

Desert Edge Community Council Minutes

4:30 p.m. Tuesday, September 8, 2015

69-400 Country Club Dr. (Dillon Road / Desert Crest Avenue), Desert Edge, CA 92241

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Sharon Huddleston at 4:33 pm

- I. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sharon Huddleston
- II. **Roll Call** With only two members present (Sharon and Cindy) - *there was not a quorum.*
- III. **Approval of the Minutes - November 2014; January 2015 (Tri Council); March 10, 2015; May 12, 2015** – postponed to next meeting.
- IV. **Councilmember Reports and Comments**

Cindy announced she's been receiving announcements for the General Plan Amendment 960, EIR and Climate Change documents which continue to accept public comment, next Planning Commission meeting is September 16 – changes are being made that may impact Desert Edge circulation and area plan. Sharon announced Desert Regional Flu Shot program which will be in Desert Edge area and is free.
- V. **Staff Reports:**
 1. Office of Supervisor John J. Benoit – Rita Massie introduced Tracy Tran who is taking Michael Gialdini's position at the Supervisor's office, and Patricia Cooper, former Sky Valley resident and new Supervisor's liaison for Desert Edge and Sky Valley. Patricia went over Benoit's Bulletin and addressed questions about Sunline Bus Ridership in Desert Edge which will reach its one year anniversary this month. There are five stops in Desert Edge; Sharon requested transit bus provide service to Desert View and Wagner Mobile Home Parks at end of Bennett Road. Member of the public requested shade shelters, but these depend on rider ship which has been low (especially over the summer).
 2. Sheriff's Department – Sergeant Juan Zamora reported on statistics for Desert Edge which are comparatively low – between other areas and prior statistics for Desert Edge: 1 attempted theft, 1 vehicle theft recovery, 4 warrant arrests (which could be persons passing through), 3 reports of physical fight (possible domestic), 2 residential burglaries (Dick Madison asked which Parks were burglarized and Sherriff will get back to him), 1 grand theft (which is greater than or equal to \$950), and 3 reports of stolen cars, which does not include golf carts. Ronita Taylor asked about recent golf cart thefts and if that was grand theft, if not vehicle theft – it is grand theft if value \$950 or more, rather than "grand theft auto" which is only in the movies. Throughout his report Sergeant Zamora advised how to prevent each type of crime by "taking the pleasure and power out of crime by making yourself a more difficult victim."
 - a. Desert Edge COPs – Dick Madison presented on the progress of Citizens on Patrol in Desert Edge in providing crime prevention in Desert Edge - Desert Edge was provided a vehicle August 2014. All five members of Desert Edge COPs were present at the meeting and introduced by Dick. Per Dick's written report to the council, after only one year of service Desert Edge volunteers logged 998 miles, have spent 285 hours of their time which equates to \$7,800 worth of actual patrol time if patrolled by a sworn officer. Ronita Taylor reported that two more potential COPs volunteers have submitted applications and everyone was invited to contact Sergeant Dan Deviny for more information.
 3. CHP – Officer Chris Prietto reported 18 collisions on Dillon between Palm Drive and Coachella, in Desert Edge there were 8. He also reported that statistics for Desert Edge are low compared to other areas and the past. There have been 0 collisions at Desert Crest and Dillon Road, however a postal truck making a u-turn was involved in a collision to the east. There were 14 traffic complaints from Desert Edge community. DUIs on Dillon between Palm Drive and Coachella were 21 of which 7 were in Desert Edge (and these could have been driving through). There were 2 stolen vehicles in Desert Edge.
 4. CAL Fire – Fire Department – *not present.*
 5. Code Enforcement – *not present.*
 6. Other Departments - None
- VI. **New Business:**
 1. Annual Officer Rotation, per Riverside County Board of Supervisors Policy A-21 – Cindy initiated possible rotation of officers, inquiring if Mary would agree to continue as Secretary as she's doing a great job and if Sharon did not want to continue, and Suzie did not move up as Vice Chair, that she would act as Chair for one year – *election of officers postponed until next meeting due to lack of quorum.*
 2. Desert Palms Community, LP (Solar Shade Structures for Parking Structure). Informational Only The contractor for the project was not present. This was an information only item and a vote of

the Council was not required. Cindy inquired about the number of solar projects presented to the council over the past year, the number of solar panels and whether income was generated from the sale of solar energy to residents in the parks for profit, and projected that we will be seeing more solar projects. Sharon stated that income cannot be generated from the sale of solar as that would violate the PUC. The current project proposes 779 solar panels for 66 units on 4.38 acres.

VII. Unfinished/Old Business

1. Letter praising Sergeant Devinny in his efforts to support volunteers through the application process for Desert Edge COPS program and the program launch last year will be redrafted and sent to his supervisor from Supervisor Benoit's office. Sharon recommended that Sergeant Devinny receive a Certificate Letter.

VIII. Public comments:

Willis Huddleston stated that the fire at Catalina Spa's club house men's room cost \$550,000 and while driving for COPs found trash can with lit cigarette in it and put it out – that everyone needs to be cautious and look out for potential hazards. Ellie Dullea announced the next Desert Emergency Committee (DEC) meeting will be November 3 at 10 a.m. at Quail Valley Mobile Home Park – Sharon and Willis Huddleston will speak about the Health Fair and Emergency Preparedness. Sharon announced the next Health Fair is scheduled for January 23, 2016 (which also happens to be the day of the Tim Esser's "Tour de Palm Springs") – this fair is dedicated to Veterans and she is meeting with Susan Coleman to request support by presenting a seminar on breast cancer. The health fair takes a year to prepare and Sharon works on it year round to make it happen, and her efforts were acknowledged by public in attendance with an offer to volunteer by one audience member.

IX. Agenda Items for next meeting – November 17 (November 11 is Veteran's Day)

Elect officers

Sunline Bus ridership report and potential for transit bus to south Bennett Road.

Approve past year's meeting minutes

Report on public easements inside and connecting Desert Edge and circulation obstructions

X. Meeting adjourned at 5:33 pm

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Please visit Supervisor Benoit's Web site to access more information: www.RivCo4.org