



The voice of our community

Board Meeting
October 8, 2024 – 4:00 PM
MINUTES

In-Person at the Montecito Community Hall/Library
And Virtually Via Zoom

I. Call to Order 4:03 PM by Chair Black- Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum

Present: Babbitt, Black, Bollay, Denson, Duran, Gerlach, Kemp, Lundgren, Macfadyen, M. Miller, Newquist, Pennino, Serrani, Trosky, Wittman

Absent: A. Miller

II. Approval of September 10, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes

Denson/Gerlach

Motion Approved as corrected to reflect Chair Black in attendance at September 10, 2024 Board Meeting

III. Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda-None

IV. Community Reports

- 1.) MWD-Nick Turner gave update: The official water year started on October first which is tied to precipitation. They gave update to the Water Board and the water supply is favorable. There are projects planned for replacing pipelines in November and December. The pipeline from Jameson was damaged and repaired at a cost of \$6M and is eligible for 95% FEMA reimbursement and waiting for approval. Representative Carbajal is assisting with funds. A county-wide contest for draught tolerant landscaping was held and Dale Zurawski won first place. The Water Smart registration is at twenty eight percent. The MWD will attend Beautification Day and give out water bottles. The GSA will hold a strategic planning meeting on October 28 and 29.
- 2.) MFD Chief Neels reported fire danger is high and on October 3, an advisory was issued. Access roads have fire damage and County of Santa Barbara issued permits to repair access roads. A meeting will be held on October 21 to plan the 1/9 event.
- 3.) Amy Alzina-Cold Spring School-Reported that on October 16 they are doing an event for the first time hosting a Breast Cancer Awareness Day with many experts. One hundred fifty pumpkins will be purchased for a fundraiser, and a fall festival will be held on October 25, and all are invited from 2:30 to 5:30 with food and carnival games. There will be an AI First in Schools lunch on October 24.
- 4.) John Weigold-Montecito Sanitary District presented. December 1 is the end of the dry season. Creek work will be done and work to reroute the creek.
- 5.) Lt. Richard Brittingham- updated local crimes; illegal camps and issues on beach and cemetery, burglaries at Birnam Wood and there will be a meeting with the director of security as well as sending extra units to patrol the area.
- 6.) Supervisor Williams' Office-Darcel Elliott-Gave update-Miramar Beach Homeowners Association had a meeting regarding beach erosion. Public Works received funding for study of sediment from debris basins. The only beach eligible for sediment is Miramar Beach. The Manning Park tennis court revamp project shows it will reopen early spring 2025. Santa Barbara County Public Works will meet with the San Leandro hedgerow area and the Bucket Brigade on October 18, from 10 am to 2 pm. Signs will be place by Santa Barbara Public Works: No Parking Stopping or Standing Zone, No Parking Sunset to 8 am Zone.

V. President's Report: Beautification Day is being planned. Miramar update, MA sent letter to the County in support. Almost all the candidates are in place for the Board of Directors election.

VI. Executive Director's Report: ED Houghton Hyatt reported on monthly meeting with Supervisor Williams, Miramar Beach, Casa Dorinda. Helped a neighbor file a complaint about neighbor's building. The nominating committee is doing a great job. Ongoing Beautification Day planning is still taking sponsorships this week and are almost at \$10,000 raised. New logo is up for 75th anniversary and plan to hold many events. HANDS outreach walk is set for October 9 at 8:30 am. Memberships are in the new site with testing going on. All members will be sent an email to create a password and will have ability to change credit card.

VII. Treasurer's Report Budget will be able to make up for any shortfall with new website.

VIII. Conference Agenda

- i. Congressman Salud Carbajal – Legislative Update
Representative Carbajal requested to address the MA via Zoom and expressed appreciation for the work that the MA does. The Chumash are getting a Federal Government designation with the Chumash Marine Sanctuary being signed into effect by October 15. Other projects he has been working on; the Clean Airport legislation on banning forever chemicals, a Bipartisan Infrastructure Law with \$1 billion for the Central Coast to augment drinking water, funding for groundwater sustainability project and FEMA repairs for the Montecito Water District, and \$50 million for drinking water. Voted to fund the Federal Government through December 20. He is working with Forest Service and Hot Springs Trail and will hold a Stake Holders meeting. A bill that he wrote and became law to disrupt fentanyl traffic.
- ii. Montecito Fire District – Ambulance Contract Update-Montecito Fire Chief Neels and SBC Fire Chief/Warden Hartwig stated that in 2016 the SB County Fire Chiefs met regarding the wait times and need for critical care, stating that they could provide a better service to the area. The plan included 35 ambulances with updated equipment, trained personnel, a rest area for workers and a plan to reinvest profits made annually back into the ambulance fleet, gear and workers, conserving the use of local taxes to fund the ambulance services. In March 2024, the current ambulance service's contract with SB County Board of Supervisors expired, the SB County Board of Supervisors has allowed the current ambulance service provider to continue, and the fire chiefs think they have a more equitable solution.

IX. Committee Reports

- a. **Land Use / Transportation-** The last LUC meeting on October 1 had the Biltmore present and the LUC voted to approve the project. It is going to MPC on October 16. Many projects are coming; the YMCA, 101 update, Biltmore is reducing to 136 units to make units larger with the goal of reopening next summer for the 100th anniversary.
- b. **Events-**Chair Mindy Denson- Beautification Day will have tee shirts, many sponsorships, nineteen members on the committee, will be decorating the Hathaway tree, hospice tree, preparing for holiday parade and lighting the menorah.
- c. **History-**Received donation of a book that covers all floods and mudslides. Mirage has been in the community for thirty-five years as the information conduit in emergencies and now will disband and the radios are being donated.
- d. **Outreach-**None
- e. **Groundwater Sustainability-**No update
- f. **Hands Across Montecito-**Covered in Executive Director report.

X. Old Business-None

XI. New Business- Biltmore letters discussed. Last paragraph about church landmark-it's not designated so change to cherished establishment. Second paragraph-come to our attention-discussed.

Motion to approve letter- Trosky/Pennino

Motion approved

Discussed Miramar-all issues have been reviewed. Discussed whether to recommend something to the Planning Commission.

Motion to write letter to Montecito Planning Commission with the MA asking the MPC to support the Montecito Community Plan in size and scale. Bollay/Seranni

Motion approved 6-5

Adjourned 6:10 p.m.