



LOS OSOS COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

LOS OSOS COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

February 27, 2020, Sea Pines Golf Resort, 7:00 PM

Council Members: Tim Carstairs *Chair*, Trish Bartel *Vice Chair*, Sue Morgenthaler *Secretary*, Christine Womack *Treasurer*, Lynette Tornatzky *District One*, Yael Korin *District One*, Jan Harper *District Two*, Larry Bender *District Three*, Sandra Sarrouf *District Three*, Jim Stanfill *Supervisor Appointee*.

Call to Order

Roll Call

Present are Tim Carstairs, Trish Bartel, Sue Morgenthaler, Christine Womack, Lynette Tornatzky, Yael Korin, Jan Harper, Larry Bender and Jim Stanfill. Absent: Sandra Sarrouf

Chairperson's Announcements

County & Local Agency Reports

- **Sheriff's Report**
Sergeant Deputy Jim Silverstein sited 554 calls in Los Osos last month, down from 517 in January of last year. These calls ranged from assault and battery, theft, and vandalism to burglaries and phone scams.
- **Highway Patrol Report**
Sergeant Perry Heidebrink spoke, saying January in Los Osos was a very slow month. They basically saw only a few collisions and a couple of DUI arrests.
- **County Staff Report**
Kerry Brown was ill, unable to attend.
- **Supervisor Report**
Supervisor Gibson told us that review of the Community Plan by the Planning Commission has been delayed until the middle of the year, mainly due to coordination efforts between several regulatory and environmental agencies. He is still hoping this will get to the Board of Supervisors by the end of the year.

This is now the protest period for the sewer rate change. The Board will send a mailing to each county resident. The complaint period goes until April 21 when it will be determined if there is a majority protest. A community member asked that the county hold a meeting regarding the sewer rate change. Blake Fixler gave us the name of Project Manager Laura Holder to contact with questions. Her phone numbers are 805-781-5135 and 805-743-3756.

A bond is being considered for an update to the county's Library system. Cost would most likely be from 2 to 3 dollars per \$100,000 property assessment. It was noted that since a bond requires public support, if it passes, perhaps a statement could be made at a CSD meeting. Their meetings are broadcast on television. The next state election may see many bonds on the ballot. To list a few- affordable housing, preparing for wildfires, flooding, water supply resiliency, and sea level rise.

Someone asked about the county's corona virus preparation. The county has a robust monitoring program in place. Public health wants it noted that they are also concentrating on the flu, which at the moment is more prevalent. He suggested to take the same precautions you would take in order to protect yourself from the flu.

A question was raised regarding Granny Units and water usage in Los Osos. The Board is updating the regulations for auxiliary dwelling units and there is a question as to if they should be allowed in Los Osos given the issue of our not yet approved Community Plan. Despite the fact that the Board voted to allow these units before the Plan is approved, any update to the ADU ordinance has to be certified by the Coastal Commission. They will have questions and are aware of the status of the Community Plan. Most likely they will put the decision on hold until finalization of the Plan.

- CSD

Christine Womack reported that a preliminary plan for the Dog Park is being worked on by the Wallace group, they are donating their time. Comments can be made at www.losososcscsd.org

Ferrell St pathway project is continuing but waiting on Fish and Wildlife for the Morro Band snail review.

An update to Title 4 of the district's fire code is underway. A public hearing is scheduled for March 5. The main changes are the incorporation of the 2019 California Fire Code and changes to the hazardous material abatement program.

The District has launched an online newsletter. Community members can subscribe via the Districts website.

The District is close to approving the design of a water pipeline project running from South Bay Blvd and the Nipomo Street well site down Nipomo Street to the intersection of Nipomo and 10th. This is a major traffic corridor; construction updates will be posted as the project nears.

A water measuring device may get approval and possibly be available soon. It is called the Flume, invented at Cal Poly. It will alert an owner to leaks.

- Chamber of Commerce

Lynette Tornatzky announced the 2020 Business Expo on March 20th, 5:30pm. On display will be products and services from local businesses. It is free.

The Chamber is offering an escorted tour of the French Riviera in October. Early deposit discount ends March 31st.

There will be many BBQs this summer, all will feature drive through pick-ups.

Work has started on the new membership directory. It was suggested that the Chamber go back to a book where they featured a map in the center.

LOCAC BUSINESS ITEMS

- Minutes:
were approved from the January Meeting.
- Treasurer's report:
Totals will be given next month
FYI, during the 2016 election, we spent \$600.

Committee Reports

- LUC
Larry Bender announced the item placed on the Consent Agenda is a straight forward and appropriate request for a parking waiver in front of their home. This is a requirement for their permit to turn a garage into a studio.
- Traffic and Circulation
Traffic and Circulation has updated their priorities but funding is needed to assess and make changes. One suggestion is they are taking a look at one-way streets to allow half the road be used by pedestrians and bicyclists. They are asking for community input. Come to meetings!
3rd Monday of each month, South Bay Community Center, 5:30

Many safety issues for pedestrians were mentioned regarding 3rd Street in Baywood. It was suggested that whenever anyone has issues to report, call the main Public Works line. Ask for someone to call you back so that you can have a conversation. 805-781-5252

- Trees and Landscaping
Meetings are the 2nd Monday of each month in the South Bay Community Center small room, 6:30.

They just completed the first phase of a project to plant 15 trees in the Community Center Park. Community members and cadets from Grizzly Academy were helped by Botanica Nova and were supervised by Park and Rec Rangers. The rangers are working on a permanent drip system for the trees.

For this project, \$1000 was given to them by the County, Supervisor Gibson. Another \$1000 was anonymously donated.

Their next project is the El Moro Trail.

A non-profit was created to raise funds for projects that go through Trees and Landscape. They are lososbearroots.net

A community member asked about the median strip on LOVR. This project is being planned by Celebrate Los Osos. Another group is doing work at the corner of LOVR and South Bay Blvd.

- Outreach
The Outreach committee at present does not meet but are working mainly on a newsletter to share information with the community. Sign-u can be accessed from our website.

Consent Agenda Items

- DRC2019-00278 Williams-Parking Waiver within the setback of the property. Larry Bender explained the owners are changing a garage into a studio. There is no net gain of people or cars, but a waiver is required by the county for this project.

Motion to approve was made by Jim Stanfill, seconded by Lynette Tornatzky. Motion was unanimously approved.

Regular agenda items

- Discussion of rescinding LOCAC's previous vote to fill the vacant District 4 seat. This decision was based on the discussion and unanimous decision of the election committee to comply with the by-laws and include it in the May election where the seat can be filled by choice of the community. This election now falls within the 3 month period during which the vacancy does not need to be filled by appointment.

Motion to approve was made by Jim Stanfill, seconded by Trish Bartel. The motion was unanimously approved.

Public comment on items not on the agenda

- A community member lives near a hiking area that is being promoted by organizations as such. Similar type sites around the town are being advertised with no concern to the lack of infrastructure for this type of activity- trash cans, portable toilets, etc. They are advertising without a plan. There are many jurisdictions, how can we control it?

Larry Bender suggested she come to LUC, bringing neighbors with similar concerns. She was asked to put their thoughts in writing. The Land Use Committee can hear her issues, then request of LOCAC that they write a letter to the to the County requesting guidance.

- The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall of St Benedict's Episcopal Church, along with Los Osos Cares, received a grant from Dignity Health for \$80,000 to help with creating services for seniors in Morro Bay, Los Osos, and Cayucos. They are in the initial stage of finding out what is here that people are using and what is not that they might need. They have a survey for seniors. It was suggested they also go to the CSD with an announcement, their meetings are televised. This helps get the word out.

- A community member further emphasized awareness that the county is planning to raise sewer rates up to \$500 per year. This is a county wide increase, but it is felt the county is unnecessarily using 11 operators when they could get away with only 3, among other things that are a waste of money.

If 50% plus one of the residents respond to their notices with a protest, this constitutes a protest vote and would require the county to rethink their increase.

- A suggestion was made to the bylaws committee, please redefine conflict of interest to make it broader than the definition that currently exists in the bylaws.

Meeting is adjourned. Next meeting is March 26, 2020