

BIG PARK REGIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL, INC.
MINUTES OF ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2011

Sedona Fire District Station #3, 125 Slide Rock Road, Sedona, AZ 86351

Call to order - Pledge of Allegiance: President Copen called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jolynn Greenfield.

1. Determine Quorum by Roll Call – a quorum was established with the following 20 members present: Bell Rock Plaza, Canyon Mesa, Cathedral Rock Ranch, Cathedral View II, Highland Estates, La Barranca I, Las Piedras, Oak Creek CC Estates I, Oak Creek Estados, Pine Valley, Pinon Woods I, Pinon Woods East II, Pinon Woods North III, Ridge at Sedona, Sedona Golf Resort, Sedona Village Business Assoc., Valley Vista Estates, Village Estates, VOCA, Village Park. **6 Members absent:** Firecliff, La Barranca II, Oak Creek CC Estates III, Sedona Village Lodging Assoc., Sundance, Wild Horse Mesa

2. Agenda from Executive Board meeting

The Executive Board met on January 7th at Las Posadas, 20 Avenida de Piedras, Sedona, AZ.

3. President's Report – Mel Copen

(a) Welcome. Members were notified that for purposes of preparing accurate minutes, Council meetings will be recorded starting with today's meeting. Mel delivered some prepared remarks regarding two general goals for the Council this year: (i) If the Council is not facing a tight deadline that is unavoidable, the Council should take more time to listen, think and deliberate on some of its decision-making. This puts more responsibility on the Representatives to communicate with their constituents and provide the opportunity for feedback. The focus will be on transparency. Council Reps are not just number counters and should use their judgment to help the Council build trust within the Community by ensuring that everybody has the opportunity to be heard who wants to do so so that everyone understands the basis of a Council decision; and (ii) If the Council decision-making process is fair, inclusive and transparent, once a decision is made, even those who had a view that was not adopted, need to get on board in a spirit of cooperation and compromise and move forward with the adopted position.

(b) Standing Committee Chair Appointments – approved by Executive Board

P&Z – *Art Toensmeier*

Recreation – *Jay Markle*

Transportation – *John Gillam*

Ongoing Ad Hoc Committees / Task Forces (previously approved by Council)

Communications – *Carolyn Fisher*

Vision & Enhancement – *Mel Copen*

SR 179 Median Weed Abatement Task Force – *Gail Shaw-Simpson*

Task Force on Principles of Organization – *Craig Dible*

(c) Umbrella Group – deals solely with Hwy 179 issues from I-17 to the "Y". There was a recent meeting in which 18 different organizations were represented including the Council. Not a formal organization but issues are being defined with persons/organizations taking the lead including the following: (i) expansion of the AAR designation (Ernie Straugh); (ii) weed control & landscaping (KSB); (iii) I-17/179 Interchange (David Gill); (iv) signage 9Mel Copen, Dorothy O'Brien & John Wesnitzer)

(d) KSB Meeting – a meeting was organized by KSB and held 1/10/11 with Coconino Forest Supervisor Ear Stewart, Red Rock District Ranger Heather Provencio and other FS personnel. KSB, the Council and several other organizations were represented. The bulk of the meeting concerned the AWC water tank issue and there was also discussion about the new Coconino FS Plan, particularly with regard to the future of Amendment 12 which will be incorporated into the Plan. Several people spoke. Mel Copen and Tom Graham presented the previously adopted Council positions on both issues. The FS announced a 6-month extension from February, 2011 on any decision on the water tank and indicated that AWC is further studying the issue. Further dialogue with AWC and the FS is necessary to define the issues needing more factual information so that the discussion and the decision are based upon a solid foundation.

(e) Next Month's Meeting – Mel reported that Yavapai County Administrator Julie Ayers will make a presentation next month on the County's process for redistricting from 3 to 5 supervisors. Also,

subsequent to that, the U.S. Dept of Justice, which reviews these redistricting plans, will make a presentation and answers questions by conference phone hook-up at a Council meeting regarding their criteria for these plans.

4. **New Members/Member Changes** – A letter was presented from the Pinon Woods I HOA appointing Jolynn Greenfield as the new Rep with long-time Rep Janis Mock-Jones moving to the Alt position.
5. **Secretary's report** - Fran McWherter was presented with a plaque for her dedicated service as Corresponding Secretary and Recording Secretary.
 - (a) Consideration and approval of minutes from December 9th regular meeting – there was one typo correction to the draft minutes previously distributed. **Moved, Seconded & Carried to adopt the minutes as corrected.**
6. **Treasurer's report** – Mark Mumaw
 - (a) December Treasurer's Report – No comments. Filed for audit
 - (b) 2011 Budget – Budget Committee presented the 2011 Budget. **Moved, Seconded & Carried to approve 2011 Budget.**
Treasurer's report & Budget attached as Exhibits to Minutes.
7. **Corresponding Secretary's report** – Tom Graham – Reported that the resolutions adopted at the 12/9/10 Council meeting regarding County enforcement inspections, religious institutions and charter schools were sent to the County by letter dated 12/10/10.
8. **Committee Reports – A reminder for Committee Chairs that display material for the screen should be submitted to Dave Norton one week in advance.**
 - (a) **Recreation Committee** – Jay Markle – A written report submitted by Jay Markle was presented by Mel Copen indicating the Committee members for 2011 are Bob Carlile and Don Beard. **Moved, Seconded & Carried to approve Rec Committee members**
 - (b) **P&Z Committee** - Mark Mumaw
 - (1) Las Posadas update – BOS approved the Las Posadas application by 3-0 vote.
 - (2) Yavapai County formalization of administrative approvals for minor amendments – proposed amendment by County to formalize a practice that has been used for **existing** use permits. There will still be the standard notice and posting requirements, but if no opposition the application can be approved administratively. If there is opposition, then the applicant has to go through the public hearing process. **Moved, Seconded & Carried to inform the County of Council's approval with "No issues or Concerns"**. P&Z report attached to Minutes.
 - (3) 2011 Committee Membership – Art Toensmeier – Art indicated that the proposed P&Z committee has been reduced in size to a total of seven: Art Toensmeier, Chair (new), Carolyn Fisher, Tom Graham, David Gill, Mark Mumaw, Steve Nelson (new) and Henry Reiter. **Moved, Seconded & Carried to approve P&Z Committee members.** Prior to the vote there was about 20 minutes of discussion expressing the following concerns: too much business representation, reduction in size, loss of talent & knowledge, no alternates. These concerns were addressed as follows: business involvement does not mean bias, all members are residents of the Community, Council is the decision-maker, not the committee, talent & knowledge is still available for consultation and input, anybody can attend committee meetings and provide input, bylaws urge smaller committee and term limits, alternates pose issues concerning commitment and who is voting at any particular time. Joanne Johnson concluded the discussion by pledging her support to the new P&Z Committee and stated she would be available to help in any way.
 - (c) **Transportation Committee** – John Gillam
 - (1) Verde Valley Lynx Extension – John reported that he has been attending meetings of the Sedona Transit Task Force chaired by Max Licher. Recommendations were made by the Task Force to Sedona City Council with decisions expected in late January. These recommendations included cancellation of the Roadrunner, need for circulating transportation in the Sedona business district, smaller vehicles for unscheduled transportation to trailheads, etc, various funding methods considered.
Contact John Gillam for link to Transit Task Force Report.

- (2) 2011 Committee Membership – **Moved, Seconded & Carried to approved the following Transportation Committee members:** John Gillam, Chair, Sheri Walter, Steve Suter, Joanne Johnson, Tom Hutchinson, Bob Herring, David Gill. Alternate Members: Don Troutman, Jim Gibson, Hugh Coble

(d) Vision & Enhancement Committee – Mel Copen

- (1) Update – data still being compiled

(e) SR 179 Median Weed Abatement – Gail Shaw Simpson

- (1) Update – Mel reported that the committee had met on 1/12/11. Joanne Johnson made a brief report

9. Visitor Presentations

- (a) Redistricting Discussion** – Tom O'Halleran – Tom discussed both statewide redistricting and Yavapai County redistricting. On the statewide redistricting, even though there has been an "independent" statewide commission formed, this process will still be very political. Most issues like population, gerrymandering and voter balance will fall by the wayside as this process moves forward but the issues of commonality are the hardest to resolve – what do you have in common with the rest of the district? This will be the hardest on the County level also. The uneven growth around the state is going to be a problem. AZ will gain one additional Congressional District for a total of 9 divided among a population of 6.3 million which is approximately 700,000 per district and Sedona is probably right on the border between two districts so could go either way. There is a need to be proactive about providing input into this process as it moves forward. On the County level, this is the first redistricting for Yavapai County and it is a major event going for the County to go from 3 to 5 supervisors. Three of the districts will be in the Prescott area and the other two will be on this side. Where the Big Park/Village area is really up in the air right now. The need to provide active input on the commonality our community has with the City of Sedona is critical (e.g., economic ties, same Chamber of Commerce, same customer base, physical environment, Forest Service issues, property tax values per capita). Q & A followed.

- (b)** At the conclusion of this presentation, there was general consensus for the Council to get involved with this process early on. Mel suggested the formation of a 5-person task force and asked for input from the Reps as to who should be on this. The formal formation of this task force will be presented at the February Council meeting on 2/10/11. Recommendations for membership should be made to Mel Copen.

10. Other Reports (see reminder about display material under #8 above)

BPRCC seeks to have attendees at meetings of the following organizations. In the interest of shortening our meetings, these reports will be made on a rotating schedule of 2-3 per month:

- (a) Red Rock Road Enhancement Maintenance District (Graham)** – Tom reported that Bev Staddon had now fully retired from the County leaving the Special Districts Coordinator position vacant. It has now been filled by Jesse Eller who is the County's Long Term Care Director (928.771.3560; email is jesse.eller@co.yavapai.az.us). Due to the decision by the County Supervisors Association not to include the special legislation for conversion of the RRREMD from a Board of Supervisors board to a local citizens board, Tom Graham, Ruth Kane and Mel Copen will be meeting on 1/31/11 with Chip to discuss how to get this legislation passed using our local state representatives.
- (b) Sedona Fire District (Chief Hazime)** – Gary Johnson reported that Craig Dible was chosen as the replacement for the vacant seat on the Fire Board created by the resignation of Don Harr. The new Fire Board has now gone to two meetings per month: on the 2nd Wednesday will be a Workshop Meeting with a public forum and on the 4th Wednesday of the month there will be a Business Meeting with no public forum. Board meetings will begin at 6:00 PM **(no longer 3:00 PM)**
- (c) Village Library Center (Fisher)** – Carolyn reported on two main items: (i) the upcoming book sale to be held 1/28/11 – 1/30/11 at Fire Station #3 in the Village (preview for Friends of the Library members on 1/27/11). Time is 9 AM – 5 PM. Volunteers are needed for set up on 1/26 & 1/27 and for selling on 1/28, 1/29/ & 1/30. Contact Carolyn; and (ii) the Village Center for SPL is closing at its present location on 1/25/11 and reopening on 2/1/11 at Tequa Plaza Suite C102 on the grassy courtyard.
- (d) Sedona Village Business Association (Nelms)** – In Kathy's absence Tom Graham reported on the SVBA members meeting on 1/12/11 at Sedona Golf Resort Clubhouse now under new management. A good turnout heard Sedona Chamber of Commerce Director of Public Relations, Heather Hermen,

make a presentation on using Facebook in your business. Very informative and there was active discussion on this topic.

11. Old Business

- (a) Forest Service liaison** – Paul Sullivan met with Heather Provencio regarding a few issues: (i) Present and future of the Red Rock Pass program. Heather described what we will get from the \$800,000 the Pass raised and what we won't get if it is lost. All monies except a small admin fee comes back into this district. Potential letter or letters of support from the Council. There will be some public meetings on this and a decision in June, 2011; (ii) County P&Z approved the new Trails Program with the County BOS to vote on it 1/18/11. It will then go to the USFS for implementation.
- (b) State Parks liaison** – Jan Liskowski has accepted this appointment and will be reporting back in the future.

12. New Business

- (a) Community Calendar in Villager** – Fran McWherter has agreed to take this on.

13. Announcements

- (a) Book sale** – see above.
- (b) Canyon Moon Theater** – received a challenge grant of \$20,000 from a few local residents and the challenge match by 12/31/10 was met so CMT has \$40,000 additional funds. CMT has also renewed its lease at a favorable rate.
- (c)** Mel reported he is hosting a luncheon next week for all past presidents of the Council.

14. Adjournment – MSC to adjourn at 11:15 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas H. Graham, Secretary