

BIG PARK REGIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING ON  
THURSDAY MAY 13, 2010

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

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Vice President Dave Norton at 9:03 am.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge was led by distinguished guest Earl Stewart, Coconino National Forest Supervisor.

**1. Determine Quorum:** Seventeen representatives were present out of 26, constituting a quorum; those absent were representatives from Highland Estates, Oak Creek Country Club Estates I, Pinon Woods I, Pinon Woods II East, Sedona Golf Resort, Sedona Village Lodging Association, Sundance, Valley Vista Estates and Wild Horse Mesa.

**2. Agenda from Executive Board Meeting:** The Executive Board did not meet this month.

**3. President's Report:** President Mel Copen was not present; Vice President Dave Norton introduced and welcomed Earl Stewart, new Coconino National Forest Supervisor; Heather Provencio, Red Rock District Ranger; and Gary Johnson, Sedona Fire Public Information Officer.

**4. New Members/Member Changes:** According to an email received from Canyon Mesa Townhouse Association, Norma Murphy is the new Alternate Representative, replacing Arland Averill. VOCA sent a letter to VP Norton stating that the new Representative is Jim Gibson with the alternates being: 1) Steve Nelson; 2) Joanne Johnson; 3) Dave Benore; 4) Jay Markle; 5) Elaine Brown.

**5. Secretary's Report:** Fran McWherter presented revisions to the April minutes which were shown on the screen in bold and red print for the Council to read; **moved, seconded and passed**, the revised minutes are accepted.

**6. Treasurer's Report:** Mark Mumaw reported the May report will be distributed this evening; there is a balance today of \$4430.01. Oak Creek Country Club Estates III overpaid its annual dues; the overage will likely be applied to 2011 dues. Report submitted for audit.

**7. Corresponding Secretary's Report:** Tom Graham reported that 1) President Mel Copen had written a letter to Earl Stewart, welcoming him to his new job; 2) Bev Staddon, Special Improvement District Administrator wrote to say that the County had recovered the total cost to repair the Bell Rock roundabout from the driver's insurance company: \$2217.60. 3) The warranty landscape establishment period has been extended from April 27 to May 27 to give more time to determine the condition of certain plants (the lantana issue). After that date the District will be responsible for paying for landscape elements, including water. 4) Representative Ann Kirkpatrick has written to the House Committee on Natural Resources Chair Nick Rahall, requesting a hearing on the National Scenic Area Designation bill. Past President Dorothy O'Brien thanked Tom Graham for his hard work on the NSA bill. 5) A copy of a letter was received constituting a Notice of Claim against the County for a slip-and-fall accident at the VOCA park. A letter will be written to clarify that the Council has no liability in this matter. The Council's insurance carrier has been notified.

**8. Committee Reports:**

a. **Recreation committee:** Bob Carlisle reported the program, Big Park Summer Blast, will run through June and July at Big Park School, 8:00am – 2:30pm Monday through Thursday, for kids 6 years and up. He introduced program Director Susan Korth who distributed a schedule for June. The school facilities, including the gym, will be provided at no charge. Mr. Carlisle outlined expected expenses of \$6650 for the entire program. Ms. Korth has agreed to accept whatever income student attendance brings in. Bus rental and miscellaneous fees amount to \$650. Insurance is already paid for. The Committee asked the Council to provide the \$650.

**Moved, seconded,** that the Council proceed with the program and commit to the \$650.

Bill Kusner thinks the All American Road Committee might contribute \$500. Jim Gibson suggested that donations should be solicited from the Big Park community via a plea in *The Villager*. Donations could come to the Council. After discussion **the motion carried**.

**b. P&Z Committee:** Chair Mark Mumaw reported that the County Supervisors reviewed the permit application from the Outlet Mall and reduced the permitted art shows from 15 to 10. The Supervisors will review the permit in 2 years.

**c. Transportation Committee:** Chair John Gillam reported the new date for the TGIF celebration for the completion of SR 179 is, still tentatively, August 20-21.

**d. Communications Committee:** No report.

**e. Vision & Enhancement Committee:** Chair Mel Copen is in Croatia; VP Norton reported receiving approximately 41 Vision surveys in the mail, plus about 100 responses on the Council website.

**9. Visitor Presentations:** Coconino National Forest Supervisor Earl Stewart. Mr. Stewart outlined his extensive background within and outside the Forest Service. His competence and abilities were recognized and he advanced rapidly to his present position. He believes Forest Service land is actually public land that the Forest Service has the honor of maintaining. He has been in the Coconino National Forest for 3 months; he is stunned by the deep vesting and passion from every individual he meets here. He believes Heather Provencio is the best District Ranger in the country for working with neighbors in surrounding districts. Supervisor Stewart emphasized the need to work with communities like Sedona and Big Park to achieve objectives, and offered to put anyone interested, including the Council, on the Forest Service mailing list.

Mr. Stewart expressed his eagerness to work in the Coconino National Forest and has no plans to transfer elsewhere.

Regarding the NSA, the Forest Service does not respond to pending or proposed legislation. As for the process, following the request to Chair Rahall for a hearing on the NSA, a request would come to the Agency for representation from the department or the Washington office of the Forest Service. Someone at the chief or deputy chief level would provide testimony.

Regarding trails, balance is everything between Forest Service needs and needs of the public. A "scoping" letter will be sent soon. The Coconino National Forest Service website will have links to the trails development process. Public comments will be solicited.

Dorothy O'Brien asked that Supervisor Stewart keep in mind this Council, which has a wealth of experience and expertise to share.

## 10. Other Reports:

**a. Verde Valley Regional Transportation:** John Gillam reported the next meeting is scheduled for later this month.

**b. Red Rock Road Enhancement Maintenance District.** Bob Carabell reported he walked, with others, through the landscaping to determine which plants are really, truly dead. Several dead trees and other plants will be replaced; ADOT has the final decision on which plants will replace the dead ones.

**c. Sedona Fire:** Public Information Officer Gary Johnson distributed a flyer on the annual Cleanup Project scheduled for May 21-22, 8:00am to 5:00pm, and May 23 from 8:00am – 3:00pm. Everyone in the Sedona Fire District is urged to bring brush, tree and shrub trimmings

and bagged leaves and pine needles to Fire Station #4, 391 Forest Road, Uptown Sedona. Call 282-6800 for additional information. He again offered free inspections of property and recommendations for fire prevention by Sedona Fire personnel.

**d. Sedona Village Business Association:** Kathy Nelms announced the Association's annual meeting will be on June 2 at the Hilton at 4:30pm. The incoming board will be seated. Mark Mumaw reported on a successful Full Moon Walk April 24, with more than 100 people participating.

**11. Old Business:** None

**12. New Business:** None

**13. Announcements:**

a. Dorothy O'Brien reported on the NAU music students' successful fund-raising performance at Sedona Winds on Mother's Day weekend.

b. May 18 is the special election on Proposition 100 re the statewide sales tax.

c. Bill Kusner reported seeing about 12 sale signs at the Jack's Canyon intersection recently, which were in the ADOT right-of-way and totally illegal. Such things detract from the All American Road image. Steve Nelson stated residents who post such signs may be in violation of their individual HOA CC&R's if there is a requirement for compliance with laws and ordinances, which the placement of such signs may violate.

d. Next Council meeting, June 10: Supervisor Chip Davis will be the guest; he will have a presentation on issues for the County.

Vice President Norton thanked Earl Stewart and Heather Provencio for their attendance at this meeting and expressed appreciation for their service to the community.

**14. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:25am.