



## LOS OSOS COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Februray 25, 2021  
Zoom Meeting 7PM

### MINUTES

The meeting was **Called to Order** and **Roll Call** was taken. The entire Council was present: Tim Carstairs as Chairperson, Trish Bartel, Sue Morgenthaler, Larry Bender, Christine Womack, Sandra Sarrouf as Co-host, Jim Stanfill, Yael Korin, Jan Harper, Lynette Tornatzky

Our Co-host Sandra Sarrouf outlined the zoom features and the meeting procedures.

**Sheriff Deputy Beene** summarized our 71 calls for service in February, up from the 59 calls during this same period in 2021. They ranged from assaults, burglaries, mail thefts and phone scams to enforcement stops and preventative patrols.

**Highway Patrol Captain Greg Klingenberg** reported 9 vehicle collisions in Los Osos and 3 DUIs. These accidents ranged from Santa Ysabel to Los Osos Valley Rd, as far out as Foothill Blvd.

**Kerry Brown gave the County Staff Report.** The Planning Department has submitted the Los Osos Community Plan (with all related documents) and the Vacation Rental Ordinance to the California Coastal Commission. The LOCP and the Vacation Rental Ordinance, although travelling together, will be reviewed and approved separately. CC staff is reviewing these documents, making sure they are consistent with coastal regulations, and will provide comments and questions to the Planning Department. At that point we will have a better idea when the Commission might officially review the documents.

A question was asked if the Planning Department is informing prospective lot buyers in Los Osos of all the present-day issues (re: waiting list for building, water concerns, LOCP mandates, etc.) so they can weigh the reality of building on lots before purchase. Yes, the Planning Department is doing so.

**Supervisor Gibson** indicated the Board is overwhelmed with 2 issues, the future of Oceano Dunes and COVID-19.

**COVID** has caused economic harm unevenly through our population. The County has received \$17M from the state to give rent relief to both tenants and landlords. The Board is crafting a fair program to distribute this money. There will be a need for public outreach to make sure those not hooked into the system will know of this aid. The Supervisor asked if anyone knows people who are struggling, please direct them to the office of either Supervisor Gibson or Supervisor Ortiz-Legg.

If cases maintain their downward trend for another week or so, SLO County could enter the Red Tier.

The County has a well-developed vaccine program, but it lacks for supply. The county is attempting to get more predictability of supply from the state as well as an equity of distribution. They are ready to give 15,000 vaccines a week but are constrained by supply.

There has been tremendous frustration with getting vaccine appointments. Next week the County plans to implement a new system that changes the way they allocate. Far from perfect, but this new lottery style system will allow people to show interest and get on a list. The Health Dept is also encouraging people to get tested for COVID as this data boosts metrics that will help to decide what tier the county will be in.

10% of the county vaccine supply is reserved for teachers.

There are programs to educate people on the importance of being vaccinated.

The county is receiving Federal Funding to help with the **homeless**. A question was asked regarding its use for property purchases. Some of these funds will be allocated for the purchase of new shelter properties for overnight parking as well as tents and other shelters. There is an avenue to get money directed towards property purchase, but it is complicated as the Federal and State funds for encampment and parking programs come from different funding streams and have different constraints.

There are many different efforts going on right now. One of the concerns is that the North Coast lacks services. Getting individuals contacted and to commit to accepting services is important. Morro Bay may have structures that can be purchased for shelter.

**The CSD report** was given by a new member of the Board, 8-year resident Troy Gatchell. In February the Board approved tasks for each of their advisory committees: Emergency Services, Parks and Recreation, Utilities, and Finance. Along with all the work the CSD is doing, these Work Plans can be found on their website [lososocsd.org](http://lososocsd.org)

The **Chamber of Commerce** report was given by Lynette Tornatzky. The Chamber office is still closed, but they are working hard on the new directory due out in June of 2021. Efforts are being made to obtain a specifically informative map for the centerpiece of the book.

There was no **Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda**.

The **Minutes** from the January 2021 meeting were approved.

The **Treasurer's report** given by Christine Womack showed our balance has not changed, \$1772.93. We owe for our Zoom account and Jim Stanfill said the Chamber of Commerce will send us a renewal form for LOCAC's Chamber membership.

No updates from **Traffic and Circulation**, but we were reminded to report to the County at 805-781-5252 if we see or experience anything amiss. We are the only ones driving our streets, there is no one from the county who does this. It's on us.

**The Trees and Landscaping Committee** is still working behind the scenes to rehabilitate the El Moro Trail through Parks and Recreation. Their regular meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 6:30.

**Outreach** sends out a newsletter 1 to 2 times a month, anyone who would like something included please contact Sandra. We have no Facebook presence, perhaps someone would like to help to promote LOCAC on this format. Tim volunteered an assistant in his office to help out with this.

The mission statement of the **Unhoused Residents Committee**: The Unhoused Residents Subcommittee will collaborate with County Agencies, non-profit organizations, community groups and residents in order to address homelessness in Los Osos. The committee will seek to identify needs in order to facilitate both immediate solutions and services while also developing ideas and action steps for long term solutions, while hearing and considering community concerns. The next meeting is March 17<sup>th</sup>, 7pm on Zoom.

**The Election Committee**: Christine Womack announced the application deadline for those who wish to run for a seat on LOCAC is March 14, the election will be held outdoors at the Community Center. All forms can be found on the LOCAC website. Applications may be sent to the LOCAC PO Box or emailed to Christine at [cwomack1968@gmail.com](mailto:cwomack1968@gmail.com). There is a seat open in all four districts, those LOCAC members running for reelection are Larry Bender (District 3) and Yael Korin (District 1), the District 2 and 4 seats are vacant.

Both Items on the **Consent Agenda items passed unanimously**:

**DRC2020-00227 Welton** Proposed Minor Use Permit/Coastal Development Permit to construct a single-family residence located at 2493 San Sebastian, Los Osos, CA, located in the Estero Planning Area.

**DRC2020-00226 Grijalva** Request for a Minor Use Permit/Coastal Development Permit to replace an existing 87-square-foot damaged deck with a larger 261-square-foot deck. The project is located at 1164 12th Street (1184 12th Street Assessor Records) in the community of Los Osos in the Estero Planning Area.

**From the Regular agenda:**

**DRC2020-00232 Stamback** Proposed Minor Use Permit/Coastal Development Permit to construct a 257- square-foot addition to an existing single-family residence and ADU above detached garage located at 1214 Santa Ysabel Ave, Los Osos, CA, located in the Estero Planning Area. *LUC will not support an ADU because of the concern for added water usage. LUC also has a concern regarding the size of the proposed 'over the garage' usage as it does not meet the county square foot regulations for a guest house.*

DRC2020-00232 Stamback was pulled from the agenda and postponed to a later meeting tba because there are still outstanding questions that need to be answered, information needed to be acquired by the Planning Department.

**DRC2020-00213 Papa Bear Farms LLC** Proposed Minor Use Permit to establish 842 square feet of cannabis non-storefront retail in Units A and B of the leased property at 2015 11th Street Los Osos, 93402.

This project is an existing cannabis delivery business wishing to move from SLO to Los Osos. After discussion it was unanimously approved for recommendation.

**DRC2021-00013 Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District A** Minor Use Permit / Coastal Development Permit for a Wetland Restoration project - The project will restore 40 acres of declining palustrine coastal wetlands and 16 acres of upland coastal dune scrub habitat in order to enhance and increase habitat for sensitive species and reduce sediment loading in the Morro Bay Estuary. Project outcomes include restoration of hydrologic creek function, by reestablishing historic floodplains, reduced volume of sediment entering Morro Bay, improved water quality through wetland filtration, and restored habitat for Steelhead, Tidewater goby, CRLF, and Morro shoulderband snail. The proposed project includes the following components: Restore native coastal dune habitat by decommissioning the upland homestead access road and demolishing existing upland infrastructure; Improving fish passage by removing three perched culverts and managing invasive vegetation; and reconnect and protect historic floodplain and wetland habitat by breaching portions of levee.

CSLRCD has been around since 1953, it is committed to protecting and enhancing natural resources through education, restoration and collaboration with local stakeholders.

This property was acquired in 2015 by the CSLRCD with the objective of wetland restoration. From 1940-1995 there had been intensive agricultural cultivation which ceased in 1995 when a conservation and wetland easement was recorded. They intend to reconnect the floodplain.

Warden Creek levee will be breached in four 100' long sections and flows will be allowed to reconnect with the floodplain and resume natural braided hydrology. Work on the property, located on Turri Rd approximately 1.2 miles from South Bay Blvd, is scheduled to start in July.

A 4-acre portion of the parcel will be restored as Coastal Dune: Structures and infrastructure will be demolished, asbestos removed. There will be treatment of invasive ice plant and a native palette of local plants will replace it, specifically Morro Manzanita, Black Sage, Coyote Brush, Coast Live Oak, Yarrow, and Coastal Sand Verbena.

The restoration approach to fish includes the removal of 3 perched culverts, replacing the existing crossings with rocked low water, allowing for unobstructed fish passage and more naturalized hydrologic flows.

From this restoration they expect increased sediment deposition on site, improved estuary health and function as 40 acres of coastal wetlands are restored. Foraging, breeding and rearing habitat will be enriched for Tidewater Goby, steelhead and CRLF. Habitat for the Federally endangered Morro shoulderband snail and Morro Manzanita is enhanced. There will be increased resiliency for the Federally threatened Steelhead anadromy including .5 miles of critical habitat. Monitoring and Maintenance will continue after the project is completed.

A project similar to this was done at Charro Flats 25 years ago. In the beginning there were questions and doubts concerning this project, but it has become a general floodplain reconnection project that is used as a model for this work. It has been highly effective, but exact data is not known. It is hard to go back years later and test because the initial projects are funded by grants. This project on Turri Rd. is entirely grant funded.

Steelhead have an amazing ability to adapt. Even if droughts restrict them to going up a stream once every 5 years, they will do it.

The old county dump off Turri Rd was questioned as a possible contaminant to this area and how that pollution would affect this project. CSLRCD is working closely with Public Works, having discussed this nexus and dump remediation. Regarding the level of nitrates in surface water from the dump to flood plain, anything bonded to sediment will filter out, just moving through the wetlands will remove contaminates.

10-15 Willows will be removed but will be replaced in replanting.

LOCAC voted unanimously to recommend approval for this project.

Meeting was **Adjourned** at 8:27.

