



JUNIPER HILLS TOWN COUNCIL

juniperhills-ca.org
General Meeting
June 5, 2013
MINUTES

<p>The General Meeting of the Juniper Hills Town Council was called to order by President, Lori Weatherbie on June 5, 2013, at 7:03 P.M. at the Juniper Hills Community Center, 31401 106th St East, Juniper Hills, California 93543</p>																															
<p>The Pledge of Allegiance by Lori Weatherbie</p>	<p>FLAG SALUTE</p>																														
<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Present</th> <th>Absent</th> <th></th> <th>Present</th> <th>Absent</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Lori Weatherbie</td> <td>x</td> <td></td> <td>Milo Brown</td> <td>x</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Brenda Avadian</td> <td>x</td> <td></td> <td>Walt Grabe</td> <td></td> <td>Excused</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sheila Whitehouse</td> <td>x</td> <td></td> <td>Debbie Phillips</td> <td>x</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Don Pierce</td> <td>x</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Present	Absent		Present	Absent	Lori Weatherbie	x		Milo Brown	x		Brenda Avadian	x		Walt Grabe		Excused	Sheila Whitehouse	x		Debbie Phillips	x		Don Pierce	x					<p>BOARD MEMBER'S ATTENDANCE</p>
	Present	Absent		Present	Absent																										
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<p>Minutes of April 3, 2013 Motion made by Brenda and seconded by Milo to approve as corrected Minutes of May 1, 2013 Motion made by Milo and seconded by Brenda to approve as corrected Both motions carried</p>	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</p>																														
<p>Treasurer's Report Balance \$2,789.86 No bills submitted Motion made by Sheila and seconded by Brenda - Motioned carried</p>	<p>TREASURER</p>																														
<p>Email from Sergeant Mark Johnston re Santa Clarita Velo. Discussion regarding the permit process and Santa Clarita Velo's violation of conditions in the permit. A show of hands was taken to see if we wanted them to be allowed a permit next year for their bike race. We did not.</p> <p>A show of hands was also taken to see if we wanted UCLA to be approved for a permit for their bike race next year and the show of hands determined that we would like UCLA to be granted a permit. It was also suggested that we invite the UCLA representative to our November meeting.</p> <p>Sergeant Mark Johnston cautioned us that regardless of our wishes, the final say lies with the Sheriff Department.</p>	<p>COMMUNICATION</p>																														
<p>Juniper Hills Community Association (http://www.juniperhills-ca.org/jhca/index.htm) – August 3 – Burgers 'n' Brew & Band 6:00 to 10:30 September 28 – Work Day</p> <p>Devil's Punchbowl County Park (http://www.devils-punchbowl.com) – June 8, July 6, August 3, - all at 9pm - Telescope Program June 22, July 20, August 17 – all at 8:00 pm - Moonlit Hike</p>	<p>ITEMS OF INTEREST</p>																														
<p>Norm Hickling, Field Deputy for Supervisor Antonovich Norm discussed the dog mauling in Littlerock and how it should increase coverage out here.</p> <p>Brenda asked Norm to clarify the process for calling regarding an abandon vehicle. She had recently been directed by the Sheriff Department to call 911. Norm suggested calling 211 – county code enforcement or call 661-272-2400, the Palmdale Sheriff Station. If you call from a cell phone all enquires are directed to call 911.</p> <p>Norm will check into the progress of the Fire Fee. The Jarvis Association court case will be going to court soon.</p>	<p>GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES' ANNOUNCEMENTS</p>																														

<p><u>Los Angeles Co. Sheriff's Department – Deputy Andrew Cronin [(661) 860-1413] & Deputy Ferrell [(661) 272-2418]</u> General Questions/ Contact, dial 211 – <u>For Emergencies, dial 911</u>. Non-emergency situation that is suspicious, <u>note the details & call</u> the Palmdale Station right away: (661) 272-2400.</p> <p>Deputy Cronin updated us on daytime burglaries in the Littlerock area and advised us to be aware of who is in our neighborhoods.</p> <p>Of the three medical marijuana facilities in Pearblossom, two were in the process of being closed.</p> <p>Regarding Carla, Adult Protective Services has been contacted and Carla says she does not want help.</p>	
<p>Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department Representatives gave a presentation regarding the proposed Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) area on Mt. Emma Road.</p> <p>Kathline King, chief of planning for the County of Los Angeles Department of Park & Recreation, and planner Robert Ettleman, who works on off-highway vehicle and trails gave a brief presentation and answered questions regarding the plan for an OHV park in Littlerock.</p> <p>Contact information: Kathline King: 213-351-5098 or cell 213-379-4995 email: kking@parks.lacounty.gov Robert Ettleman contact information: 213-351-5134 email: rettleman@parks.lacounty.gov</p> <p>The proposed park would be a 450 acre-off-highway vehicle park which abuts the western edge of Juniper Hills. The proposed land borders the Angeles National Forest on the south side of Mount Emma Road east of Cheseboro to 77th Street.</p> <p>King said that a study was done a few years ago to examine community needs and see where off-highway vehicle users like to ride and where they could get support from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and the proposed area was chosen.</p> <p>The goal is to have a stand-alone site, something that has perimeter, possibly fencing and also patrols. The county hasn't done as assessment to determine how many vehicles would be allowed.</p> <p>The proposed project will cost \$771,000 of which \$377,000 will come from a grant that the county Board of Supervisors approved May 21, 2013. The remainder of the cost will come from the county special fund. They currently have enough money to purchase the needed land and to fund the security enforcement. The county is currently in negotiations with property owners and the Bureau of Land Management to acquire the property, per Ettleman.</p> <p>In addition to OHV riders having a closer area to go to, it would increase the sales for local businesses. The Littlerock Town Council approved the OHV site.</p> <p>After their presentation the floor was opened for questions and comments:</p> <p>Seventeen people signed up to comment on this subject.</p> <p>Helen Baker of Encino – Where OHV parks were developed, the illegal OHV use stopped. The county is offering something to the community.</p> <p>Viki Kempenaar - Concerned about the impact to the desert. This amount of acreage is a small area for such a park and will destroy the flora. Also concerned about trash.</p> <p>Linda Wucherpennig - She volunteers in OHV community.</p> <p>Harry Baker – CORVA President – By having a controlled park, there will be a decrease in those trespassing. An increase in law enforcement will also stop illegal dumping.</p>	<p>LOS ANGELES COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION</p>

Richard Fletcher – Questioned if a study had been done regarding the Arroyo Toad in this area? He also questioned what fire station would cover this area. Would there be a green belt for wildlife?

Kathline King, responded that an environmental study will be completed.

Terry Work – VP of CORVA – He feels this area needs an area for OHV. It will keep people in a designated area. If caught out of the designated area, they would be fined and could lose their bike.

Milo questioned about fires or welding being allowed in the park and if jeeps could be used in this park.

Robert Ettleman responded that no fires or welding will be allowed in the park and the site is too small for the use of off-road jeeps, etc. He also stated that the site may be controlled by gates and are considering a host on site 24/7.

Milo questioned if there would be patrols 24/7 or just during hours of operations.

Robert Ettleman – Do not know at this time.

Nicholas Toth – Owner of Cougar Hill Ranch - that will be within the boundaries of the proposed park. He has been here for 43 years and motorcycle riders have been very disrespectful of his property. Would want to see a detailed report of the safety and security measures to be in place. Also concerned about property values, noise, and fire.

Mr. Toth questioned the area not being zoned for this type of activity. Will he have to pay more taxes to support this site? Mr. Ettleman stated that he would not have to pay more taxes. Mr. Toth was also concerned that with State and County parks being closed because of the lack of funds, why aren't the funds they already have used to support those existing parks?

Barry Olson – His property is on 96th street and OHV riders are constantly trespassing on their property through connecting roads and canyons. He understands that most OHV riders are respectful, but the 10% that are not cause fire and trash concerns for him and his neighbors. He has tried to get the county to put up a fire gate, but they will not because the property is private. Station 92 would have reports of fires in this area.

Kevin Barber – This has been in the planning for many years. His organization has been doing trash patrol and would do the same at this site. He attends all the illegal dumping meetings.

Marcy Walton – If this has been in the works for years, then why hasn't her equestrian group heard of this before now? Please be sure to advise her group of any future meetings on this issue. She feels that funding for this project would take away from the multi-use trails options.

Rhett Rechenmacher – Concerned about solar collectors, persons setting up meth labs and gang warfare. Who will he sue if we don't get protection for our property?

John Parsons – He has fought dirt bikers from Brainerd Canyon for years. He hates dirt bikes. What are the expected numbers of riders to use this park?

Mr. Ettleman – They haven't done an assessment of the site to see how many riders can be permitted.

Sheriff – They currently had OHV teams, but they are not a specific team. If this park is established, then his department would have to set up a team for this patrol project.

Karen Ostler – She lives near John Parsons, and experiences the same trespassing issues as he does. There are already plenty of OHV parks within a reasonable driving distance. In the high desert, noise travels a great distance, she can hear the railroad train from her house, and that is a further distance from her house than the proposed OHV site. We already have a huge issue with dust in the Antelope Valley and destroying the desert with OHV's will only add to this problem.

Martin Ostler – He is reinforcing what the others have said. The problem is going to be the same as California City. The wind comes from the southwest and the trash will blow our way

<p>as well as the noise.</p> <p>Tamara Vegas – She has lived in this area for 42 years. She has read that the grant was approved on May 21 and will not require an environmental impact report. We live in a fire 10 zone where there are westerly winds. She is also concerned what will happen to the wildlife in the proposed site.</p> <p>Kathline King – The May 21st request for approval to submit a grant is for the beginning of the feasibility study and an environmental assessment must be done.</p> <p>Vance Pomeroy – President of the ARTC – Disappointed that the Juniper Hills Town Council was not approached. Dealing with the quantitative issues, the area might not be feasible at all. He believes the proposed area is too small, forcing “overflow” riders onto private properties in Juniper Hills.</p> <p>Maggie Olson – She is concerned with how many people will be drawn to this area, and if the amount is greater than the site can hold, where will they go? She is also concerned about the increased fire hazard and the disturbance of her horses on her ranch.</p> <p>Don Pierce – During the rain and snow seasons here Mount Emma is closed and how would the emergency vehicles access the area?</p> <p>Debbie Phillips asked for a show of hands for those in attendance who were Juniper Hills residents; then for a show of hands for those Juniper Hills residents living on the west side near the proposed OHV park boundary. There were approximately 50 people in attendance, approximately 40 of whom are Juniper Hills residents, and approximately 12 of whom live on the west side near the proposed boundary.</p> <p>Several other comments were made by the board members also.</p> <p>Recap of pros and cons:</p> <p>Pros:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OHV park would provide an area for legal riding within a designated area. • Increase of revenue for the Littlerock and surrounding area businesses. • Increase of tax revenue for the county. <p>Cons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased chances of fire that will destroy Juniper Hills properties. • Increase trespassing since the area is so small and with our proximity to Los Angeles • the amount of persons coming to this area could exceed the capacity • Area too small for this type of venture – less than a square mile- 450 acres • Destruction of the desert flora, which takes many years to regrow. • Noise pollution. • Decrease in property values due to the proximity of the park to Juniper Hills • Displacement and destruction of wildlife in the proposed area. • Trash not being properly disposed of. • This type of project will take away from the already prosed and approved multi-use trails project. • Increase crime in the area. 	
REPORTS	
Report on JHCA Activities and concerns - Mrs. Kempenaar- No report	JHCA Liaison Report
Future Speakers - Suggestions for future: USFS Ranger Bob Blount; Edwards AFB; Art Evans; Knight/Runner; Waste Management	FUTURE SPEAKERS
Next meeting: Thursday, August 8, 2013 at 7 P.M. Chipper Day Report- Due to the fire in the Lake Hughes area, the chippers and volunteers will not be able to be there. We will have the trash bins and will now call it branch day.	YOYO Committee
Winetasting Committee – 2013 Lori reported that the next meeting would be June 14	Resource Development Committee

<p>Web Site is about half completed and should be done on schedule.</p> <p>Email – JH Community notifications are going to 112 email addresses (in some cases 2 people use 1 address)—this is more than 16% of the 713 registered voters in Juniper Hills.</p>	<p>Website and Email List</p>
<p>Chair – Brenda</p> <p>No volunteers for the open chairs on the JHTC came forth from the attending community residents. Neither Lori or Don are running for reelection this year. Sheila will be running. Brenda suggested that we create a new Town Council form this year.</p> <p>Motion made by Milo and seconded by Sheila All approved</p> <p>Brenda will create and send to us for approval.</p>	<p>Election Committee</p>
<p>Report on JHWG Activities and concerns – Norm has a meeting on Monday with Gene. No other report given.</p> <p>[Note: the JHWG is not part of the JHTC]</p>	<p>JH Water Group Liaison Report</p>
<p>Report from Don Pierce</p> <p>Presentation made of the Local Agency formation committee. Paul Novak and Jerry Gladback. Don to get a copy of the electronic presentation and send to the rest of the council.</p> <p>Director replacement – Vance Pomeroy needs a perpetuation plan.</p> <p>Next meeting: June 26</p> <p>Rotate attendance at these meetings held the last Wednesday of each month</p> <p>Attendee for June 26 meeting will be Debbie</p>	<p>ARTC Report</p>
<p><u>UNFINISHED BUSINESS</u></p>	
<p>Status of Board of Supervisors motion on Hauled Water – Anything new?</p> <p>Norm reported that the issue is getting ready to go back to the Board to hire a consultant to see what type of environmental report will be needed.</p>	<p>Hauled Water</p>
<p>CA Fire Fee Controversy – Nothing reported.</p>	<p>CA Fire Fee</p>
<p>Moved by Don Pierce and seconded by Milo Brown to meet only in even-numbered months (6 meetings per year).</p>	<p>Meetings 6 times a year– Tabled motion</p>
<p><u>NEW BUSINESS</u></p>	
<p>Reminder – NO meeting in July</p>	
<p>Meeting adjourned at: 9:42 P.M.</p> <p>Sheila Whitehouse Secretary</p>	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p>