

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE/ BOARD MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, February 11, 2015

HIDDEN LAKE CLUBHOUSE

CALL TO ORDER: Steve Randall took the lead in this meeting.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE: Steve Randall, Alec Uzemeck, Marge Brown, Char Rothstein, Barry Siebert, Christina Walsh, Barry Seybert.

COMMUNITY ATTENDEES: Chris Rowe, Jayne Matztis, Alan Burke, Archer Cannella, Ingrid, Ingrid Marsden, Brenton Marsden, Heidi Manning, Sharon Mulnyars, Nicole Thibadeaux, Diane Higgs, Mark Henley and four attendee illegible signatures.

MINUTES: The members approved both the December and January Meeting Minutes.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR: Steve said that some oak trees at the Dayton Canyon development were being cut down and others were being removed and boxed. Prior to this meeting, those opposing these actions held a vigil outside of the development and have voiced their objections on Facebook.

AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS: Steve read the SSFL Cleanup Resolution that had been recently approved by the WHNC and the resolution includes two major points, the first asking that the SSFL be declared a national monument and the second recommending that Boeing, NASA and DOE clean up their respective areas to the level of risk based suburban residential. Questions were raised regarding the cleanup level and Steve explained various levels of cleanup as defined by the US EPA.

Alec explained risk based cleanup and said that Boeing is following US EPA guidelines and procedures. Chris elaborated on that subject and Christina pointed out that Boeing is not exactly following those guidelines since they did not include fruit trees and other plants in their calculations but otherwise the cleanup was to be risk based suburban residential. A local resident asked if the soil in his backyard was safe and he rejected the existing health studies that Alec mentioned and his question was not answered.

Christina presented the item in the Resolution that recommended that the President approve turning the SSFL into a national monument and thus the property would be under the control and protection of the National Park Service. She also mentioned that there was a time crunch here since the NASA demolition of the test stands was scheduled for this year. Chris said that she is a member of the Section 106 Committee, which is working to determine the extent of the demolition including the removal of the Coca test stand as requested by the Chumash tribe.

Christina announced that she would be holding meeting on March 1st to promote a petition to the President requesting that the SSFL be made a national monument. At the request of a stakeholder, Marge gave an explanation of neighborhood councils. Barry brought up the tours that were being given by Boeing of the SSFL site.

The next agenda item, Dayton Canyon was brought up and the tree removal was discussed. Dan Brin had written a letter to the developer and one of our local police went to the site to verify that permits were in place and they were. Alec said that the plan should be examined since it did promise that the developer would employ an archaeologist on site to protect any tribal relics or areas. Various residents asked to see the development plan and Char said that the developer is scheduled at the next Zoning and Planning Committee meeting to explain the plan and she gave the date, time and location of the meeting. Christina suggested that we write a letter to DTSC regarding environmental concerns with Dayton Canyon and she also recommended that we get the seeps and springs study done by Boeing, which included the spring on the development site. Char introduced the agenda item, the Lederer property which she said the owner wishes to sell. The Mountain Conservancy has expressed the desire to purchase the property, however the Conservancy is a government department and is limited by lack of funding. The suggestion was made that our councilman should be approached to support the property sale to the Conservancy and the project could be part of the mayor's sustainability project. Char introduced a motion for a recommendation to the council for a resolution requesting the councilman's support for the property sale to the Conservancy, Alec seconded the motion and the committee unanimously approved the motion. The Committee recommendation will be presented to the Council at their March meeting.

Christina and Elliot discussed sustainability and it was recommended that this project go to the Streets and Transportation Committee. Barry said that there was a similar plan in the pilot program that Santa Monica was operating and he offered to contact the city to get information on their findings. Lawn replacement and plants were briefly discussed and it was recommended that the subject be put on the March meeting agenda.

The next topic was air monitoring for West Hills and Alec recommended that this subject be part of the SSFL discussion. Christina suggested delay until the CEQA report is issued later this year. Truck traffic from the SSFL was reviewed and some limits were identified.

The meeting was adjourned.