# MINUTES CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE COASTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, November 12, 2009 @ 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 Schwien led the Pledge of Allegiance.

# 2. ROLL CALL

Present:

Committee Members Robert Jordan, Bob Maltinsky, Richard

Schwien, Michael Metcalf, and Mitchell Thomson; Chair pro

tem Ken Nielsen and Chair Bill Hart

Absent:

None

Staff Present:

Tom Bonigut, Assistant City Engineer

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 September 10, 2009, Regular Meeting

Moved by Committee Member Thomson, seconded by Committee Member Jordan, and carried unanimously to receive and file the minutes of the September 10, 2009, meeting as submitted by staff.

# B. <u>Minutes of the October 13, 2009, Joint City Council/Coastal Advisory</u> <u>Committee Meeting</u>

Moved by Committee Member Thomson, seconded by Committee Member Schwien, and carried 5-0-2, with Chair pro tem Nielsen and Committee Member Maltinsky abstaining, to receive and file the minutes of the October 13, 2009, Joint City Council/Coastal Advisory Committee meeting as submitted by staff.

# 4. PUBLIC INPUT - None.

# 5. OLD BUSINESS - None

#### 6. NEW BUSINESS

# A. Budget Evaluation and Program Prioritization

Tom Bonigut, Assistant City Engineer, introduced a report from Pall Gudgeirsson, Assistant City Manager/Treasurer, regarding projected budget deficits in the upcoming fiscal year. The City Council established three committees charged with identifying cost saving measures, enhancing revenues, and reviewing and prioritizing all General Fund programs. Mr. Bonigut recommended the Committee review the memo and provide feedback either by emailing their comments to him or bringing their observations to the next CAC meeting.

Report received and filed. Agenda item continued to next meeting.

# B. CAC Representation on Sustainability Task Force

As per the discussion at the Joint CAC/City Council meeting, Mr. Bonigut requested the Committee appoint a representative and alternate to represent the CAC on the City's Sustainability Action Plan Task Force.

Moved by Committee Member Thomson, seconded by Committee Member Jordan and unanimously carried to appoint Chair Bill Hart, with Committee Member Schwien serving as alternate, to represent the CAC on the City's Sustainability Action Plan Task Force.

# C. Corps of Engineers Feasibility Study – Selection of Locally-Preferred Plan

Tom Bonigut, Assistant City Engineer, reviewed the staff report and summarized the attached preliminary draft of the Shoreline Feasibility Study, a set of alternatives which include potential impacts of beach sand replenishment near the T-Street Reef for the City to consider. The Corps of Engineers has requested that the City select its "Locally Preferred Plan" so this can be included in the draft documents in the Corps internal review process. Mr. Bonigut noted that the City could still select another alternative as its preferred plan pending further analyses by the Corps and public comment once the draft documents are released for public review. At this time staff recommends that the City select the 15-meter project alternative (Alternative 2) as the City's Locally Preferred Plan.

In response to questions from the Committee Members, Mr. Bonigut noted that the approximate project limits are from South T-Street to Linda Lane Beach and that the Corps has requested the City choose an alternative at this point in the planning process.

Chair pro tem Nielsen advised that there is a large amount of sand pushed up at Moonlight Beach in San Diego County, which will be distributed on the

beaches once the storm season starts. He submitted photos to Mr. Bonigut, who will in turn forward the photos and project details to Beaches, Parks, and Recreation Division staff. He noted that SANDAG staff member Lawrence Honma may be willing to address the CAC regarding this project.

# **Public Comment:**

Mark Rauscher, representing Surfrider Foundation, supported recommending Alternative 2 due to its potential for fewer negative environmental and sealife impacts than the other alternatives, and opined that Alternative 2 would be more acceptable to the public. He noted the importance of sand placement to ensure gradual sloping of the beaches and decrease shore-breaking waves and undertow, and pointed out that the City would not necessary receive any economic benefit if beach shores were widened. He speculated that negative impacts might occur to the sea and plant habitat, and questioned how long it would take for the habitats to recover. He cautioned that the City must protect its beaches to ensure they are not devalued, and advised that an informed decision cannot be made unless additional information is provided and supplementary analysis is performed by the Corps and made available to interested parties.

Ed Schlagle, Capistrano Beach resident, established from staff that the project is subject to California Coastal Commission approval, the Railroad has no standing to provide input into the project approval process, and staff is currently performing some sand pushing when the beach is at extremely low tide.

Committee Members endorsed the idea of sand placement to stem erosion and concurred to support Alternative 2 because it is the least impactful of all the alternatives and least damaging to the environment. They cautioned that it should be highlighted that although the differences between the 50-year costs of the alternatives projects are minimal, the environmental impacts are substantially increased with the other alternatives.

Mr. Bonigut will include the Committee Members' comments and concerns in the staff report when the project is presented to City Council at their December 15, 2009, meeting.

# D. Possible Refinement of the CAC's Mission

Tom Bonigut, Assistant City Engineer, summarized the staff report and reviewed the Ordinance that established the Coastal Advisory Committee. At the Joint meeting with the City Council, the CAC discussed refining its mission statement in an action-oriented style to reflect the unique CAC functions and avoid overlap of responsibilities with other commissions and committees. Staff recommended that the Committee begin discussing content to include in its mission statement.

Discussion ensued regarding the majority of the Committee Members' desire to add environmental issues, including green, energy conservation, and sustainability topics, to the CAC's responsibilities; potential for establishing "spheres of influence" to expand individual Committee Members' interests; and strategies to avoid overlapping CAC responsibilities with existing commissions and committees.

Mr. Bonigut suggested the Committee Members email their proposed suggestions to him by December 2, so he can compile them for brainstorming at the next CAC meeting. He agreed to gather Mission Statements from existing similar style organizations in adjacent cities for jump start/comparison purposes.

# 7. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. <u>Bacterial Monitoring Report Dated October 7, 2009</u>
- B. August, September, October 2009 Environmental Programs Update

Committee Members received and filed Items 7A & 7B as submitted by staff.

# 8. ITEMS FROM STAFF

# A. Update on Proposed NPDES Permit and Opportunistic Sand Permit

Mr. Bonigut announced the San Diego Regional Board has scheduled a meeting to adopt the proposed renewal of the South Orange County NPDES Municipal stormwater permit on November 18, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. in the Regional Board office located at 9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100, San Diego, CA.

# B. Potential Future Agenda Items

Mr. Bonigut reviewed the proposed future agenda items. It was agreed the update on the proposed Ordinance to prohibit Expanded Polystyrene could be moved from the December 2009 to the January 2010 agenda. Items added to the December 2009 agenda are as follows:

- Budget Suggestions
- Discussion of estimates of at-grade railroad crossing pedestrian usage, including methodology used to develop estimates and accuracy.

New topics added for future discussion are as follows:

- Dog Beach
- Kelp removal near pier, including status of efforts and discussion of pest control
- Information regarding coastal-related legislation warranting CAC support or advocacy (Chair Hart will forward information to Mr. Bonigut, with Mr. Bonigut agreeing to draft a memo to City Council concerning potential recommendations.)

# C. Items from Staff

Mr. Bonigut announced a special presentation by County staff regarding Poche Beach at the next City Council meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m., and noted today's <u>Sun Post</u> contained additional information on the presentation.

#### 9. ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Committee Member Maltinsky reviewed items discussed at the last Parks and Recreation Commission meeting including review of final plans for the Vista Hermosa/La Pata Sports Park; Leslie Park fence design debate; establishment of individual "spheres of influence;" discussion of potential joint use agreements with CUSD to consider community/university use of classrooms when not in use by students; and considerable interest in retiring Beaches, Parks, and Recreation Director Al King's position.

Committee Member Thomson invited all to attend the Planning Commission Study Session on November 18, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. where the FAR and public benefit provisions in the Pier Bowl Specific Plan will be discussed. In addition, he announced that tomorrow is e-waste drop off day at the City Yard.

Chair Hart reported that Adopt-A-Beach volunteers complained about the amount of trash left on the beach following the last surf contest, and suggested staff consider establishing refundable deposits that are kept by the City when promoters do not clean up after their events. Mr. Bonigut agreed to discuss this with Beaches, Parks, and Recreation staff and report back. In addition, he reported that vandalism and loitering of young people has increased at T-Street Beach, where recently a palapa, which was donated by a mom when her surfer son died, was set on fire. Mr. Bonigut agreed to forward his concerns to Police Services.

# 10. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER THOMSON, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER METCALF, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED to adjourn at 9:32 p.m. to the regular Coastal Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 10, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at the Ole Hanson Room of the Community Center, located at 100 N. Seville, San Clemente, CA.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Hart, Chair

Attest:

Tom Bonigut, Assistant City Engineer