

CREST-DEHESA-GRANITE HILLS-HARBISON CANYON SUBREGIONAL PLANNING GROUP. Minutes of the meeting on 14 March 2022, Crest Community Center, 113 North Park Drive (Crest).

A. CALL TO ORDER. Chairman Wally Riggs called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM.

B. ROLL CALL. Planning Group members Rich, Ulm, Nehring, Wessel, Becker, Riggs, Bretz, Manning, Lutz-Partain, Scholl, Page and Lucas were present, forming a quorum of 12. Seat 4, Seat 13 and Seat 14 are vacant.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Mary Manning moved that the Planning Group approves the minutes of the meeting on 14 February 2022, as submitted by Secretary Bretz. The motion passed (12 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain).

E. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION. Katy Sipps, resident of Crest and president of the Crest Community Association, spoke about her interests in helping to work on issues with the management of the Subregion's county parks; and that lack of appropriate pest control is a safety concern, as there have been injuries such as broken ankles caused by collapsing gopher tunnels. She said that she has offered to provide the services of her pest control business at no cost, and has learned that Planning Group approval is necessary for her offer to be considered by DPR. (Chairman Riggs stated that this topic would be included on the agenda for the April meeting of the Planning Group.)

Khandy Franklin, resident of Crest, reported that the Sheriff has provided the Crest Fire Safe Council lock codes for the gates on Suncrest Trail, and that these codes can be provided to the public in emergency situations. She also said free trees for planting are still available from the Fire Safe Council program, as well as from a new San Diego Gas and Electric program.

Planning Group member Pat Ulm expressed concerns about 3 school buses parked on private property along Mountain View Road, and asked to have the issue of commercial vehicles stored on residential property included on the agenda of the Group's April meeting. (Chairman Riggs stated that this topic would be included on the agenda of the April meeting.)

Planning Group member Eutha Scholl reported that the Sheriff recently wrote three tickets for speeding and rolling stops in Harbison Canyon.

Planning Group member Tim Lucas commented that if County parks have safety hazards such as dangerous gopher tunnels, appropriate warning signs should be posted. (Chairman Riggs agreed to include this issue on the agenda of the April meeting.)

Planning Group member Pat Ulm announced that on the last Saturday of each month from March through October, there will be a show of Crest Custom Cruisers at Nancy Jane Park. She also mentioned that the dedicated County trail along Mountain View and Horsemill Road needs appropriate signage.

F. ACTION ITEMS.

F1. Report by Ad Hoc committee regarding evacuation in the case of wildfire (Nehring). Ad Hoc committee Chairman Ron Nehring reported that a draft report of the committee is being circulated to the Subregion's fire districts for their comments and professional input concerning possible evacuation routes for the different communities, and the development of unambiguous, clear signage for directing traffic to these routes during emergencies; and that after obtaining agencies' feedback the Ad Hoc committee will review and revise its draft plan, it will solicit and consider public input to prepare a final plan, and will then engage in community education about the plans for evacuation in the case of wildfire.

Planning Group members discussed the problems with the Subregion's different communities and fire stations potentially attempting to use emergency and evacuation routes that could conflict with each other; and the need for comprehensive communication between all communities and fire districts in order to coordinate all of the evacuation plans, and to eliminate possible confusion and conflicts during an actual emergency.

Khandy Franklin, resident of Crest, encouraged the Planning Group to keep the Ad Hoc committee active, to develop effective plans for updated County documents that weave together all of the appropriate stakeholders, and to include a process for obtaining and responding to continually updated information concerning wildfire emergencies.

F2. Discussion and action on closure of California Riding and Hiking Trail in Sloane Canyon/Beaver Hollow Road (Wessel). Darin Wessel reported that a new owner of property that is accessed and crossed by Beaver Hollow Road has locked the access gate and removed public trail markers for California Riding and Hiking Trail route that is aligned on Beaver Hollow Road; that this new property owner denied that an easement for a public trail exists across the property he purchased, and that using the Beaver Hollow Road portion of the former California Riding and Hiking Trail on his property is trespass; and that he uses a portion of the road as a shooting range, which trespassers should beware. Darin emphasized that official County documents show that there is a designated "Regional Trail Existing" on Beaver Hollow Road in the Dehesa Subregion, as part of the County trails program.

Planning Group members discussed the possibility/likelihood that a legal easement for a public trail actually does exist; the history of the California Riding and Hiking Trail and its previous management by the California Department of Parks; the community values of public trails; public safety concerns about the alleged shooting range use on a portion of Beaver Hollow Road; and the need for County administration and management of this "Regional Trail Existing" if there is a legal easement for it.

Members of the public informed the Group that the California Department of Parks is interested in saving and perpetuating the former California Riding and Hiking Trails system where possible; that there are a number of agencies/groups interested in helping with this goal for the 110 miles of the trails that still exist in San Diego County; that several millions of dollars are needed for rehabilitation of deteriorated trail segments; and that ownership of this project is too costly for the County alone.

Darin Wessel moved 1) that the Planning Group reaffirms and supports continued existence of the California Riding and Hiking Trail, to be maintained and open for public use, recognizing it as an irreplaceable community amenity in this Subregion of the

County; and 2) that the Group will continue to consider possible actions regarding the current closure on Beaver Hollow Road at its April meeting. The motion passed unanimously (12 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain).

G. GROUP BUSINESS.

G1. Update on Park issues (Mary Manning). Mary Manning reported that staff of Department of Recreation contacted her; that DPR will hold a third virtual meeting to gather public input for the South Lane Park project on 24 March 2022 at 5:30 PM; and that she is continuing her effort to determine how to best communicate with DPR about other County parks' issues.

G2. Discussion on lighting at Olde Ironside Park (Eutha Scholl). Eutha Scholl informed the Planning Group that there is a community discussion concerning the appropriate amount of night lighting at Olde Ironside Park, as some favor better lighting for safety, and some prefer natural darkness. Mary Manning said she would include night lighting, and gopher/ground squirrel control, on the maintenance list for Olde Ironside Park that she provides to DPR.

H. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE. The next meeting of the Planning Group will be on 11 April 2022, at Crest Community Center, 113 North Park Drive (Crest), beginning at 6:30 PM.

H. ADJOURNMENT. Christina Becker moved adjournment at 7:55 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, William Bretz (Secretary)