

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

Thursday, June 12, 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 7:04 p.m. Committee Member Nielsen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None

Staff Present: Mary Vondrak, Senior Management Analyst
Jim Pechous, City Planner
Eileen White, Recording Secretary

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of the Regular CAC Meeting of May 8, 2014

Minutes of the May 8, 2014, meeting were unintentionally left out of the meeting packets. Approval of the May 8, 2014, meeting minutes was continued to the July 10, 2014, meeting.

5. PUBLIC INPUT - None

6. OLD BUSINESS - None

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. The Road to Local Coastal Program Certification

Jim Pechous, City Planner, narrated a PowerPoint Presentation entitled, "Coastal Advisory Committee, LCP Update, dated June 12, 2014." He provided information on the purpose and format of the LCP, displayed maps indicating defined boundaries for areas included in the LCP, including areas under City authority and areas remaining under the California Coastal Commission (CCC) authority; described the format of the LCP, reviewed the

consultants and staff involved with the update; summarized guidelines provided by the CCC to assist in the update; described benefits to residents when the City's LCP is realized. He summarized issues of importance to the CCC that the City will pay particular attention to while crafting the LCP, including biological importance, coastal canyon plantings, retention and encouragement of low cost overnight accommodation within the coastal areas, as well as important issues related to beach maintenance, water quality and special events. He reviewed the timetable of events, which includes those items already accomplished, staff-related activities such as taking biological inventory and analysis, schedule of public outreach, workshops, and hearings, as well as LCP preparation and the CCC review/certification process. Staff recommended the Committee hear the presentation, discuss and provide input, and receive and file the staff report.

Chair Hart clarified that the important message to take away from the LCP process is that the City has to be diligent to ensure that any approvals they make are in line with CCC guidelines. The public needs to be aware that although the governing body which approves the projects may be different, the strict rules will remain the same, and they will be diligently applied by the City. He estimated that the majority of residents living in areas currently under CCC authority are well aware of the fact that any improvements would have to go through CCC review; speculated most affected residents will be happy to hear about an improved process and reduced/eliminated need to travel to Long Beach for approval; commented that inventory of canyon properties encroaching into the canyon had been performed in the past and should be available for comparison to existing conditions. He strongly encouraged staff to identify properties that have encroached into the canyon at any time, whether it be many years ago when the original inventory was taken, or those that have encroached in the more recent past. He encouraged all to read the section of Municipal Code containing the coastal canyon development guidelines adopted 10 years ago.

Committee Member Brown commented that some of the advantages for residents would be a shorter time frame for the review process, no need to drive up to Long Beach for review, and staff availability for answers to questions.

Committee Member Ambrose suggested a public service announcement would help inform the public; agreed inventory of non conforming uses within the canyon should be reviewed at this point, especially with regard to potential fire hazards.

In response to questions, City Planner Pechous advised that all property owners on affected lots will be notified of the public outreach and hearing process; informed that many are especially interested in guidance/regulations regarding lot subdivisions; agreed to take under advisement a suggestion to inventory non-conforming uses in the canyons.

He advised that inventorying non-conforming uses in the canyons would be time consuming and costly; noted the decision whether to fund the inventory would be at the City Council's discretion; noted that Code Enforcement visits properties when non-conforming conditions are reported. Visits are followed up with letters from the City and reporting to the CCC.

Committee Member Brown advised that he has been appointed by the Planning Commission to represent it for the LCP update process. He agreed to keep this Committee informed as to their progress as well.

City Planner Pechous encouraged the Committee Members to attend the LCP public outreach session expected to be held in August. He has tasks/activities they can help with at the meeting.

Chair Hart commented that attending the August LCP outreach meeting would be a good substitute for their regular August meeting, which was canceled due to lack of agenda items/scheduling conflicts.

Committee Members thanked Jim Pechous, City Planner, for his informative presentation. Report received and filed.

B. Stingray Incident Report

Senior Management Analyst Vondrak reviewed the staff report, including information on the species and behavior of stingrays found at San Clemente beaches, current trends seen by lifeguard staff in San Clemente, and current trends seen at northern Orange County beaches. The report described typical response by Marine Safety personnel when a sting occurs and recommended habits to implement to avoid being stung by stingrays. Included in the staff report was a table comparing the number of reported stingray incidents in San Clemente to Seal Beach, Bolsa Chica State Beach, and Huntington Beach. The data indicates that there is no upward trend or increase in stingray incidences reported to the City of San Clemente's Marine Safety Department. Staff recommended the Committee receive and file the report.

Chair Hart recommended that the City issue some type of public outreach or press release highlighting information on how to avoid being stung. He also recommended creating outreach for Metrolink passengers and distributing it on trains coming to San Clemente from inland areas.

Committee Member Smith suggested the City consider adding the stingray warning and recommended behavior either to existing signage, or as new signage, as a public benefit. He endorsed including the information in a Metrolink pamphlet; encouraged the City to publish the information, as well as other information such as the beach smoking ban, actions to take if caught in a rip tide, etc., as a friendly gesture for its tourists.

Senior Management Analyst Vondrak recommended Committee Member Smith make that suggestion at a Beaches, Parks, and Recreation Commission meeting as beach signage is within their purview.

The Committee unanimously endorsed encouraging Committee Member Smith bringing this issue to the Beaches, Parks, and Recreation Commission for their consideration based on the report and ensuing discussion at this meeting.

Report received and filed.

8. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Bacterial Monitoring Report dated June 4, 2014.

B. May 2014 Environmental Programs Update

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

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. Additionally, she noted a Joint Council/Commissions/Committees Meeting had been scheduled on September 9, 2014. The Committee can attend that meeting rather than their regular September meeting, or elect to meet on their regularly scheduled meeting date as well if desired.

Following discussion, the Committee Members elected to replace their regularly scheduled September meeting with the Joint Council/Commissions/Committees meeting on September 9, 2014.

Chair Hart suggested the City Council may be interested in the information regarding sand replenishment provided in the Lawrence Honma Presentation heard by this Committee in December 2013 as a first step to become acquainted with the issue of sand replenishment.

Committee Member Brown reported that at Council's recent Strategic Planning Meeting, a Councilmember brought up and received support from the Council regarding a proposal to consider establishing a special tax, partnership, etc. in order to fund the sand replenishment project.

Committee Member Nielsen reported that he had spoken with Greg Heron, who stated that he would be willing to come to this Committee for a

presentation regarding the SANDAG sand replenishment project; encouraged the City to partner with San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) as the City would benefit from their experience with sand replenishment; agreed to forward contact information for Ken Shiff of SCCWRP for a potential presentation regarding a recently published Epidemiological Study.

Senior Management Analyst Vondrak agreed to pass along a recommendation to Tom Bonigut, Assistant City Engineer, that contact information of Lawrence Honma be made available to City Council for their consideration.

Report received and filed.

B. Announcements from Staff

Senior Management Analyst Vondrak offered to obtain copies of the SCCWRP Epidemiological Study if desired by the Committee Members.

10. ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Committee Member Smith reported that at its May meeting, the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Commission recommended Planning Commission approval of the Aloha Surf wave pool and miniature golf facility; forwarded to City Council a proposal to expand bicycle riding capability on the beach trail to include the bridge at Mariposa supported by the majority of the Commission; heard a CARE Presentation regarding the memorial gifting proposal. At its June meeting, the Commission recommended City Council approval of the CARE memorial program; approved changes for the Jim Johnson Park (former Courtney's Sandcastle Park site); reviewed the City's plans for a new phase of Courtney's Sandcastle Playground at Vista Hermosa Sports Park.

Committee Member Ambrose commended Chair pro tem Salgado for replacing his back yard landscaping with raised beds to be shared with neighboring families; commended the Committee for the respect and professionalism shown each other during discussions; expressed desire that she be reappointed on the Committee. She acknowledged Tom Bonigut, Assistant City Engineer; Mary Vondrak, Senior Management Analyst, and Eileen White, Recording Secretary, as tremendous assets for the Committee.

Committee Member Nielsen commented that the City should be considering ways to fund the sand replenishment project, including potential fees, special taxes, etc., to prepare themselves for future costs. He noted the City of Encinitas has raised a substantial amount of money from the increase in its transient occupancy tax, which was set aside to fund its sand replenishment project.

Chair pro tem Salgado reported that he had not reapplied to serve on this Committee due to other commitments; commented that serving on the Committee had been a very enjoyable and rewarding experience; commended Committee Members for their time and efforts on behalf of the community. In addition, he advised his offer to help staff with Poche Beach issues remains despite vacating the Committee.

Committee Member Brown reported that at its last meeting the Planning Commission reviewed and approved the Aloha Surf/miniature golf/restaurant facilities; noted the Commission will take action at their next meeting on the proposed Strategic Implementation Program of the General Plan as well as the SB 2 Emergency Shelter Ordinance proposal.

Chair Hart announced that he had reapplied to the Committee and hoped to be reappointed; thanked Committee Member Salgado for his tenure on the Committee, commenting that his technical expertise and knowledge had been particularly valuable; commented that the various points of view/positions espoused by the Committee Members had led to lively and informative discussions.

Senior Management Analyst Vondrak announced that Poche Beach had been removed from the annual Heal the Bay "Beach Bummer" list; noted she will be presenting the Poche Bacteria Study and BMP Implementation information at an upcoming California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) conference in the fall; updated the Committee on the condition of the Poche Pond.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER BROWN, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER DICKEY, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED to adjourn at 9:08 p.m. to the Regular Meeting for the Coastal Advisory Committee to be held on Thursday, July 10, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room, at the Community Center, 100 N. Seville, San Clemente, California.

Respectfully submitted,



Don Brown, Chair

Attest:



Tom Bonigut, Assistant City Engineer