is complete – this phase typically takes about a year.

Phase Four – Bidding and Construction – typically a 2-year effort for this type of project.

Council discussion that followed the presentation focused on several issues. One of these was the Council’s stakeholder position and whether parts of I-17 were inside the Big Park Planning District, especially the Exit 298 interchange with SR 179.

After the Council meeting, Henry Reiter met with County Planning Commissioner Joan McClellan to verify the BPPD boundaries.

The graphic to the right reflects the District’s correct boundaries – clearly, even though part of I-17 is within the District, **the Exit 298 interchange is not within the District.**



Big Park Planning District
Diagram boundaries based on map, page 15.1 of the Big Park Community Plan dated June 1998

Other project issues discussed included: (a) questions of funding if something other than “ADOT standard” has to be paid for, and (b) formation of a stakeholder committee including representatives from the Council, the All-American Road Committee, the Sedona Village Business Association, Keep Sedona Beautiful, the Forest Service, the Sedona Chamber of Commerce, the Sedona Village Lodging Association, and the City of Sedona.

(e) **Community Plan Review Committee** – Tom Graham

- (1) **Update, Executive Board Action, Resolution and Possible Action** – the County has issued and approved new policy and process guidelines for the development and update of all community plans. The Board of Supervisors is attempting to answer a number of questions about those guidelines before authorizing initiation of any new plans. The Committee is hopeful that these issues will be resolved shortly and that its request to move forward will be approved.

The new guidelines require the establishment of a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) suggested by the community and confirmed by a County-appointed Plan Advisory Committee (PAC). The PAC will work with the CAC in the implementation of the planning process. The CAC should be representative of all major constituencies in the community and will also have Development Services staff included. Additionally, the particular topics to be addressed in the plan document are somewhat different from those enumerated in the past.

On motion made and seconded, the Council voted 21-0 with no objections to adopt the following resolution: RESOLVED, that the Big Park Regional Coordinating Council (BPRCC) reaffirm its desire to move forward with an update of the 1998 Big Park Community Plan and that it designate the Big Park Community Plan Review Committee (BPCPRC) as its CAC members; and FURTHER RESOLVED, that the BPCPRC review: (a) its membership to continue to assure that it is consistent with the requirement for broad community representation; and (b) its scope of work to assure alignment with the specific tasks outlined in the new guidelines.

(f) **Vision and Enhancement Committee** – Mel Copen

- (1) **Update** – the committee is working to bring in representatives of the League of Women Voters to assist in the public participation process.

(g) **Bylaws Review Committee** – Mark Mumaw – no report

9. **Visitor Presentation** – Heather Provencio, District Ranger

- (a) **Coconino National Forest Red Rock Ranger District** – Heather provided a brief update on Ranger District activities, which included the following:
- (1) Forest Services Roads – all roads are classified as “closed” unless posted as “open”.
 - (2) Forest Plan Revision – work is proceeding with 1982 rule for environmental review process – work is about 3 years away from a decision.
 - (3) Cabin Rental Program – will be on website soon
 - (4) Visitor Contact Office – planning work on exhibits is continuing

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) – warranty issue is still being negotiated; speed limit through Forest Service is being studied for possibly revision; construction work on the City of Sedona section of State Route 179 is projected to be completed in the February/March 2010 period.
- (b) Yavapai County Regional Planners Workshop (Mumaw)
- (c) Verde Valley Master Regional Trails Plan – Keran O’Brien
- (d) **Verde Valley Regional Transportation** - John Gillam – Page Springs Road has been designated a Yavapai County Scenic road.
- (e) **Red Rock Road Enhancement Maintenance District** – Mark Mumaw – County consultant Bev Staddon reported that there has been only one call regarding the new tax that appeared on this falls tax bills – and that was more for information and not negative.

- (f) **Sedona Fire District** – Bert Berkshire – the Board voted 2-2 on the Chapel station design, so it won't proceed as originally configured. The new Fire Chief supports a Chapel Station, and Bert advised that he supports a smaller, less costly facility. Officer Johnson advised of Fire Protection Week – please call the Fire District if you have any questions regarding smoke detectors; they typically need servicing once a year and the District would be happy to come and check your detectors upon request at no charge. Make sure your house number is visible.
- (g) Sedona-Oak Creek School District – Jan Montgomery
- (h) Yavapai County Schools – (need representative)
- (i) **Big Park Domestic Wastewater Improvement District** – Paul Jones advises that he will have a report next month
- (j) Sedona Public Library - Village Library Center – Carolyn Fisher
- (k) **Sedona Village Business Association** – Judy Hill reported that the Full Moon Walk on 3 October was very successful and made special note of appreciation for the assistance of firefighters – volunteers are needed for the next Walk.
- (l) Chamber of Commerce Community Issues Committee – Dave Norton
- m) Verde Valley Intergovernmental Meetings – Dorothy O'Brien

11. Old business - none this month

12. New business

- (a) Nominating Committee Appointments – President O'Brien recommended Don Beard (Chair), Judy Hill, and Jane Petty as this year's Nominating Committee.

On motion made and seconded, the Council approved the Nominating Committee members by voice vote without objection.

13. Announcements:

- (a) **October 17th – Memory Walk** – Judy Hill advised that the walk will begin at Tequa – registration begins at 8:00 AM with festivities at 8:45 AM and the walk starts at 9:00 AM. The walk will feature live entertainment, free food and give away prizes. Dogs are welcome to join the walk by registering at a special sign-in table. Go to www.VerdeValleyMemoryWalk.org for more information.

You can form a team or call Dave Norton or Carolyn Fisher to join existing teams.

- (b) **November 12th – Library Report** – be sure to attend the Council's November meeting for a special report from Ann Mieggs and Carolyn Fisher.
- (c) **November 27th – 28th – Hilton Art Show at the Canyon Ballroom** – 35 local artists work will be on exhibit.

Admission is free and there will be refreshments as well as a silent auction. Reception will be from 5-8 PM on Saturday, November 28th.

For more information go to the event's website at www.HiltonSedona.com/HSR_landing/.



14. Adjournment: the meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM