



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE
COASTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

September 12, 2002

@ 7:00 p.m.

**Senior Center, Multi-Purpose Room
242 Avenida Del Mar
San Clemente, CA 92672**

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Hart led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Bill Hart, Dennis Hannan, Bill Thomas, Nesa Ortega, Michael Barnes
Absent: Greg Hulsizer, Ken Nielsen
Staff present: Bill Humphreys, Marine Safety Captain
Tom Bonigut, Sr. Civil Engineer
Jade Kemble, Recording Secretary

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION BY CHAIRMAN HART, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER ORTEGA, CARRIED 4-0 to approve the minutes of August 8, 2002 as amended.

4. PUBLIC INPUT

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Draft Sand Replenishment Policy or Ordinance.

Committee Member Hannan reported on the information he collected from other committee members. He stated that he had done some additional research since receiving the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers criteria for the type of material which they had been using for beach nourishment and replenishment projects (published in April 2002). He also stated that the information, which a number of other committee members had contributed to, was a great starting point for the outline. He suggested that the Committee discuss the aspects of the sand replenishment issue, section by section, following the draft policy. A summary of this discussion follows.

Section 1.2 – Goals - Committee Member Hannan stated that he believes that the true goal and objective is to maintain the beach and to increase and widen it if possible. He felt that if this goal is not met, then it would follow that the City would lose Marine Safety Headquarters, the railroad, and beachgoers.

Section 3.e. – Materials Used - The term “matching” (as close as possible) was considered sufficient by all committee members. Matching grain size as closely as possible was discussed and all of the committee members were in agreement that a coarser size is preferred overall. Variation in grain size was further discussed. Matched the sand, as closely as possible, is optimal.

Committee Member Ortega asked about artificial reefs, which actually stop sand erosion and create great surf breaks. She stated that she would like to leave the door open and mentioned a successful reef in Australia. Pros and cons were stated by other committee members.

Committee Member Hannan stated that clays and silts above 10% choke the ocean biology by 10% creates muddy water. One area where this is evident is the Palos Verdes Peninsula during storms lasting a week or more. He went on to state that the only “sand” in San Clemente is concentrated in San Juan Creek and the south end of town at the San Mateo formation. The San Juan Capistrano formation soil found throughout San Clemente, is almost all clay and silt. Committee Member Ortega asked why it needed to be kept below 10%. She stated that during storms, the waves pull a lot of that clay and silt out to sea. This causes discolored water which is not aesthetically pleasing, although it eventually dissipates.

Section 3.f – Contour of Beach and Near-shore Ocean Bottom - The Committee felt that the contours of the beach should be maintained as much as possible.

Section 3.h – Placement of Sand - Discussion included rewording “the act of placing sand” i.e., public safety, access, contouring of the beach, etc. and their long term effects. Various committee members discussed short term vs. long term effects. “Sand placement activity will have no more than short term effects on: public safety, public access, biological resources, and surfing resources, was the change made when bullets 1 and 2 were removed.

The next change discussed was “the historical contour of the beach, near shore ocean environment, biological resources, and surfing resources, will be retained as closely as possible.” Committee Member Ortega suggested that “retain” be replaced by “preserved”.

Section 5- Definitions - Language is standard and therefore acceptable.

Section 6 – Instructional Structure/Issues – Committee members suggested that the wording be developed by the City attorney.

Section 7 – Policies - Discussions centered around percentages of “fines” that would be acceptable in San Clemente. It was suggested that higher concentrations of fines may be acceptable for smaller beach fills and that a graduated scale may be developed. Since this is an area of high concern and impact, and is closely regulated by state and federal agencies, Committee member Hannon will do further research into current U.S. Army Corps of Engineers guidelines and will present his findings at the next meeting.

Section 8 - Public Education & Awareness - Tom Bonigut, Sr. Civil Engineer stated that the public should be educated to the fact that when sand is dumped on San Clemente beaches, that future storms may move the sand to another beach, such as Oceanside.

Section 8.a. - Placement - Committee Member Ortega stated that the four sites mentioned comprise all of San Clemente down to Riviera. It was stated that if fines are dumped in the winter, large storms and heavy surf would have a significant impact on the dissipation; whereas dumping in the summer, sand stays in one place. It was pointed out that dump trucks are not going to be running up and down the beach in the summer.

6. NEW BUSINESS

7. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes - July 9, 2002

Received and filed.

B. Bacteriological Monitoring Reports

Received and filed.

8. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Captain Humphreys forwarded Kenny Neilsen’s comments that Kenny and the public recently went to the Linda Lane storm channel and felt that the Beach Maintenance crew is doing a great job on the cleanup.

Captain Humphreys also informed the Committee that Dennis Reed, Parks Manager stated that two beach related projects will begin construction soon: (1) the renovation of the Linda Lane Restrooms and (2) trash enclosures (behind Marine Safety Headquarters) will be built with a hot charcoal disposal site.

9. ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY CHAIRMAN HART, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER ORTEGA, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. to the regular meeting on Thursday, October 10, 2002 at 7:00 p.m., in the Multi-Purpose Room, of the Senior Center, 242 Avenida Del Mar, San Clemente, CA.

Respectfully submitted,

William Hart, Chair

Attest:

Bill Humphreys, Marine Safety Captain