

**BIG PARK REGIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL, INC.**  
**APRIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**9:00 A.M., Thursday, April 9, 2015**  
**Sedona Fire District Station #3, 125 Slide Rock Road, Sedona, AZ 86351**

**Call to order – Pledge of Allegiance**

**1. Determine Quorum by Roll Call** – A quorum was established with 19 Members present. 9 Members were absent: Big Park Community School, Highland Estates, La Barranca II, Las Piedras, Pine Valley, Pinon Woods East II, Sedona Village Lodging Association, Verde Valley School, and Wild Horse Mesa - See Attached Quorum Roll Call.

**2. Agenda from Executive Board meeting** -The Executive Board met on Monday, April 6, 2015, to create the Agenda.

**3. President's Report – Steve Nelson** – Steve Nelson welcomed all those present and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

**4. Secretary's Report – Tom Graham** – Tom reported that a letter was received from Valley Vista Estates HOA, on HOA letterhead, signed by HOA president, Janet Walters, indicating a change in the representative and alternates. The new representative, effective March 11, 2015, is George Witterman, the 1<sup>st</sup> alternate is Barb Gordon and the 2<sup>nd</sup> alternate is Bill Pumphrey. Secretary Tom Graham certified that these changes were made in accordance with the Council's Bylaws. Tom reported that the minutes from the March 12, 2015 meeting were distributed and there were two typo corrections/amendments. On a motion duly made, seconded and approved with no objections, the minutes of the March 12, 2015 meeting were approved as corrected.

**5. Treasurer's Report – Harry Hirsch** – Harry reported that all membership dues have been paid for 2015. Harry reported that there was \$7,659.23 in the bank account which matched what was on the latest bank statement. The report was filed for audit.

**6. Committee Reports** - Standing committees are: Recreation, P&Z, and Transportation.

(a) **Recreation Committee – No report.**

(b) **P&Z Committee – Bill Kusner** – In Bill's absence, President Steve Nelson read a report prepared by Bill which had several items: 1. The Committee met with Ann Budrow from Baceline Investments, owner of Tequa, who reported to the Committee that new signage in the front of the property visible from SR 179 will be erected soon and Baceline is considering other uses for some of the buildings in the back of the property; 2. A proposed change to the animal control ordinance limiting residential properties to five (5) canines has been tabled for the time being; 3. A proposed variance for a reduced setback on Box Canyon Road in the Red Rock Cove West Subdivision of VOCA was considered and the Committee had "No Comment" and deferred to VOCA on this issue as the VOCA Architectural Committee was working with the homeowner on this matter; 4. The U-Haul request for a variance was unanimously denied by the Yavapai County Board of Adjustment at its February 19, 2015 meeting.

(c) **SR179 Median Weed Abatement** – Bill Kusner has resigned as chair of this task force. President Steve Nelson indicated that the task force has been attempting to have a meeting with ADOT and the US Forest Service but has not been able to find a compatible date for such a meeting.

(d) **Transportation Committee – Steve Fiedler** – In Steve's absence, President Steve Nelson reported that the 29 Lynx Surveys had been completed and returned to date. The responses so far were split about equally among those who see no need, those who see a need but not for them at this point and those who see a need and will use it 2-3 times a week.

(e) **Vision & Enhancement Committee – Vacant** – No report.

(f) **Dark Sky Committee – Joanne Kendrick** - Joanne reported that there has been a tremendous response from residents and businesses and other organizations providing support letters for the designation. With regard to the gas cards for dark sky events, KSB has indicated that it has funds in its budget to assist with these dark sky events so the \$200 allocated by the Council will be enough for the "Star Parties" beginning April 11 & other dates. These "Star Parties" are also part of the requirement for the Dark Sky Application to be submitted to the IDA.

**7. Other Reports –**

(a) **Sedona Fire District (Fire Marshal Gary Johnson)** – Gary reported that fire season is coming and he urged everybody to be prepared. Fire restrictions will most likely be put in place about the middle of May. Gary passed out a pamphlet on tips to be "Firewise". The "Firewise" pamphlet gave information in 3 areas: 1. Firewise Landscaping; 2. Be Prepared with a Disaster Plan and ensure Emergency Responder Access to your home; and 3. Firewise Construction through the use of fire-resistant roof construction, attachments and walls and windows. He urged residents to get rid of their combustible waste. Burn permits are still available under certain conditions. Finally Gary advised people assemble a Red Cross Kit with water and food, flashlight, first aid, sanitation and personal hygiene items, essential personal documents, cell phone with chargers, extra cash and emergency blankets. Also make a plan in the event you have to evacuate or separated from your family in an emergency. Lastly stay informed about what disasters or emergencies may occur in your area.

(b) **Yavapai County Sheriff's Office (Sergeant Dan Winslow)** – Report was made by Eastern Commander Rick Martin. There was some discussion about the Pinon Woods Gate not being open when Jacks Canyon Road was closed.

(c) **Yavapai College Advisory Committee (Carolyn Fisher)** – Carolyn reported that there will be a report from this Committee next month.

- (d) **All American Road Committee (Tom Graham)** – Tom reported that AOL has posted an article on its website from Country Living of the “10 Most Essential/Classic American Road Trips” which includes the Red Rock Scenic Byway/All-American Road. The Red Rock Scenic Byway is included in some petty lofty company. The link to this article is: [aol.com/article/2015/04/01/10-classic-american-road-trips/21159374/?ncid=webmail1](http://aol.com/article/2015/04/01/10-classic-american-road-trips/21159374/?ncid=webmail1)
- (e) **Community Issues Committee – Chamber of Commerce (Dave Norton)** – No report.
- (f) **Forest Service (Paul Sullivan)** – Paul reported that Palatki Heritage site will be closed 4/13 – 4/19. Also, Coconino National Forest has been designated as “moderate” fire danger already. There was a small human-caused fire on House Mtn which was handled by USFS. The Trail Fund received a \$15,000 donation from Marriot and the fund also received \$800+ from the AZ Gives program.
- (g) **Red Rock Road Enhancement Maintenance District (Dave Norton)** – No report.
- (h) **Verde Valley Transportation Planning Organization (John Gillam)** – No report.
- (i) **Village Library Center (Cheryl Yeatts)** – Cheryl announced that National Library Week is coming up next week. Cheryl brought the first issue of the SPL magazine. Cheryl solicited topics for her column in the Villager
- (j) **Verde Valley Regional Economic Organization (Glen Bartlett)** – No report.
- (k) **Sedona Village Vision Alliance (Paul Jankovsky)** – Paul reported that the Alliance has had four meetings. Members of the Alliance are Bev Copen, David Gill, David Norton, Tom Graham, Edgar Lozoya, Tony Pugliano and Don Groves. Work is under way to help support the extension of the Verde Lynx and also to create a useful map of the businesses in the Village.
- (l) **Member Report** – No report.

#### 8. Old Business –

- (a) **Update on memorial tree/bench for Joan McClelland; creation of a Memorial Committee** – Steve Nelson reported that we are waiting to receive the KSB donation and then the bench will be ordered.

#### 9. New Business

- (a) **Development Services Director Steve Mauk and Animal Control Officer Robert Brummet** – It was reported that Yavapai County has a requirement that all dogs have to be licensed and there is also a leash ordinance and an excessive barking ordinance. The excessive barking ordinance is rather vague but it is a class 2 criminal misdemeanor with a maximum fine of \$150. There will be a new program going into effect which will be available online and will be for periods of longer than one year at a time.
- (b) **Sedona Humane Society Executive Director Suzanne Fuqua** - Suzanne indicated that although the Humane Society is located in the City of Sedona it does serve as the animal shelter for the Village/Big Park area. Suzanne made a PowerPoint presentation on their mission by providing 800+ spay/neuters/year, 400 vaccinations, 820 adoptions, 700 microchip ID's and \$4,000 given to residents for emergency vet care. Donna Busse, Paw Prints Thrift Store manager, spoke about the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Humane Society Auction Fundraiser to be held on 4/25 at the Elks starting at 11:30 AM. There will be a live and silent auction and there are over 125 donors towards this event.
- (c) **Advisory Board for The Villager - Linda Exley** reported that The Villager newspaper was seeking to re-establishing an Advisory Board consisting of 3 members. The Villager is also seeking volunteers who are interested in writing articles for The Villager. There is a meeting on this issue on 4/29 at the VOCA meeting room at 10:00 AM.

#### 10. Announcements

- (a) **Please send all announcements or corrections for our website to [info@bigparkcouncil.org](mailto:info@bigparkcouncil.org)**
- (b) **Sedona Public Library in the Village:** Participate in a community book discussion on “The kite Runner” by Khaled Hosseini on Wednesday, 4/29/@ 1:30 PM at Sedona Winds (405 Jacks Canyon Rd). Rotating Artist Program: Display of “Illustrating Literature – Charcoal Drawings on Book Pages” created by Stephanie Peters during April.
- (c) **Potter’s Hand Production of “Esther”** – April 17, 18, & 19 at 4:00 PM at tequa.
- (d) **ADOT’s Tentative Five-Year Plan Construction Program** – Public comment at Chino Valley Council Chambers, 202 North State Rte 89, Chino Valley on 5/15 at 9:00 AM.
- (e) **Humane Society 4<sup>th</sup> Annual “Help The Animals” Auction** – see ((b) above.
- (f) **AZ Attorney General presents Senior Safety Workshop** – Saturday, 4/11 from 10 AM to 1:30 PM at St. Andrews Episcopal church, 100 Arroyo Pinon Drive, West Sedona.
- (g) **Big Park Council will have a presentation by the Verde Valley Advisory Committee to Yavapai College – May meeting on May 14 at Fire Station #3 at 9:00 AM.**

Meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

**Respectfully submitted:** Tom Graham, Secretary