

BIG PARK REGIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting on
Thursday October 14, 2010

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

Call to order: President Mel Copen called the meeting to order at 9:00am.

Announcement: President Copen noted the passing of Norm Murdoch and asked for a moment of silence to remember him and all that he contributed to Big Park.

Change of order of Agenda: President Copen introduced Yavapai County Supervisor Chip Davis and Chris Moran.

Visitor Presentation: Supervisor Davis announced and invited the Council to attend his community meeting on October 19 at 6:00pm at the VOCA clubhouse. In addition, there is another special event to which the Council is invited: today at noon the Jerome Douglas Mansion will be re-opened at Jerome State Park. This is one of Arizona's gems, with some of the best mining history in the US. This will possibly be the last grand opening of an Arizona state park for a long time.

Supervisor Davis reported on the weed situation in the Red Rock Road Enhancement Maintenance District (RRREMD), saying that complaints had been received. The maintenance contract has been renewed, including using traditional weed control methods. There is an escape clause in the contract in case Vicente doesn't respond in a timely manner. Community members and County staff will monitor the situation.

Balancing the Budget: Supervisor Davis reported that there are 234 staff positions that are being held, in order to avoid layoffs. Some services have been cut. Good news: the County's budget is balanced. The Arizona legislature goes into session in January. The state is between \$700 million to \$900 million dollars over budget.

There are two initiatives on the November ballot, 301 and 302, that if approved will take funds from voter-approved Growing Smarter and First Things First programs and give the money to the general fund to be used as the Legislature sees fit.

Voting: You can start early voting now. Ballots have already been mailed out. You can also vote early in person at the Cottonwood or Prescott County offices. 60% of Yavapai County registered voters are voting early. Early ballots are counted after the election is over, at the close of polling places on election day. All signatures must be verified.

Census: New data will be received by the County in Spring 2011. State statute requires that counties with over 200,000 population must have 5 supervisors. Yavapai County is expected to have over 200,000. New district boundaries encompassing approximately 45,000 people each will be subject to an intense community evaluation process. Final recommendations by the County will be presented to the community before they are approved by the Department of Justice in 2012. A new Congressional District will be added. In view of SB1070 the DOJ will pay particular attention to Arizona, making sure that no district has been formed that eliminates the possibility of electing a minority to office. The Verde Valley area will probably be split into two districts.

VP Dave Norton pointed out that when he has had occasion to call the Yavapai County Sheriff for vandalism going on at Big Park Community School, the Sheriff's office can't locate the school. He is working on a solution to this problem. He also pointed out that there's a statute that requires counties with over 200,000 population to provide emissions inspections, and asked if that threshold had been changed. Supervisor Davis is not aware of this requirement, but it would be a state function.

Schedule for chip-sealing roads: This issue will be addressed at the community meeting on Oct. 19.

Task Force on weeds outside the RRREMD: Supervisor Davis was approached to provide a staff member to serve on the task force, but since County staff are stretched so thin it is not possible to assign a person to this group.

Supervisor Davis ended his talk; President Copen thanked him for coming and reminded the Council about the Supervisor's Community Meeting October 19 at 6:00pm at VOCA.

Introduction of Guests: President Copen introduced Boyce MacDonald and Tammy DeWitt from Yavapai County Development Services office who would be part of the P&Z Committee's report today.

1. **Determine Quorum by Roll Call:** Eighteen representatives were present, which constitutes a quorum. Representatives absent were from Canyon Mesa, Highland Estates, La Barranca I, Oak Creek Country Club Estates III, Pinon Woods I, Pinon Woods East II, Sedona Village Business Association, Sundance, and Wild Horse Mesa.
2. **Agenda from Executive Board** which was established by email and phone on October 8th, in lieu of a meeting.
3. **President's Report:**

Weeds Outside SID Task Force: Jim Gibson is unable to continue as chair; Gail Shaw Simpson has taken on that task.

Jim Gibson cannot be involved in the **Task Force on Principles of Organization**; Joanne Johnson has been asked to serve on that committee with Craig Dible, Chair, and Tom Graham. President Copen hopes to have a report from this committee at the November Council meeting. Any recommendations made will be brought to the Council for possible action.

Sedona Golf Resort Golf Course: Pacific Life, the lender, bought it for \$6.177 million. Management will be by OB Sports which manages many US golf courses. It will continue as a golf course.

Timetable for Council actions: Here is a draft; please review to be sure nothing has been overlooked:

January

Annual Meeting of the Corporation
 Appointment of Chairs of Standing Committees (President)
 Appointment of Standing Committee members (Committee Chairs)
 Appointment of Budget Committee (Treasurer)
 Approval of Budget for Year
 Outgoing Executive Board meets with incoming Executive Board (Bylaws, Article VI, Section 1)

February

Report of Audit Committee (end of month)
 Due date for Dues (Feb 1)

March

Late Date for Dues (Mar 1)

April

Proposal submitted by Recreation/Youth Activities Committee for Summer Program (Committee Chair)

May

Electronic filing of IRS Form 990N ("e postcard") - May 15 deadline. It requires 8 pieces of information: employer ID number, tax year, legal name and address, and any other names the organization uses, name and address of principle officer, website address if any,

confirmation that gross receipts are less than \$25,000, and if applicable, a statement that the organization is terminated or terminating (Treasurer?)

Filing of corporate report - May 19 deadline (Secretary?)

June

Suggestions for Yavapai County budget (Budget Committee)

July

August

September

Review and recommendations for future Summer Program (Committee Chair)

October

Appointment of Nominating Committee (President)

November

Presentation of Proposed Candidates for Officers (Nominating Committee)

December

Establishment of Audit Committee (President)

Presentation of Budget for following year (Treasurer)

Election of Officers for coming year

Other items - not sure of dates

Payment of any dues to organizations to which we belong?

4. **New Members/Membership Changes:** A letter was received from VOCA saying that Elaine Brown has resigned her position as alternate as of September 23, 2010.
5. **Secretary's Report:** Fran McWherter reported receiving no corrections or changes to the September Council Minutes. **Moved, seconded, passed**, the minutes are approved.
6. **Treasurer's Report:** Mark Mumaw reported a current balance of \$2240.17 at the end of September.
7. **Corresponding Secretary's Report:** Tom Graham had no report.
8. **Committee Reports**

(a) Recreation Committee: Jay Markle reported his committee, consisting of Bob Carlisle, Don Beard and himself, met on September 20. It was the committee's unanimous recommendation that the program be continued in 2011. After much discussion the committee recommends that publicity for the program begin right after the first of the year; that the individual fee be reduced to \$15 per day with additional siblings at \$13 each per day; that the Council provide at least \$1500 (from the treasury or from fund-raising or contributions) for insurance, transportation, fees and supplies; and that efforts begin immediately to find a program director. Susan Korth has moved away, and so has the previous director. This would be done primarily through the Big Park School Principal, and then through want-ads and word-of-mouth. The director would receive the amount collected in daily fees, up to a maximum of \$200 per day. VP Norton cautioned that solicited candidates must have background checks.

There was concern expressed that a contribution of \$1500 would be half of the Council's income, and if included in the Council's budget for next year should not cause an increase in membership dues. President Copen will put this issue on the agenda for formal discussion later, depending on progress finding a director. The committee will put together a plan by the December meeting. VPRI is a 501(c)(3) organization and contributions could be made to it for the recreation program would be tax-deductible.

(b) Planning and Zoning: Mark Mumaw introduced Boyce MacDonald and Tammy DeWitt of Development Services who would explain what a PAD is and the difference between a Special Use

Permit and amending a PAD. Las Posadas Bed and Breakfasts are within the Las Piedras PAD and they have applied for an amendment.

A PAD is a Planned Area Development. The Las Piedras PAD was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on September 15, 1997 "...to allow the development... of 152 single family residential lots" as well as 6.7 acres of residential service area; and providing for 12 stipulations, including stipulation #8 as follows: "8) Development of Residential Services parcel, subject to review and approval of preliminary and final site plan by the Planning and Zoning Commission and Board of Supervisors, which identifies specific types of commercial uses."

In 2002, Las Posadas, with support from the Big Park Council P&Z Committee and the Big Park Council, received its site plan approval from the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Board of Supervisors for four bed and breakfast inns to be located on 4 lots and 2 tracts totaling 17 acres of the 6.7 acres of light commercial in the Las Piedras PAD.

Special use permits are not used for changes to a PAD. The PAD must be amended to change a PAD use. Las Posadas is requesting a PAD amendment to allow the current bed & breakfast use as a C-1 resort and the right to add a swimming pool, increase its signage to the standard 96 SF and convert one owner suite to a commercial kitchen.

During the time Las Posadas was working with the County on this PAD amendment an anonymous complaint was filed against Las Posadas. The County determined that it did not fulfill the "owner occupied" condition. The applicant was operating under a different interpretation of "owner occupied" but did not contest the County's finding. At the suggestion, and with the support, of Development Services, the applicant is proceeding with the proposed PAD amendment.

The PAD amendment will not allow any other C-1 use except those in the proposed amendment. The commercial kitchen will be only for the resort guests and there will be no events other than for the resort's guests.

Safety upgrades to the fire and 911 systems will be made as part of the change to resort use.

Las Posadas has received unanimous support from its surrounding property owners associations and many businesses. They have 17 individual letters of support and a petition of support signed by 47 local residents and businesses. No letters of opposition have been received.

The Council P&Z Committee met and approved the application for a PAD amendment by a vote of 9 to 2 with 1 abstention and 1 recusal. The P&Z Committee recommends approval of the application.

Moved and seconded to approve the application for amendment. Discussion: the pool will be surrounded by a masonry wall softened by landscaping. There will be no amplified music. Partner and Agent Steele Sacks agrees to these stipulations as a good neighbor. There is no mechanism for the County to reveal the name of the anonymous complainer. The question was called. A rollcall vote was taken. **With one recusal, the motion was approved by all the rest of the 17 representatives present.**

Wild Horse Mesa Setback Variance: This is a request to allow for a garage to be built 5' from the side property line, instead of the 20' presently permitted, so that the owner can back his boat and truck into the garage. VOCA Architecture and Review Board recommended the application be denied because they did not see a hardship in the situation. The P&Z committee recommends a "no comment" from the Council. **Moved, seconded and passed** to accept the P&Z recommendation.

Mark Mumaw reported that the County P&Z commissioners voted 7 to 1 against the Red Rock Balloon Adventures application for a special use permit.

(c) Communications Committee: Carolyn Fisher had no report.

(d) Vision and Enhancement Committee: Mel Copen said that there should be a full report at the November Council meeting.

9. Visitor Presentations: See Chip Davis, above.

10. Other Reports:

a. Verde Valley Master Regional Trails Plan: Dave Norton reported that presentations are being made around the Verde Valley. He recommends that anyone with any interest in trails attend one of them because all trails, including some in Big Park, are in that plan. The public is being told that trails are in the NEPA process with Coconino National Forest. This is not true. The Coconino National Forest Service has nothing going on and won't, until the trails plan is complete. Presentations are being made to P&Z committees, city councils and others, asking them to sign a Memorandum of Understanding from a non-existent group to support these trails. Since Big Park is not incorporated, there will be no Memorandum Of Understanding for trails in our area. These are hiking, biking, horse trails only, no motorized vehicles.

b. Red Rock Road Enhancement Maintenance District (RRREMD): Tom Graham allowed as how the Council had received its report from the "horse's mouth" this morning, referring to Chip Davis's updates. Bob Carabell reiterated that the County Supervisors are depending on citizen input. He recommends people walk the road to really see what's going on. He also recommends people send many letters to the supervisors in favor of traditional methods of weed control. Committees, once established, are subject to open meeting laws; that is why there is no formal committee doing this oversight. Send emails to:

Bev Staddon Email: bev.staddon@co.yavapai.az.us

Special Districts Coordinator

Direct Number: 928.583.1148

Cottonwood Number that transfers to Prescott: 928.639.8100 (ask for Bev)

c. Sedona Fire District: Officer Gary Johnson reported that October is fire prevention month. On Oct. 26 and 27 in the Training room of Fire Station 3 a new type of CPR (Continuous Chest Compression) will be taught; it's hands-only CPR, no mouth-to-mouth. The classes start at nine and continue all day, on the hour. It won't meet certification requirements but everyone should know this technique. If somebody starts chest compressions quickly, the survival rate increases 10-fold. Classes are free.

11. Old Business: None.

12. New Business:

a. Nominating Committee: President Copen has appointed Paul Sullivan, Chair, Jane Petty and Kathy Huffstetler. **Moved, seconded and passed** to approve the committee appointments.

b. Letter re State Parks Funding: This matter can wait.

c. Letter re National Scenic Area (NSA) designation: The NSA bill was defeated in the House under the suspension of rules procedure, which requires a 2/3 majority approval. The count was 21 short of such a majority. A letter from the NSA Coalition has gone to the US House Leadership asking for an up-or-down vote in the lame duck session of Congress, or that HR 4823 be added to an omnibus bill. The Council is a member of the NSA Coalition.

13. Announcements:

a. Memory Walk October 30: Dave Norton has applications, meet at Tequa in the morning. A flyer will be coming to you.

b. Chip Davis will meet with the community on October 19, 6pm at VOCA Clubhouse.

14. Adjournment: Moved, seconded, passed: the meeting was adjourned at 10:58am.