

MINUTES
CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE
REGULAR COASTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, February 13, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m.
Community Center, Ole Hanson Fireside Room
100 N. Seville, San Clemente, CA 92672

1. CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Hart called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Committee Member Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Susan Ambrose, Richard Dickey, and Michael Smith; Chairman Bill Hart

Absent: Don Brown, Ken Nielsen, Chair pro tem Peter Salgado

Staff Present: Mary Vondrak, Senior Management Analyst
Eileen White, Recording Secretary

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of the Regular CAC Meeting of January 9, 2014

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER SMITH, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER AMBROSE, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED to receive and file the minutes of the regular meeting of January 9, 2014, with the following revisions:

Page 3, 1st paragraph, 1st sentence, replace “non functioning sprinkler” with “overwatering between noon and 1:00 p.m.”; insert the following new sentences, “Mr. Kanzler confirmed that watering at this time of day is against the City’s ordinance. He notified the landlord and the problem was corrected.”

5. PUBLIC INPUT - None

6. OLD BUSINESS - None

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Poche Action Plan Update

Mary Vondrak, Senior Management Analyst, summarized the staff report. California Coastal Commission (CCC) staff has advised City staff on potential actions to take to address the issues associated with the Poche scour pond. These actions include researching whether additional permits are needed for projects, conducting an update to an existing bioassessment document, and determining the benefits that might come about as a result of the City's actions. Efforts are ongoing to encourage water conservation efforts to minimize yard runoff from entering the storm drain system, and bird abatement programs such as the falconry service and coyote decoys are proving their effectiveness. A study will also be included in the upcoming Sewer Master Plan Update which will research the feasibility of diverting UV treated urban runoff to the land outfall pipe located at Poche. Staff recommended the Committee discuss the update, and receive and file the report.

In response to questions, Ms. Vondrak advised she is in the process of researching steps toward conducting an Environmental Assessment, including meeting with CCC staff for help with strategies; agreed to provide a timeline of next steps in the process for the Committee's next meeting.

Chair Hart commented that scour ponds are at the mouth of every water outlet and a result of physical changes to land. Although diverting the UV treated water may make the pond less of an attractive nuisance, the pond will never disappear entirely, and will return during rainy seasons. He is happy to see that the CCC is being more open minded about potential solutions, and endorsed conducting an Environmental Assessment as well as considering methods to divert the UV treated water to an outfall pipe as first steps in developing solutions.

Committee Member Smith recommended the City be more aggressive in its efforts to clean up the Poche scour pond; recommended the City advocate for continued use of the UV treatment filtering system; suggested the funds generated by the increase in the Clean Ocean Fee Program be utilized to clean up the scour pond. He encouraged the City to be proactive with the pond rather than reacting to its condition; suggested the City consider partnering with the City of Dana Point to develop solutions.

Ms. Vondrak advised the funds raised by the fee increase are going towards bird deterrent measures as well as landscape irrigation and turf removal incentives and a UV treatment feasibility study.

Report received and filed. Staff to bring back additional update at the Committee's next regular meeting.

B. San Clemente Beach Trail Update

Senior Management Analyst Vondrak reviewed the staff report, an analysis of the results of the Beach Trail Survey, and referred to the attached copy of the Beach Trail Management Program, which was updated by the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Commission in June 2013. Staff recommended the Commission review the update and receive and file the staff report.

Chair Hart commented that on regular walks along the Beach Trail, he has seen an increase in trash, homeless camping, and dog waste. He was not surprised to read survey results indicating complaints about bicyclists and dog walkers; noted recently the trail has been cleaner and repair of rust spots has begun. He commended staff for their actions to increase enjoyment of the trail for all.

Committee Member Ambrose also endorsed staff's action to repair relatively minor damage before the situation deteriorates to the point that major action is needed; expressed surprise that more survey respondents did not indicate parking at Calafia as the parking lot as it is often full of cars from people that park and use the trail. She recommended the City consider publishing the results of the Beach Trail Survey to publicize the popularity and positive commentary about the trail, and let the community know how much it is appreciated. The results could be published online, in mailers, in local newspapers, etc. and may spark positive letters to the editor. She noted the importance of relaying fresh information to the public as well as informing them that efforts at improvement are ongoing.

Committee Member Smith commented that although the Beaches, Parks, and Recreation Commission recommended Council retain the existing "no-ride zones" on the trail south of the pier, Council elected to reduce the walk zone and increased bicyclists' use of the trail.

In response to comments, Ms. Vondrak agreed to research and report back regarding hardware recently added to the trail's railroad crossings.

Report received and filed.

8. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Bacterial Monitoring Report Dated February 4, 2014
- B. January 2014 Environmental Programs Update

Committee Members received and filed items 7A and 7B.

Ms. Vondrak agreed to contact the Committee Members regarding results of an upcoming audit on the City by the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board; advised land development standards for priority projects with regard to hydromodification have recently been implemented; advised

Marblehead Coastal Development is grandfathered in under the previous standards because its approvals are already in place; agreed to research an area of City property that may be being overwatered in response to a comment from Committee Member Ambrose.

9. ITEMS FROM STAFF

A. Potential Future Agenda Items

Mary Vondrak, Senior Management Analyst, reviewed the Potential Future Agenda Items and requested the Committee Members provide input. Committee Members added Poche Action Plan Update, Beach Trail Update, NPDES Update on Audit, and CAC Participation in Earth Day Events to the March agenda, and an update on "Overwatering is Out" Marketing Campaign to the April agenda. In addition, Committee Members added Study of Stingray Population to the May agenda.

Committee Member Smith requested staff bring back studies indicating past and current trends in stingray populations, potential public education strategies including signage and best avoidance guidelines, and reported incidents data if available.

Report received and filed.

10. ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Committee Member Smith commented that he is very pleased to see how active and vocal Council has been with regard to the decommissioning of SONGS; reported that at the most recent Beaches, Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, the Commission approved a new flagpole at Vista Bahia Park installed by the Boy Scouts; reviewed plans for temporary building at the library while the facility is undergoing remodel; began consideration of potential to host free concert from Pacific Sympathy for the community; prioritized Capital Improvement Projects for recommendation to City Council.

Committee Member Ambrose commended Chair Hart for his Earth Day interview on the "Around Town" program; expressed desire that the CAC be involved in Earth Day preparations/events; suggested discussion of CAC involvement in Earth Day events be added to the March agenda.

Chair Hart encouraged CAC participation in Earth Day festivities, which have been scheduled for April 26 and will feature a beach cleanup, festival, and Blue Water Business Award ceremony; requested CAC members call him with nominations for the award.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER AMBROSE, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER SMITH, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED to adjourn at 8:16 p.m. to the Regular Meeting for the Coastal Advisory Committee to be held on Thursday, March 13, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room, at the Community Center, 100 N. Seville, San Clemente, California.

Respectfully submitted,



Bill Hart, Chair

Attest:



Mary Vondrak, Senior Management Analyst