

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE**  
**COASTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
Thursday, August 9, 2012 @ 7:00 p.m.  
Community Center, Ole Hanson Fireside Room  
100 N. Seville, San Clemente, CA 92672

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**1. CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**2. ROLL CALL**

Present: Susan Ambrose, Don Brown, Robert Jordan, Ken Nielsen, Michael Smith; Chair pro tem Peter Salgado and Chairman Bill Hart

Absent: None

Staff Present: Mary Vondrak, Senior Management Analyst  
Jim Pechous, City Planner  
Jeff Hook, Principal Planner  
Brian Judd, Consultant, The Planning Center  
Atousa Zolfaghari, Planning Intern  
Eileen White, Recording Secretary

Agenda items are presented in the originally agendized format for the benefit of the minutes' reader, but were not necessarily heard in that order.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Minutes of the Regular CAC Meeting of July 12, 2012

MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER JORDAN, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER AMBROSE, AND CARRIED 6-0-1, WITH COMMITTEE MEMBER SALGADO ABSTAINING, to receive and file the minutes of the Regular CAC Meeting of July 12, 2012, as presented.

**4. PUBLIC INPUT - None**

**5. OLD BUSINESS - None**

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Draft Coastal Element Review

Jim Pechous, City Planner, requested the Committee appoint one of its members to attend a California Coastal Commission (CCC) staff-level meeting on September 6, 2012, for the opportunity to interact directly with CCC staff.

Several Committee Members commented that they would like to discuss potential solutions to clean up Poche Beach with CCC staff. Committee Members established from staff that it would be acceptable to appoint more than one member to attend the meeting.

Committee Members elected to have Committee Member Ambrose and Committee Member Brown attend the meetings on the Committee's behalf, with Committee Member Smith acting as alternative.

In response to questions from the Commissioners, City Planner Pechous described the types of issues, areas of responsibilities, and appeal processes the City will carry out once the Local Coastal Element is approved by the CCC; agreed to provide maps indicating the different coastal areas and how they will be address to the Committee Members; advised that the City will have to follow Coastal Act guidelines in its dealings with residents.

Atousa Zolfaghari, Planning Intern, reviewed the Local Coastal Program Tentative Table of Contents.

Jeff Hook, Principal Planner, displayed the Draft Local Coastal Element of the General Plan and requested the Committee Members provide input. Committee Members suggested revisions as follows:

#### Coastal Element:

- Under "Primary Goal" following the first paragraph, add bullet points "Protect beneficial uses including water quality." and "Sustain beach sand to support beneficial uses."
- Under "Links to Reference Materials" add "North Beach Focus Area"
- Strike "17.56.050" from the last link.

#### Legislative Materials:

- Under "Links to Reference Materials..." strike "17.56.050" from the last link.

### Reader's Guide:

- Under "Article 3 Recreation," add "allow recreation fishing" (staff to determine best placement)
- Insert in appropriate location of document language to address potential City actions in the event the railroad tracks are relocated away from the coastline. In addition, staff to insert where appropriate a policy that the City would oppose plans to double-track the railroad tracks on the beach, as well as policy to indicate that if the tracks are relocated away from the beach, the City would attempt to acquire the railroad right of way for public use.

### Coastal Zone:

- Under Links to Reference materials..." add "Coastal Jurisdiction Map"

### Coastal Access and Recreational Visitor-Serving Opportunities:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph, 1<sup>st</sup> sentence, following "California Coastal Trail," insert "which includes the City's Beach Trail"
- Under "Policies, Access," C-1.1, 2<sup>nd</sup> bullet, replace with "Is safe and feasible." In addition, staff to clarify the City's intent is to provide access if possible, and add a link here to definition of what is acceptable as defined by the CCC.
- Under "Policies, Access," C-1.1, last bullet, add to the end of the sentence, "especially when development is done on private beaches."
- Under Policies, Visitor-Serving" first sentence, insert "sustainability designed" following "visitor-serving"
- Under "Links to Reference Materials..." add another bullet as follows: "Locations of Pacific Coast Bike Trail Links"

### Protecting Sensitive Habitats, Natural Resources, and the Marine Environment:

- Introduction, 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph, 4<sup>th</sup> sentence, following "unified, Statewide approach," insert a link to the Statewide program.
- Under "Policies, C-2.3, replace "Stormwater Management Program" with "Local Improvement Program"

### Scenic and Cultural Resources:

- Introduction, 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence, regarding "scenic view corridors," staff to insert language here to indicate how and by whose authority the scenic view corridors are designated.

### Coastal Hazards:

- Add to the beginning of the introduction “As addressed in the Safety Element,…”
- Under “Links to Reference Materials…” add another bullet as follows: “Safety Element”

### Coastal Access Points Map:

- Staff to add trail/beach access points and railroad crossings should be identified.

### Coastal Canyons Map:

- Identify Marblehead Coastal Project location.

Report received and filed.

Senior Management Analyst Vondrak agreed to forward revised document to Committee Members either electronically or hard printed copy; noted the revised copy will go directly to the Planning Commission for consideration before being presented to Council.

### B. Clean Beaches Initiative (CBI) Grant Opportunity

Mary Vondrak, Senior Management Analyst, reviewed the staff report, a proposal to secure partnerships with entities such as the County of Orange to submit a proposal for a Proposition 84 Clean Beaches Initiative (CBI) grant with potential award up to \$1.4 million. The four proposed elements of the Bacteria Reduction Program, as identified in the Bacterial Identification Study, include 1) Expansion of the City’s irrigation and non-stormwater runoff reduction program; 2) Enhancement of an engineered bioswale within the watershed to reduce nutrient and bacteria loading; 3) Management of bacteria regrowth in the scour pond; and 4) Bird management to reduce bacteria at the beach. Staff recommended the Committee support pursuit of a Proposition 84 Clean Beaches Initiative grant and partnerships with key stakeholders to fund a multi-pronged watershed wide approach in pursuit of reducing the fecal indicator bacteria (FIB) concentrations within the M01 watershed and at Poche Beach.

In response to questions from the Committee Members, Senior Management Analyst Vondrak advised that pursuit of the fund relies on the results of the Bacteria identification Study, as identified above; stated the biologist associated with the CCC is very protective of the pond; noted that partnering with other agencies makes the application more appealing and competitive.

During the ensuing discussion, the Committee Members, either individually or in agreement, provided the following commentary:

- The existence of the pond itself is the problem, and the City's actions to channel storm water drainage into the pond have only exacerbated the problem.
- One sustainable solution to the problem would be to redirect the stormwater to another location, or remove the concrete drains that feed the pond and allow the water to percolate back into the ground.
- If the water was removed, diverted or prevented from going into the pond, the bird problem would go away. A more focused scope of work for eliminating the pond should be prepared.
- Suggested the City pursue legal avenues to apply leverage that might encourage the CCC to change its view that the pond should be protected.
- Suggested CCC involvement in a workshop with the community for a better understanding of the situation. Also noted the need to work/coordinate with the permitting agencies on the Poche issue.
- Commented that millions of dollars spent to date on solutions have not resulted in improved situation.
- With regard to the grant proposal, expressed concern that the City might lose credibility if the City spends \$1.4 million on additional actions if those don't definitively solve the problem at Poche. Noted that the watershed action plan is not ready to implement via a grant and that more detail is needed so that the proposed actions should be further considered so that more careful consideration can be given as to the actions that grant funding should be pursued.
- Noted that the options/proposed action items in the watershed action plan should be more specific with added detail.
- Commented that data is available indicating the clean stormwater could be funneled directly out to the ocean, and suggested this solution be considered as a use for the grant funds.

MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER BROWN SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER NIELSEN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO SUPPORT PURSUIT OF A PROPOSITION 84 CLEAN BEACHES INITIATIVE GRANT AND PARTNERSHIPS WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS TO FUND A MULTI-PRONGED WATERSHED WIDE APPROACH IN PURSUIT OF REDUCING THE FECAL INDICATOR BACTERIA (FIB) CONCENTRATIONS WITHIN THE M01 WATERSHED AND AT POCHE BEACH.

C. Environmental Sustainability Grant Application Recommendations

Mary Vondrak, Senior Management Analyst, reviewed the staff report, an analysis of two grant applications received for Environmental Sustainability Grants. Staff recommended the Commission recommend City Manager

approval of the Casa Romantica and Ecology Center Environmental Sustainability Grant applications in full, appropriating \$2,000 from the Clean Ocean Fund and \$2,000 from the Water Conservation Fund.

Patricia Holloway, representing Casa Romantica, reviewed the proposed project; advised that if the project is a success, the Casa plans on expanding it; described some of the educational tools being considered to assist in education efforts.

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER AMBROSE, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER SMITH, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO RECOMMEND CITY MANAGER APPROVAL OF THE CASA ROMANTICA CASA KIDS GARDEN WORKSHOP.

In response to questions from the Committee regarding the Ecology Center application, Senior Management Analyst Vondrak advised that the Ecology Center was a tri-cities effort, supported by the cities of San Juan Capistrano, Dana Point and San Clemente.

Chair Hart noted the Ecology Center provides services to students from San Clemente and pointed out the importance of educating the public living inland from the City, as their runoff eventually impacts San Clemente.

Committee Member Ambrose noted the importance of educating all students and supporting teachers within the Capistrano Unified School District, as the children come home and share education with their parents and neighbors, and all become more educated about watershed issues as a result.

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER AMBROSE, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER JORDAN, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO RECOMMEND CITY MANAGER APPROVAL OF THE ECOLOGY CENTER "WATER TOOLKIT" ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CURRICULUM PACK FOR EDUCATORS.

## **7. COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. Bacterial Monitoring Report Dated August 1, 2012
- B. July 2012 Environmental Programs Update

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

## **8. 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. She announced Joint Council, Commissions, and Committees Meeting scheduled for October 30. Committee Members elected to skip their regular October meeting, and defer the October agenda to the November meeting.

**9. ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Committee Member Nielsen invited all to attend the Doheny State Beach Surf Festival featuring pro surfers, bands, and concerts. There will be both paid and free events, with a free parking shuttle from the high school. Funds raised will support the State Park's Interpretive Centers.

Chair Hart announced an Art Auction at the Community Center Art Gallery on October 7, featuring all levels of artwork for purchase, appetizers and wine. There is a nominal entry charge at the door.

Committee Member Brown announced the Annual Fiesta occurring on Sunday, August 12; noted the Planning Commission continues its review of the Draft General Plan; requested staff provide print copies of several regulating documents.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

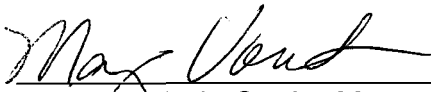
MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER BROWN, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER JORDAN, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED to adjourn at 10:58 p.m. to the next regular meeting of the Coastal Advisory Committee on Thursday, September 13, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room at the Community Center located at 100 N. Seville, San Clemente, CA.

Respectfully submitted,



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Bill Hart, Chair

Attest:



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Mary Vondrak, Senior Management Analyst