

BIG PARK REGIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL, INC.
MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING
9:00 AM, Thursday, May 14, 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 17 members present. 11 members were absent: Big Park Community School, Firecliff, Oak Creek Country Club Estates III, Oak Creek Estados, Pine Valley, Pinon Woods East II, Pinon Woods I, Sedona Village Business Association, Sedona Village Lodging Association, Verde Valley School, Wild Horse Mesa.
- 2. Agenda from Executive Board meeting** – The Executive Board met at the Red Rock Ranger Station on May 5, 2015 at 9am.
- 3. President's Report** – Steve Nelson – The president welcomed and thanked those in attendance.
- 4. Secretary's report** – Barb Gordon – The minutes from April 9, 2015 were approved.
- 5. Treasurer's report** – Harry Hirsch III – Harry presented a written report. April balance: \$6,659.87.
- 6. Committee Reports** – Standing committees are: Recreation, P&Z and Transportation
 - (a) Recreation Committee – No Report
 - (b) P&Z Committee – Bill Kusner – No Report
 - (c) Transportation Committee – Steve Fiedler – No Report
 - (d) SR179 Median Weed Abatement – No Report
 - (e) Dark Sky Committee – Joanne Kendrick – We have received 225 support letters from the community and 26 business and organization support letters. We are partnering with Dennis Young, Sirius Lookers, for a star party at Big Park Elementary School in August or September. The revised Yavapai County Light Pollution Control Ordinance will be presented to the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors at their July meeting. We're working with the County to obtain needed information for the IDA application.
- 7. Other Reports**
 - (a) Sedona Fire District (Gary Johnson) – Rain has delayed fire season but will promote weed growth and potential for fires as the weeds dry out. Increase in building permits. Call 911 if you need snake removal.
 - (b) Yavapai County Sheriff's Office (Sergeant Dan Winslow) – Paved Red Rock Loop road could increase potential traffic speeding. Bike Rally went well. Sheriff's department will begin using body cameras. Traffic continues to be affected by chip sealing work.
 - (c) Yavapai College Advisory Committee (Carolyn Fisher) – Presentation later in meeting.
 - (d) All American Road Committee (Graham) – No report
 - (e) Community Issues Committee – Chamber of Commerce (Norton) – No report
 - (f) Forest Service (Paul Sullivan) – Increase in illegal trail building, please do not remove indicators but rather take photos and report illegal trails. Red Rock Trail Fund up to \$25,000. Friends of the Forest web site good source for maps. friendsoftheforestsedona.org
 - (g) Red Rock Road Enhancement Maintenance District (Norton) – City of Sedona is planning use of the double weed barrier. RRREMD to observe results rather than recommend using double weed barrier on 179 at this time. Mandate is to maintain not enhance.
 - (h) Verde Valley Transportation Planning Organization (Gillam) – More paving and delays on Jacks Canyon. Update to transportation plan could include look at alternative route to Sedona from VOC than 179. Nelson: Norton and Nelson will attend a meeting about discussion to restrict access to Oak Creek Canyon such as is done at Zion National Park. Seems unlikely without paving Schnebly Hill Road.
 - (i) Village Library Center (Cheryl Yeatts) – See announcements.
 - (j) Verde Valley Regional Economic Organization (Glen Bartlett) – No report
 - (k) Sedona Village Vision Alliance (Paul Jankovsky) – No report

8. Old Business

- (a) Update on memorial bench for Joan McClelland – Bench has been ordered. Additional expenses projected: concrete pad, installation of up to three more plaques. Waiting to see if funds allow for tree.
- (b) Update on Dark-Sky Designation progress – See committee report.
- (c) Update on Survey for Verde Lynx – 54 responses. Never use, no support–6. No use but support–6. Everyday–8. Couple times a week–17. Once a week–10. One a month–7. Surveys to be delivered to Bruce Morrow, Transportation Manager for CAT and the Verde Lynx. Cottonwood area transportation decision.
- (d) Update on Advisory Board to the Villager – Pumphrey and Fisher: Good turnout at community meeting. Enthusiasm for new ideas and articles written by community members. Anyone may submit an article, 250-500 words. Photos must be high resolution. Editorial board will choose articles to be published. Time sensitive topics will receive first look.

9. New Business

- (a) Presentation by the Verde Valley Advisory Committee to Yavapai College. The presenters included Carolyn Fisher (Big Park area rep), Paul Chevalier (Sedona City Council rep) and Al Filardo (District Governing Board member). Mission: Provide advice to Yavapai College District Governing Board based on objective analysis and feedback from Verde Valley communities. Four recommendations by the committee are: 1. Postpone projects until a strategic plan has been developed. 2. Increase marketing and recruitment efforts to students and parents in the Verde Valley. 3. Amend the Campus Master Plan to remove any language about divesting of the Sedona Campus. 4. Do not raise property taxes this year.
- (b) Big Park Regional Coordinating Council scholarship winner – Lily Davis. Bob Kraft shared the recommendation for Lily and commented on how well the recommendation was written as well as how deserving Lily is to be the winner. Nelson and Kraft attended awards presentation.
- (c) Discuss letter to SFD – Nelson presented a suggestion for a letter to SFD regarding increased restrictions to open burning permits. Pumphrey commented that smoke is a health hazard. Norton moved, Gilliam seconded: Burn ban in Big Park. Fire Marshall Johnson: Smoke can be avoided with education about burning; Open burning refers to vegetation such as tree limbs; Not certain of legal aspects regarding a total ban. Fisher: Has not had time to survey her constituents to determine their opinion regarding issues in letter or burn ban. Possible controls can be determined by HOAs individually. Norton and Gilliam retracted motion. Fire Marshall Johnson, will email ADEQ (Arizona Department of Environmental Quality) and research various options for bans and/or restrictions and legal issues surrounding burn ban.

10. Announcements

• Please send all announcements or corrections for our website to info@bigparkcouncil.org

* Sedona Public Library in the Village (SPL-V):

- (a) Thursday, May 14: Meet author Anne Hillerman, daughter of Tony Hillerman.
- (b) Tuesday, May 19: “Infinite Possibilities,” an exhibit of digital art by Donna Klein opens at 1:00 p.m. at Sedona Public Library in the Village. A reception for the artist will be Wednesday, May 27, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at SPL-V.
- (c) Wednesday, May 27: Community book discussion at 1:30 p.m. at Sedona Winds Retirement Community, 405 Jacks Canyon Road. Share what you are currently reading and get ideas for your next read.

* ADOT’s Tentative Five-Year Construction Program – Public review and comment at Town of Chino Valley Council Chambers, 202 North State Route 89, Chino Valley, AZ 86323 on May 15 at 9 AM.

* At the June Big Park RCC meeting, the Verde River Basin Partnership will be making a presentation. Ed Wolfe, the Partnership Chair plus several Partnership Board Members will be attending.

11. Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 11:05am

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Gordon, BPRCC Secretary