

Draft October 15th, 2018 Ojai Valley MAC Meeting Summary

Steve Offerman of Supervisor Steve Bennett's Office called the roll. MAC members Joe Westbury, Jill Borgeson, and Chris Cohen were present.

Under public comment, Glen Perry advocating for the revision of County regulations of bee keeping so as to be similar to the City of Ojai's regulations. Ron Florencio of the County Library noted that a Pulitzer Prize winning author would speak at Foster Library. Steve Offerman noted a recent meeting regarding the County's Highway 33 Study, and that the study consultants recommended reducing the number of lanes in Oak View from four to two. The study can be found on Supervisor Steve Bennett's website. Captain Fryhoff of the Ojai Sheriff's station introduced himself as did Officer Denharder of the CHP. Officer Denharder noted targeted speeding enforcement on Creek Road and La Luna in response to complaints. 12 citations were issued on Creek Road.

Ojai Planning Commissioner Kathy Water gave an overview of a number of projects before the Commission including an affordable housing density bonus and several retail businesses.

The summary of the August 20th meeting was approved unanimously on a motion by Jill Borgeson, seconded by Joe Westbury and incorporating revisions submitted by Pat Baggerly.

The next business item was review of an application for a Conditional Use Permit Modification for Thacher School. The project encompasses a 30-year time extension, and the replacement, modification, or construction of various structures. Planner Becky Linder described the project elements, including the preservation of the Horn Canyon Trail, the incorporation of extensive storm water capture, the inclusion of dark sky lighting, and historical preservation consistent with the National Register of Historical Places designation.

Keith Nightengale of the East End Neighborhood Council said he supports Thacher School but is concerned with increasing traffic in the East End including construction truck traffic on narrow roads and the potential cumulative increase in traffic with a proposed residential project nearby. Linda Thomas said that Thacher employees and visitors drive too fast; the East End is turning into a farce. Rod Laird, Thacher project manager, said he would discuss slowing traffic with the contractors. Craig Thomas said he is concerned with cumulative traffic increases if the Krishnamurti project were to be approved. Bob Bonewicz said that his is concerned with the lengthy period of construction, stretching over 10 years and the ongoing traffic impact on neighbors.

Joe Westbury said that ten years of construction traffic is a concern and that Thacher should take measures to address slowing traffic and obeying stop signs by their contractors. Chris Cohen said that the County should request that the CHP monitor the Thacher-McAndrew stop sign, and, that the MAC recognizes the historic presence of Thacher School in the community. Chris made a motion to recommend approval of the project with the request for CHP monitoring. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45