

BIG PARK REGIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL, INC.
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2012

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

Call to order - Pledge of Allegiance: President Carolyn Fisher called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. **Determine Quorum by Roll Call – a quorum was established with the following 17 members present:** Canyon Mesa, Cathedral Rock Ranch, Cathedral View II, Highland Estates, Las Piedras, Oak Creek CC Estates I, Pine Valley, Pinon Woods I, Pinon Woods East II, Pinon Woods North III, Sedona Village Business Assoc., Sedona Village Lodging Assoc, Sundance, Valley Vista Estates, Village Estates, Village Park, & VOCA. **9 Members absent:** Bell Rock Plaza Association, Firecliff, La Barranca I, La Barranca II, Oak Creek CC Estates III, Oak Creek Estados, Ridge at Sedona, Sedona Golf Resort, & Wild Horse Mesa. Roll Call attached as Exhibit A.
2. **Agenda from Executive Board meeting**
The Executive Board met on April 9, 2012 at the USFS Admin Center, Sedona, AZ. Meeting time at 8:00 AM.
3. **President's Report – Carolyn Fisher commented on the following items:**
 - (a) The Council Roster needs some maintenance so check your information to see that it is correct and contact Lana Larew at info@bigparkcouncil.org
 - (b) The SFD candidate forum on April 4 sponsored by the Council was well-attended.
 - (c) The Council P&Z Committee needs a chair as there are upcoming issues to be addressed.
 - (d) The Council needs someone to do the Community Calendar as Fran McWherter is stepping down.
 - (e) The Council needs someone to head up the Vision Committee as the result of Mel Copen's death.
 - (f) The concept of the "Walking Schoolbus" was introduced whereby adults walk with groups of children to school and back home. Volunteers are needed.
4. **New Members/Member Changes – Secretary Tom Graham** – Received written notice from Pine Valley Property Owners Association that the primary representative would be Steven Fiedler with first alternate as Bob Herring and second alternate would be Al Thiele.
5. **Secretary's report – Tom Graham** – Tom reported that the draft minutes for February, 2012, and March, 2012, were distributed and no comments had been received. **Moved, Seconded and Carried without objection to approve the February, 2012, and the March, 2012, minutes as distributed.**
6. **Treasurer's report – Kathy Huffstetler**
 - (a) Kathy Huffstetler gave the March, 2012 Treasurer's Report – No comments. Filed for audit and attached as Exhibit B.
7. **Corresponding Secretary's report – Tom Graham** – None.
8. **Committee Reports – A reminder for Committee Chairs that display material for the screen should be submitted to Dave Norton one week in advance of the meeting.**
 - (a) **SR 179 Weed Abatement Task Force – Gail Shaw Simpson** – Tom Graham reported on behalf of the Task Force that the spring seeding & mowing had been completed and there will be another mowing in the Fall. That will then complete the work that the All-American Road Committee has agreed to pay for.
 - (b) **Scholarship Committee – Dorothy O'Brien** – Dorothy reported that the Committee had met via email and sent out the material to the High School to solicit applications. The Committee will report once the applications have been received and reviewed.
9. **Other Reports (see reminder about display material under #8 above)**
BPRCC seeks to have attendees at meetings of many organizations. In the interest of shortening our meetings, these reports will be made on a rotating schedule of 2-3 per month:
 - (a) **All-American Road Committee – AARC Chair Tom Graham** – Tom reported that the AARC has agreed to pay for the SR 179 seeding & two mowing and also indicated that it could not continue to fund this in the future.
 - (b) **Sedona Chamber of Commerce Community Issues Forum – Dave Norton** – Dave reported that the attendees at this Forum commented on the following issues:
 1. **Sedona Fire** – Chief Kazian attended and explained that tax revenues are down so there (are two budget workshops being held to explore ways to make expenses meet income. Unfortunately, neither of the workshops were held in the Village. There will be an Open House on April 28th from 11 AM until 2 PM at

Station #1. Chief Kazian will be cooking hot dogs, etc. The public is invited to tour the station and enjoy refreshments.

2. **Sedona Chamber of Commerce/Main Street** – On July 28th, the National Day of the Cowboy has been recognized as an official Arizona Centennial Event.

3. **City of Sedona** – Bed tax collections are up and they believe this is due to catching up with delinquencies. Construction sales tax is down and retail sales taxes are not increasing as much as expected but the spring tourists are just starting to arrive and spend. The performing arts project at Barbara's Park at Posse Grounds Park was approved by City Council and construction should start in May and be completed by the end of the year. The wetlands project is moving along and the retention ponds are filling and plants have been planted. Completion is expected around the end of April. There will be a soft opening later this year and once the plants are a little more established, there will be a grand opening. The drainage improvement project is ongoing and will most likely focus on small projects due to costs.

4. **Boys & Girls Club of Northern Arizona** – Connie Dedrick, Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Northern Arizona said that their club is seeing approximately 65 kids per day. [NOTE – the Big Park Council partnered with the Boys and Girls Club for our Summer Recreation program]. On June 24th, they will be hosting Sedona Taste as a fundraiser – details will be forthcoming.

5. **Sedona 30** – Rod Abbott said the Rotary Club is hosting a Chili Cookoff at Tlaquepaque on May 5th as a fundraiser. They have sponsored 190 kids on the Imagination program with the Library where each kid receives a book per month until age 5. Now they need to raise the funds to provide the books. The Sedona 30 has also provided \$18,000 in high school scholarships for Red Rock High School.

6. **Zaki Gordon Film Institute** – Linda Goldenstein is seeking students to enroll in the Institute, which is in conjunction with Yavapai College. If the College does not get 30 students enrolled for the fall semester, they may have to close the program. The Institute is the only regional source for learning the film making industry and students have a track record of being award winners. Tuition is \$5,000 for the year.

7. **Enchantment Resort** – the Resort has just finished a \$25 million renovation in both guest rooms, dining facilities and meeting room spaces. While the dining facilities have significantly expanded, reservations are strongly encouraged.

8. **Sedona Wine Festival** – the Festival will be held September 22/23 this year and will feature wineries from around Arizona and all of the Verde Valley wineries whose number is steadily increasing.

(c) **Forest Service – Paul Sullivan** – Paul reported that Heather would be gone for three weeks due to the death of her father. The Council will send a sympathy card. The Mount Lemmon litigation against the USFS will not affect our Red Rock Pass Program according to Heather.

(d) **Red Rock Road Enhancement Maintenance District – Tom Graham** – Tom reported that the legislation to convert the RRREMD to a citizen board was signed by Governor Brewer on March 27, 2012, and was codified as ARS Title 48-1091 – 48-1098.

(e) **Sedona Fire District** – Gary Johnson – Gary reported on three items: 1. In the eastern U.S there are presently 10 large fires burning; 2. Weeds are the #1 fuel that spreads to house fires; and 3. He is seeing a little more building activity in our area.

10. Old Business

(a) Dorothy O'Brien reported that she had attended the WIFFA awards luncheon at which Big Park Water received an award. Dorothy also noted that she had the opportunity at that luncheon to speak with a representative of Arizona Water Company about keeping our community informed about the proposed water tank.

11. New Business –

(a) Dorothy O'Brien asked the Council to consider being a Sector Partner for the O'Connor House Centennial Voter Engagement Project. A short film was shown with retired U.S Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor describing this Project as a nonpartisan effort to promote civil public discourse that leads to civic action. After considerable discussion it was **Moved, Seconded and Carried, with the requisite two-thirds vote, to put this item on the Agenda.** After additional discussion it was **Moved, Seconded and Carried without objection to approve the Big Park Council sign on as a Sector Partner in this Centennial Voter Engagement Project.**

(b) Tom McGoldrick with the Verde Valley Cyclist Coalition made a presentation extolling the economic benefits of hosting bicycling events in our community and that we live in one of the great cycling venues in the U.S. By promoting cycling events we will be promoting tourism which will have a substantial economic benefit for local businesses, one of the goals of our Vision Effort. No action requested.

12. Announcements

- (a) Upcoming garage sale by University Women for Scholarships will be held April 20, 21 &22;
- (b) Hazardous waste disposal opportunity – April 14 at Yavapai County Roads Dept.

(c) Yavapai Apache Nation are investigating obtaining space in Tequa

(d) Celtic Harvest Festival is moving to Poco Diablo this year as Dorothy O'Brien was unable to connect with the new Tequa owners

13. Adjournment – Meeting was duly adjourned at 10:35 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas H. Graham, Secretary