

BIG PARK REGIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING ON  
THURSDAY APRIL 8, 2010

Sedona Fire Station #3, 125 Slide Rock Rd., Sedona AZ 86351

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Mel Copen at 9:03 am.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Mark Mumaw led the Pledge.

1. **Roll Call:** There were 21 representatives present out of 26, constituting a quorum. Absent were representatives from Canyon Mesa, Highland Estates, La Berranca I, Sedona Village Lodging Assn, and Wild Horse Mesa.

2. **Agenda from the Executive Board Meeting** of April 5, 2010, 9:30 am at the Red Rock Ranger Station, 8375 SR 179, was emailed to all representatives on April 5.

3. **President's report:**

a. Meetings are ongoing with VOCA, looking at areas where we can work together, such as in common procurement policies like waste pickup, as well as broader issues. President Copen expressed a wish that all communities will get involved in these kinds of discussions. He stressed that nothing will be done without Council approval.

b. Sedona Mayor Rob Adams was a guest at the Executive Board meeting on April 5. Again, areas in which we can work together were discussed, such as signage and extending the All American Road designation into the City of Sedona.

4. **New members/Member Changes:** According to an email received from Oak Creek Country Club Estates III, Lou Camp would like to be an active Alternate for Oak Creek Country Club Estates III. **Moved, seconded, passed** to approve Mr. Camp as an alternate.

5. **Secretary's report:** Fran McWherter reported receiving corrections to paragraph 8 (c) of the P&Z committee report in the March minutes which clarified the description of the new site plan amendment for the Villas at Las Piedras. **Moved, seconded, passed** to accept the minutes as corrected.

6. **Treasurer's report:** Mark Mumaw presented the revised February report and the new March report which had been emailed to all representatives. There were no questions. Reports filed for audit.

7. **Corresponding Secretary's report:** Tom Graham: Council has been asked to provide a letter of support for the National Scenic Area designation to Congressman Raul Grijalva who is the Chair of the National Parks Forests and Public Lands Subcommittee of the House Committee on Natural Resources. The NSA bill will be heard the first part of June.

8. **Committee Reports:**

(a) **Recreation Committee:** Don Beard reported for Jay Markle who could not attend today's meeting. The month of June is planned; the days will be Monday through Thursday rather than Monday-Wednesday-Friday. The Committee has the use of the school facilities and Judy Hill has offered the pool at Sedona Winds, including transportation. A West Fork hike with Dave Norton has been planned. President Copen asked again for volunteers for the Committee and thanked Judy Hill for her continued support of the program. Parents wanting general information on the program can be referred to the [bigparkcouncil.org website](http://bigparkcouncil.org).

(b) **P&Z Committee:**

(1) Chair Mark Mumaw reported on Big Park Water's plan to cover its well site at Cathedral View, the far eastern end, with a metal building. This is an administrative process and doesn't require action. A block wall will also be constructed with trees around the site. Committee recommends approval. **Moved, seconded, passed.**

(2) Outlet Mall: Steve Nelson requested a review of the current situation with the mall. P&Z Chair Mark Mumaw reported that the expanded art show permit application was sent to the Board of Supervisors by the County P&Z committee with a recommendation for approval. He explained that the property is in foreclosure; during the time the mall has had the tent show permit, since 1992, the property has changed ownership 3-4 times. Steve Nelson expressed VOCA's concern that there's a different situation between a sale and a foreclosure; VOCA's feeling is, what's the rush? Let's wait a couple months to find out who's going to own this property and what their intent is before granting this. In some cases, foreclosure can be a ploy when someone is trying to refinance a loan; it is not known if the property will be taken back by the bank. Chair Mumaw doesn't think this circumstance changes the permit application process. The use permit belongs to the property.

Tom Graham reported the mall owner owes a substantial amount of money to the Wastewater District, which has a lien against the property. If the trustee sale goes through, the lien would be cut off. Ruth Kane reported a third party is involved. Mark reported the whole business community is in favor of the expanded permit because the economy has dealt businesses a terrible blow. Ruth Kane recommended a review of the permit after a year or two. The County Supervisors will decide.

(c) **Transportation:** Chair John Gillam reported the celebration for the completion of SR 179 has been moved again to September or October. He also mentioned that the cars from a vintage car show in Phoenix will be leaving there at 10am this Sunday for a drive north to Sedona, Lake Powell and the Grand Canyon. People interested in seeing the parade can go to the Arizona Republic website for more information.

(d) **Communications:** Chair Hal Berman expressed an interest in getting to know everybody better. Communications Team members are Dave Norton, Cathi Bentley Hill, Paul Sullivan and Gail Shaw Simpson. Mr. Berman's 5-page presentation will be emailed to Council representatives and alternates following this Council meeting. In addition, an article will appear in *The Villager*, May 1 edition. The Committee's goal is to establish effective two-way communication channels with all community stakeholders to publicize important local information and integrate Council actions and activities. Representatives' comments and feedback are solicited.

(e) **Vision and Enhancement Committee:** Chair Mel Copen reviewed the latest survey form that was emailed to all representatives last evening and will be published in the May 1 issue of *The Villager*. Representatives will be asked to forward the survey to their various associations. A copy of the survey will be posted on the Council website. Copies of the survey will be distributed to various businesses. Articles regarding the survey will be submitted to newspapers and online news media. The survey is intended to provide a series of hooks on every important issue which will then be explored in much greater depth in subsequent community processes that Chair Copen hopes will take place.

Yavapai County Development Services has been kept informed and has asked that a disclaimer be included with the survey; this now reads: "Yavapai County wants to remind you that a Community Vision serves as a guide for orderly growth and development, provides a means for stakeholders to express how they would like to see change take place and helps establish community goals. It is not a mandate to the County for implementation but provides ideas to the County as they relate to elements of Yavapai County's General Plan."

There will be drop-off boxes in various locations to receive the completed surveys. A return of 5% would be 250 responses; 10% would be 500 and that would be considered very high. In about mid-May the Committee will count the responses received and if insufficient, will push again to publicize the survey.

Chair Copen outlined the plan: "Once the survey results are in and summarized, we will embark on a series of community processes. It is intended that a number of informal 'donuts and dialogue' sessions will be held over the summer, hopefully sponsored by local business organizations. Then, most likely in October, we will engage in a major community process effort, facilitated by the League of Women Voters, which will bring together as many of the community members as possible to explore the issues in depth."

Regarding what will happen after all the results have been tallied and meetings held, Chair Copen hopes the Council will take an activist role in making things happen down the road. There will be issues that involve and are of interest to the County, and issues that don't; for the latter, the Committee/Council will have to decide how to achieve results.

Discussion from the Council: There should be a note that every adult in a household should be encouraged to complete and return a survey. Visitors should be able to identify themselves as such on the survey. Evaluators should be aware of any individual agendas and/or ballot box stuffing and "ballot fatigue". Another category of potential responders is owners of timeshares who may never come here. It was reiterated that results of this survey will not drive any decisions by the County or the Committee.

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

10. **Other reports:**

**(a) Verde Valley Regional Transportation:** John Gillam reported:

(1) Cornville Road will be repaved from Aaspas Road to Beaverhead Flat Road beginning the first of June.

(2) ADOT approved a project for a climbing lane uphill from Camp Verde to the top of Copper Canyon; starting end of summer, completion in 6 months.

(3) An acceleration lane will be built from SR 260 to General Crook Trail.

(4) A roundabout will be built at the intersection of Mingus and Willard in Cottonwood.

**(b) Red Rock Road Enhancement Maintenance District:** Tom Graham reported that Bev Staddon, Yavapai County Special Districts, mentioned the accident at the Bell Rock Blvd. roundabout. The Dept of Public Safety has arrested the culprit and there is insurance on the vehicle he was driving; however, the driver is not the owner of the vehicle or the insurance policy. Cost of repair is \$2217. ADOT will fix the sign and Recon will repair landscaping and/or irrigation damages. This will not be the last time something like this happens.

**(c) Sedona Fire:** Public Information Officer Gary Johnson stressed again the importance of removing potential fire fuel from around homes. The embers from burning grasses or weeds are what will ignite homes. People who need assistance can call Sedona Fire for a free evaluation of any property. The dumpsters for the end of May cleanup will be at Fire Station #4 in Uptown Sedona.

**(d) Big Park Wastewater Improvement District:** Paul Jones gave an excellent report covering the last three months of Board of Directors work. An interesting idea concerns solar panels to provide a portion of the plant power needed. The plant processed 540,000 gallons over 4 days in January; several manholes in Jack's Canyon were underwater. Delinquent accounts are significant, but not unusual. Delinquency can be reported to Karen Davis or Jennifer Bartos, District Clerk, at 800-659-7149. BPWID Board member Ruth Kane asked that owners having difficulty or are in arrears should talk to these women, who are sincere about trying to help.

**(e) Sedona Village Business Association:** Judy Hill reported on the upcoming Full Moon Walk, April 24, 4-7pm. There will be musical performances, food, fun, and free prizes; pets are welcome, flyers are being posted everywhere. The SVBA mixers are open to anybody, not just business owners. There has been no official word on the grant application; however, President Copen reported the committee accepted 6 applications for the \$74,000 (rather than \$104,000 as was initially reported); the SVBA was the next one or second next to be awarded. There may be money in the program in the future. "Close, but no cigar." If we were to partner with the City of Sedona our chances would be enhanced. Everyone thanked Tom Graham and all who worked on the application.

**(f) Community Issues Committee:** VP Dave Norton reported on the March 16 meeting: ADOT will begin designing the I-17/SR 179 interchange in June; there will be major repaving on I-17; the school district's new performing arts (750 seating capacity) should be completed by the fall and will be available to community groups and conventions; the Council will be included in event planning, etc; Jazz on the Rocks will return Oct 2; Poco Diablo which is owned by the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation will no longer be affiliated with the Radisson. The Chamber of Commerce reported bed tax revenue was down about 19% as of last December but there are more advanced bookings so far this year. A Copper Ball is to be held on June 5 and is a black tie event; tickets go on sale April 15, call 639-6100.

Someone (not Mr. Norton) reported that Jake Weber is apparently continuing to provide the current site for recycling activities. If this is the case, a thank you note is in order. Some of the collection bins are sponsored by different organizations.

**11. Old Business: None.**

**12. New Business: None.**

**13: Announcements:**

(a) Full Moon Walk in the Village, April 24, 4-7pm

(b) A special election is being held May 18 on Prop 100 which is for an increase in the state sales tax of 1% for three years to support education. The full text of the ballot measure can be found on the Arizona Secretary of State's website.

(c) The AZ School Board Association is sponsoring a debate for all candidates for State Superintendent of Public Instruction on May 13, 6:30pm, in the West Sedona School Multipurpose Room.

**14: Adjournment:** the meeting was adjourned at 10:30am.