

**BIG PARK REGIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2010 MEETING**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2010

Tequa Ballroom, Sedona Hilton Resort and Spa, Sedona AZ 86351

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Mel Copen.

**Pledge:** President Copen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. **Roll Call:** There were 15 representatives present out of 26, constituting a quorum. Absent were representatives from Canyon Mesa, Firecliff, Highland Estates, La Barranca I, Pine Valley, Pinon Woods I, Pinon Woods II East, Ridge at Sedona, Sedona Village Business Association, Sedona Village Lodging Association, Wild Horse Mesa. Correction: The Alternate from Oak Creek CC Estates I was present.
2. **Agenda changes from Executive Board meeting - Mel Copen:** This agenda was created by the Executive Board at their meeting on February 8, 2010, 9:30 am, at the Red Rock Ranger Station, 8375 SR 179, Sedona AZ 86351.
3. **President's Report:**
  - (a) **Introductions: Mel Copen**
  - (b) **Welcome: Mel Copen**
  - (c) **President Copen introduced Jay Markle** who, with the approval of the Council Executive Board has been appointed to **chair the Parks and Recreation Committee**. Chair Markle has impressive qualifications for this job. He will introduce the members of his committee at the March Council Meeting. People who have been serving on this committee are urged to continue, and any new people interested in serving should contact Chair Markle or President Copen. Again, President Copen thanked outgoing Chair Don Beard for his excellent service on this committee.
  - (d) **President Copen introduced Henry Reiter** who, with the approval of the Executive Board, will serve as the new **Membership Task Force Chair**. The reason this is a task force is that it will hopefully be short-lived. President Copen and Past President O'Brien will work with the task force. The idea is to make an approach to communities who are not represented on the Council and get them involved. Expanding the membership will make the Council even more representative of the community. The members of the task force will be introduced at the March Council meeting.
  - (e) **President Copen introduced Hal Berman** who, with the approval of the Executive Board, will serve as the **Chair of the Communications Committee**. He too has impressive qualifications for this committee. The membership of this committee will be announced at the March Council meeting. The idea is to find ways to reach out to the community and establish two-way dialogue so that the Council is truly representative of the community. Anyone who has interest in serving on this committee should contact President Copen or Chair Berman.
  - (f) **Signage:** This has been an issue of concern for many years, particularly with regard to violations of ADOT and County rules. Even though some of these rules conflict with the economic interests of the community, they are the rules we must live by. Although the violations may temporarily benefit business associations, in the long run they can be harmful in terms of applications for special use permits, because those violations will be taken into consideration. It's been suggested that the Council take a role in enforcing those rules. The County takes action only in case of a complaint. President Copen, as a new president doesn't believe this is a proper role for the Council. He would rather work with the whole community to find acceptable solutions. Any citizen can file a formal complaint with the Yavapai County Development Office, phone number 639-8100 or 639-8151 direct and ask for the Land Use Complaint Line where a complaint can be anonymous.

- g) **Workshop on Council's Future:** President Copen thanked everyone who participated in the small group meetings. An overwhelming theme was that the Council meetings should be shorter and of greater value to members. President Copen will distribute the results of those meetings which were the basis for the questions that will be presented at the workshop following this meeting.
4. **New Members/Member Changes:** Secretary McWherter read a letter from Kathie Canning, President of the La BARRANCA Homeowners Association, cancelling the membership of the La BARRANCA II community in the Big Park Regional Coordinating Council. Representative Neil Pope reportedly did not agree with this action.
5. **Secretary's Report:** Secretary McWherter reported that after the revised minutes of the January 2010 meeting were distributed she had received no corrections. **Moved, seconded and passed,** the revised minutes are approved.
6. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Mumaw's report is already posted on the Council website. The report is filed for audit.
7. **Corresponding Secretary Report** - Tom Graham - no report.
8. **Committee Reports:**
- (a) **Transportation Committee - John Gillam:** Committee members will be introduced in March. The committee will have a meeting on February 22, Sedona Winds, 8:30. Everybody welcome.
- (b) **P&Z Committee - Mark Mumaw:** The Outlet Mall request for expansion of their permit from 4 art shows per year to 15 shows per year: Notice was sent to approximately 400 property owners within a 1,000' radius. 11 responses were received to date; 10 were approvals, one was opposed. The one in opposition felt that 4 shows were enough and more didn't benefit the community. The P&Z Committee is recommending approval; there was one vote against and a couple of abstentions. The committee's feeling is these shows have been happening for a long time and there are no complaints on file with the County. All the businesses in the Outlet Mall and surrounding are in favor; the lodging industry is in favor because they provide an activity for tourists and they do support local Verde Valley artists. A motion was made to forward the recommendation from the P&Z Committee as expressed. The motion was seconded. There was discussion. Concerns were expressed about safety, but no one was aware of any incidents or traffic backups to SR 179. Joanne Johnson wants to be on record as the one vote in opposition of the expansion because the special use permit is now good in perpetuity; it can only be stopped if there is a violation of any stipulation or requirement of the County. She believes the numbers of art shows at the Outlet Mall and at Bell Rock Plaza will be too many. The motion to approve was amended with a stipulation that a sign be posted directing visitors to the large parking lot behind the stores. The second was also amended. Mark Mumaw recused himself as president of Bell Rock Plaza which also holds art shows, in order to avoid any question of propriety. **The motion carried unanimously.** The P&Z Committee will forward the recommendation to the County with the stipulation about the sign for parking.

Setback Variance for APN 405-17-003: on a lot in Wild Horse Mesa an expansion will infringe on the setback by 5'; no one objects. **Moved, seconded, passed,** the P&Z Committee will forward the application with a "no concerns" statement.

Update on Bell Rock View Condos: the condos are not selling so there's a request for a special use permit to convert them to short-term rentals. In the committee's discussion it was determined that VOCA had not yet been contacted; the committee tabled this issue until VOCA has a chance to review.

- (c) **The Vision & Enhancement Committee** - Mel Copen reported on a meeting with Steve Mauk that was very positive but reinforced that the County has limited resources. The net result will be to re-schedule a meeting with Supervisor Chip Davis and Steve Mauk to talk about new approaches to issues at the County level.

- (d) **Audit Committee Report:** Carolyn Fisher reported that the audit has been completed with no discrepancies noted; the official written report will be located and forwarded to the Council.
- (e) **Bylaws Committee - Mark Mumaw:** The changes proposed unanimously by the Bylaws Committee in the Bylaws Redraft that was distributed in January are minor. It was moved and seconded to approve these changes. After considerable discussion, the vote was taken; **the motion was passed unanimously.**

The Bylaws Committee suggests to the Council that the organizational principles of the Council as contained in the Articles of Incorporation be reviewed to determine if they reflect the will of the Council. The Articles of Incorporation are on the Council website for everyone to study. A proposal to review the Articles will be considered at the March Council meeting.

9. **Visitor Presentations** - None this month.

10. **Other Reports**

- (a) **Verde Valley Transportation Planning Organization (V.V.T.P.O.)** - John Gillam provided a written report as follows:

SUMMARY of items of potential interest to Big Park:

January 27, 2010

**Cornville Rd. Overlay Project** – Approved project (Federal Economic Stimulus funds) is a resurfacing of Cornville Rd. between the Aspaas and Beaverhead Flat intersections. It is anticipated that construction will start mid-May.

**I-17 Climbing Lane (southbound)** from Camp Verde to the top of Copper Canyon – Study just being kicked off with some helicopter geological surveys. Also, deciding what to do with the turnout at the top of the canyon -- not up to standards.

**Black Canyon City to Cordes Junction** – Priority out of Phoenix is ahead of the I-17 project going to Flagstaff. Looking at 4 lanes down and 5 lanes up. Looking into design options – this is potentially a \$52 M project.

**esedona emails being blocked:** It was reported that hotmail, gmail, msn and yahoo are not receiving emails from esedona because Qwest has revised their spam principles so that all messages from esedona are treated as spam. President Copen stressed that anyone having trouble reaching him via email should assume this is the reason, and should call him.

- (b) **Sedona Village Business Association** - Tom Graham reported that the SVBA's grant application for \$25,000 to study the signage issue in the Village has not yet been approved. There are apparently three applications; they should all be "scored" by February 16.

11. **Old Business** - None.

12. **New Business** - None.

13. **Announcements**

- (a) **Sedona Public Library in the Village:** Carolyn Fisher reported on a very successful book sale in January; \$2500 was raised. The next book sale is scheduled for the first weekend in June.
- (b) **NSA Coalition event:** Gale Shaw Simpson reported on the event scheduled for February 17 at the Sedona Hilton Tequa Ballroom: In addition to Emmy-winning TV journalist Larry Warren there will be other speakers who will emphasize the economic benefits of the NSA designation for the Sedona-Red Rock area. The event is free to all; there will be live music and a cash bar.

- (c) **Agenda Amendment:** A motion was made to amend the agenda for this meeting to include a review of the Yavapai County League of Unincorporated Communities which is currently formulating its Bylaws and other organizational documents. Interim President Dorothy O'Brien will have a report at the March Council Meeting. An article in the Verde News ([verdenews.com](http://verdenews.com)) dated February 11, 2010 states that the BPRCC is a member of this League. Moved and seconded that a letter be sent from the Council to the Verde News stating that the BPRCC is not a member of this organization. Dorothy O'Brien abstained. **Passed.** Corresponding Secretary Graham will write the letter and ask that it be printed.
- (d) **President Copen introduced Tony Pugliano** of Village Chevron, who had just arrived, and thanked him for his contributions to the morning's refreshments.
- (e) **President Copen thanked Edgar Lozoya**, Manager of the Sedona Hilton, for providing this meeting room and amenities. **Village Dentistry** also supported today's meeting with a contribution and supplied information about their services which is available at the refreshment table.

There was a break for refreshments at 10:05 with a drawing for table placement for the workshop.

Those present gathered around tables in small groups to discuss two questions provided by President Copen:

What are the three most important actions the Council can take to reach out to the community and strengthen the ability of the Council to represent the community?

What are the three most important activities that the Council should undertake this year?

The summary of the answers gathered will be reported separately.

After the workshop but before adjournment, there was one more announcement:

- (f) **Aesthetic interchange:** David Gill reported that two letters have been received in support of an aesthetic interchange at I-17 and SR 179, and asked that the Council also write a letter of support. **Moved, seconded and passed.** Corresponding Secretary Graham will write the letter.

14. **Adjournment:** the meeting was formally adjourned at 11:20am.