

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOULEVARD PLANNING GROUP (BPG)
*****MINUTES / SUMMARY FOR MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 7TH, 2023 *****
COMMUNITY ROOM IN BACK AT 39919 RIBBONWOOD ROAD, BOULEVARD, CA, 91905

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

A. MEMBERS PRESENT: **1)** Manuel Casanova Jr. (absent); **2)** Earl Goodnight; **3)** Kevin Keane; **4)** Anthony Ralphs;
5) Melanie Zardeneta-Hayden; **6)** Michael Coyne (absent); **7)** Nancy Good

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (optional):

C. MINUTES/ SUMMARY FOR NOVEMBER 2ND MEETING:

- *M/S: Good/Keane: Approve November 2, 2023, minutes, as corrected. Passed: 5 Yes, 0 No, 2 Absent*

D. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: Rett Lawrence informed the BPG that another Boulevard community member was killed in a Hit & Run accident around Thanksgiving.

Rett requested an agenda item be added for support from the BPG to redraft and send a letter to relevant elected officials concerning the need to increase penalties for Hit & Run accidents. He also requested community support in addressing the inherent unfairness within these laws and would like help in writing to our elected officials requesting these changes be made (a sample letter was made available).

Rupert Pedrin shared updates concerning his continued CSG meetings with SDG&E associates responsible for undergrounding power / replacing power lines / connecting the grid and substation in Boulevard.

Rupert reported SDG&E has stated that they will change their policies regarding easement access. SDG&E alleges that they will no longer access easements / private property without requesting permission first.

Frank Davoli expressed concerns over local rumors that SDG&E (or other agencies) might be privately colluding with SD County to install meters on all privately owned water wells in Boulevard. Although these rumors are unsubstantiated, they persist. Frank has asked BPG to stay vigilant on this front and requested that they provide any updates on this matter if they become available.

E. ACTION ITEMS: No action items on this month's agenda

F. GROUP BUSINESS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **GROUP MEMBER ANNUAL CSPG TRAINING:** Chair Goodnight reported to all seated members that they must complete CSPG Annual Training for 2024. Two virtual (Zoom) meetings will be available for the training, January 20, 2024 & February 10, 2024.
- **CLIMATE ACTION PLAN:** A virtual workshop was held to provide an overview of their Draft Climate Action Plan and Draft Supplemental EIR. A link was provided for anyone wishing to submit comments. The environmental documents are available until January 5th, 2024.
- **COMMUNITY BENEFITS AGREEMENTS:** The County BOS directed the PDS to develop a Community Benefits Agreement Program. PDS held virtual public input meetings in November for the Community Benefits Agreement Program - Phase 1. Chair Goodnight reported that very little information was gathered from the meeting.

Jim Whalen reported that he has been involved in CBA meetings and advised the Boulevard Planning Group to create a voluntary compensation criteria / forum of input & suggestions versus County mandated regulations.

- **SANDAG UNINCORPORATED PRESENTATION:** The Association of Planning Group held a Zoom meeting on November 6, 2023. Discussions included final revisions to their by-laws and drafting a letter to SANDAG requesting representation on the SANDAG Board of Directors. Officers for the APG were nominated and elected for year 2024. The first formal in-person meeting of the APG is scheduled for January 10th, 2024, location TBD.
- **SDGE SYSTEM HARDENING PROJECT:** Chair Goodnight shared the locations of Tierra Del Sol Rd. and Alta Vega Rd. that contractors would be installing steel poles and hardening of overhead lines.
- **NEW SOLAR PROJECT:** Information had been received that a new solar project from Bear Peak Power, Denver located east of Shasta Trail in Boulevard. County Project Planning have no record of Bear Peak Power or any new projects in Boulevard.

In this general area, a mobile home park is proposed by Tim Walker as viewed on the Alpine Neighbors Group site.

General discussion followed regarding Tim Walker. Also, his project being doubtful in our area with the regulation in SB743, VMT (vehicles miles traveled), which weighs the costs of new development projects against their impact on the climate, based on the amount of distance travelled from proposed development projects to existing work sites. This practically renders Boulevard as unqualified for new housing development projects due to Boulevards remote proximity and the distance required for work travel, and the effect that this distance of travel has on the environment.

- **REVITALIZATION & FIRE SAFE COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Fire safe Council had completed 8 chipping events planned for this calendar year, the last event is 12/16/2023. All four cleanup events have been completed. Clean up events are made possible with the help of EDCO, Community Protection Grant from SDG&E, and the Grant from San Diego Fire Foundation.

JBRA will be holding a Christmas event 12/16/2023 from 1PM to 3PM. They are planning a Medical Health Day to be held 10/6/2024 at the Resource Center. The Food Pantry Program each Monday is made possible from a grant administered through San Ysidro Health. EDCO furnishes a recycle bin for household recyclables. The mattress recycling is ongoing sponsored by Mattress Recycle Council. Both recycles are open on Mondays and other times by appointment, call 201-890-3344 for time.

Community support and volunteers are needed to maintain operation and maintenance of the Center. All donations are tax deductible and can be made out to JBRA, mailed to 43577 Old Hwy. 80, Jacumba, CA 91934.

G. PROJECT UPDATES

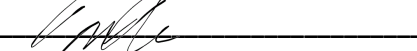
1. **100 MW STARLIGHT SOLAR PLUS BATTERIES ON THE EMPIRE RANCH-** Jim Whalen's updates included details about the progress of developments for solar at the Haagen Ranch; all cultural studies are finished. Jim confirmed that there's a threshold for how much / how many artifacts must be discovered in a certain location before it's considered "off-limits" for development due to cultural sensitivity for historical significance.
2. **RUGGED SOLAR:** Jim Whalen reported the project is undergoing a change of ownership, no further progress to report. Jim shared that this site is on the Rough Acres Ranch which is the former Charger's training camp.

Chair Goodnight stated that there is nothing new to report on projects numbered 3 through 8 on the agenda.

H. MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:47 PM: NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 4TH, 2024.

For More information contact Earl Goodnight at blvdgoodnight@gmail.com . Current and past meeting agendas and approved minutes are posted on the County website @ <http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/gpupdate/comm/blvd.html>

Minutes were reviewed and approved by the Group on 1/4/2024.

Signed: Anthony Ralphs, Secretary 

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