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MINUTES
CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE
REGULAR COASTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, November 14, 2013 @ 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. Chair pro tem Salgado 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, Chairman Bill Hart

Absent: None

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

3. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF CHAIR AND CHAIR PRO TEM

Committee Member Ambrose nominated Bill Hart to serve as Chair and Peter Salgado to serve as Chair pro tem, and Committee Member Smith seconded the nominations. There were no other nominations. Bill Hart and Peter Salgado were elected Chair and Chair pro tem, respectively, on unanimous votes.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of the Regular CAC Meeting of June 13, 2013

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER BROWN, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER AMBROSE, AND CARRIED 4-0-3, WITH COMMITTEE MEMBERS SMITH, DICKEY AND SALGADO ABSTAINING, TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 13, 2013 AS SUBMITTED BY STAFF.

B. Minutes of the Regular CAC Meeting of September 12, 2013

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER AMBROSE, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER BROWN, AND CARRIED 4-0-3, WITH COMMITTEE MEMBERS NIELSON, HART AND SALGADO ABSTAINING, TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2013 AS SUBMITTED BY STAFF.

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- 5. PUBLIC INPUT - None
- 6. OLD BUSINESS - None
- 7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Base of Pier Restroom Project

Aeryn Donnelly, Park Planner, narrated a PowerPoint Presentation entitled, "Base of the Pier Restroom Renovation, dated November 14, 2013." She noted this is the first of the restroom renovations, and the City's other restroom facilities have been fast-tracked by City Council. She displayed photos of the existing facility, proposed floor plans and results of the wave run study. She recommended the Committee receive and file the report.

In response to questions from the Committee Members, Park Planner Donnelly provided details of the ADA restrooms, noting that the plans call for pre-fabricated units; advised the restroom plans have been submitted for Building Division review and will be scrutinized for ADA compliance. She noted the Family/handicapped access restrooms will be unisex and can be cleaned separately from the others, which ensures that restrooms will always be available to the public at this location. The design is substantially upgraded from the existing design, and will feature seats on the toilets, upgraded fixtures, mirrors, and stall doors, and it is anticipated that the improved facilities will demand a higher level of care from the public. She noted the City's public restrooms were all constructed at different times featuring different architectural styles, so she anticipates the designs for the City's other restroom renovations will differ. She speculated the next two bathrooms receiving makeovers would be Boca del Canon and T-Street, and that all restroom remodels will go through the usual approval process. During the ensuing discussion, the Committee Members, either individually or in agreement, provided the following commentary:

- Suggested the handicapped restrooms feature doors that swing out rather than in to greatly increase ease of access for handicapped persons.
- Established the new restrooms will be signed for Family/Unisex/Handicapped use and available to anyone desiring to use them.
- Requested staff review the Recreation Asset Repair and Replace Policy to ensure the new restroom renovation complies with those guidelines.
- Expressed concern that the lockable doors may have unintended consequences, including teenagers, young adults, and homeless using the rooms for other purposes, as well as increased vandalism, or vagrancy.

- Expressed concern that ability to lock a door may enable children to be locked away from their parents, and suggested that the doors should have ventilation or gaps that will allow sounds of distress to be heard.
- Stressed the need for a restroom installation at Linda Lane Park for the benefit of all beach and park users, especially children.
- Expressed concern that during busy events at the Pier, such as the Festival or Ocean Fiesta, loud music or amplified sound may drown out any signs of distress coming from the locked bathrooms.

Park Planner Donnelly noted that safety was of major consideration while the base of the pier restroom was being designed; the design features additional lights, the roof is kept open for ventilation, and ADA issues were addressed. She is not sure if the new restroom doors have ventilation or a gap at the bottom to ensure a child crying for help can be heard, but will research and report back. In addition, she will note the comments made tonight and include them with the project as it moves forward in the building process, as well as return with information in response to the questions asked by the Committee. She noted the project would be discussed at a future City Council meeting, and suggested the Committee Members attend the meeting and speak to issues they feel should be addressed.

Mary Vondrak, Senior Management Analyst, agreed to forward their concerns to Mike Jorgenson, Building Division, and report back.

Committee Member Smith advised he will speak to Sharon Heider, Beaches, Parks & Recreation Director, regarding his concerns about handicapped access issues; stated he has in mind some simple ways to resolve the issues. He will email staff with an update for forwarding to the entire committee.

Report received and filed.

B. Clean Ocean Fee Renewal Update

Mary Vondrak, Senior Management Analyst, summarized the staff report, an update of the Clean Ocean Fee renewal process, including City Council actions, number of ballots received to date and comments from the public. Staff recommended the Committee receive and file the report.

Committee Members briefly discussed difficulties associated with condensing and simplifying information on educational brochures.

Mary Vondrak, Senior Management Analyst, noted an upcoming article in the San Clemente Journal will include more detailed information on the Poche UV system project and its funding partners.

Committee Members encouraged all to send in their ballots.

Report received and filed.

C. Poche Action Plan Update

Mary Vondrak, Senior Management Analyst, reviewed the staff report, an update on the current and planned activities to support the Poche Action Plan. While the falconer is working at the Prima Deshecha landfill, the County has implemented a coyote decoy program for the short term. The City is evaluating the feasibility of diverting the treated runoff into the sewer outfall pipe, regulatory agencies will be contacted to determine permit requirements or approvals to reconfigure the scour pond, and the UV treatment will operate on its winter schedule. Staff recommended the Committee receive and file the report.

Committee Member Dickey cautioned that there is collateral damage from the falcon program, including less fish in the reef and loss of non-targeted birds.

Ms. Vondrak agreed to follow up with staff and regulatory agencies for updates that she will forward on to the Committee.

8. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Bacterial Monitoring Report Dated November 4, 2013

B. September & October 2013 Environmental Programs Update

In response to a comment from Chair Hart questioning the effectiveness of the new advertising strategies as suggested by the recent SGA study, Ms. Vondrak advised that the City's website is undergoing renovation with intention to be up and running within 6 months. She noted communication between Mr. Bonigut and the City Manager to set up the program, and advised staff is just starting to focus on getting the program message out. She agreed to schedule an update of the new program for a future meeting.

Chair Hart speculated that the new marketing campaign to raise focus on the three targeted behaviors has not yet made an impact, and is not to the level of awareness that it would be a factor in changing behaviors. He is not sure the current campaign is as effective as it needs to be in order to make a difference.

Committee Member Ambrose suggested the message to stop overwatering has to get out to the City's independent maintenance workers as well, as many absent homeowners are not aware that their properties are being overwatered when they are not present.

Committee Member Brown encouraged Committee Member Ambrose to be an ambassador for the program and leave a note for and/or speak to her neighbors about the new campaign, including the rebates for replacing lawn with drought tolerant plantings. He noted the public at large is the best eyes and ears for the City, and suggested a call to Code Compliance may be necessary if instances of overwatering and/or fertilizing before rain continue unabated.

Ms. Vondrak described a new county-wide program where nurseries will be participating in the water reducing campaigns by directing customers to drought tolerant plantings widely available. She agreed to ask the program's coordinator, Andrew Kanzler, to make a presentation to the Committee at a future meeting.

In response to a comment from Committee Member Dickey regarding water volumes, Ms. Vondrak agreed to provide information from the Prima Deshecha Watershed Study that indicates where water going to Poche Beach is coming from, also Committee Member Nielsen suggested Committee Member Dickey view the Watershed Tour CD provided by staff.

Committee Members received and filed items 7A and 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. She added the "Update on the Public Outreach Program" to the January agenda.

Committee Member Smith suggested the following topics for future agendas:

- Poche Workshop on what's necessary to clean up/eliminate the scour pond, including regulatory approvals;
- Formation of oversight ad-hoc committee to review the SONGS decommissioning;
- Revisit the sand replenishment plan timeline;
- Revisit the plastic bag ban;
- Review of North Beach issues, including presence of sting rays and cobble treatment;
- Establishment of a Coastal Advisory Committee Mission Statement

Chair Hart and Committee Member Smith decided to meet to discuss future agenda items and share information. Ms. Vondrak will provide copies of the Committee's existing Mission Statement for their review. In addition, Ms. Vondrak agreed to forward comments from the California Coastal Commission regarding Poche Beach follow up to the Committee Members.

Following discussion of the current state of the Beach Trail during the comments portion of the meeting, the Committee Members elected to add "Discussion of the Beach Trail" to a future spring agenda.

Report received and filed.

10. ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Committee Member Smith reported that the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Commission had canceled its regular meeting.

Interim Chair Brown reported that the City Council is almost finished with the General Plan and that Planning Staff's next focus will be the Local Coastal Program, potentially on the agenda at the Committee's January or February meeting. There is much work ahead, as the Specific Plans and Zoning Ordinance also need updating. He advised that the Planning Commission also reviewed the Pier restroom and Ole Hanson Beach Club remodel, commenting that since the applicant for all these projects is the City Council, staff is basically responding to their direction, and then just showing it to the various Committees/Commissions as it moves along in the approval process. The Planning Commission's main focus during review was making sure that the City as an applicant was held to the same standards as any other applicant.

Chair Hart discussed the general state of disrepair of the City's Beach Trail, including rusty fixtures, dog waste left on the trail, bicyclists riding above the speed limit and in areas they are prohibiting from riding and dogs off leash. He believes rule reminders and additional enforcement may be necessary because the level of compliance is certainly declining. Committee Members elected to add this topic as a future agenda item.

Ms. Vondrak agreed to pass on his comments.

Committee Member Smith commented that the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Commission discussed potential to relax the bike/walking rules and elected to leave them as is. The City Council decided otherwise, and relaxed the biking rules.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER BROWN, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER AMBROSE, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED to adjourn at 9:13 p.m. to the Regular Meeting for the Coastal Advisory Committee to be held on Thursday, December 12, 2013, 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

