

CASA CONEJO MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES of September 15, 2010

The Casa Conejo MAC held an official meeting Wednesday, September 15, 2010, 6:00 P.M.
Walnut Elementary School, 501 Dena Drive, Newbury Park

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by *Chair Dustin Woomer* at 6:03 P.M. MAC members *Jennifer Clark*, *Clara Ann Deemer*, *Megan Sandoval*, *Janell Smith* and *Edward J. Villa, Sr.* were also present. *Bobbi Ross-Neier* was absent.

2. Flag salute

The flag was saluted.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

The adoption of the agenda passed 6-0 on a motion by *Jennifer Clark* and with her request to have Council Comments before the Public Comments.

4. Approval of the minutes of July 21, 2010

The May minutes were approved 6-0 on a motion by *Jennifer Clark*, seconded by *Megan Sandoval*.

5. Comments of Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks

Supervisor Parks commented on a meeting of LAFCo earlier that day, and the circumstances which led to a 3-1 denial of the City of Thousand Oaks' proposal to annex 300 unincorporated acres in Newbury Park into the City. She noted that in State law the basis for annexation is urbanization, and that she had voted against the City annexing the acreage near Dos Vientos that used to be called Broome Ranch.

7. Council Comments

Megan Sandoval made a suggestion, approved by all MAC members present, to introduce a recommended 3 minute limit on speaking during the public comment section of the MAC meetings, and a 5 minute limit on speaking during the action items. There was then further discussion about recommending limits on speaking, with *Dustin Woomer* saying the limits could be decided at the beginning of each meeting, and *Clara Ann Deemer* suggesting that the MAC Chair could determine how to limit the length of speaking. *Ed Villa* and *Janell Smith* expressed agreement with Clara Ann Deemer's suggestion. *Dustin Woomer* said that there could be a standard suggestion of a maximum of 5 minutes, with the MAC keeping open the possibility of paring that down if needed. *Captain Brent Kerr* added that having a limit can help people stay on target during speaking. The MAC agreed to put on the agenda under Public Comments item that there are MAC recommended limits on the length of speaking.

6. Public Comments

A resident spoke about wanting the community to work towards creating a new dog park in Newbury Park. A resident suggested that a renovated channel greenway could also be made available for walking dogs. There was a complaint that Casa Conejo owners of parked R.V.'s were receiving notices recently where they had not been in the past, and Supervisor Parks said she had spoken to the CHP to see if issuing citations could be limited to a complaint-driven practice. There was also a complaint about teens observed going through recycling bins, and *Captain Brent Kerr* said that people could call the Sheriff's Department about it. He said that a number for non-emergency calls was 654-9511. There was a discussion about speeding on Jenny Drive, especially in the hours between dinner time and 11:00 pm, and increased enforcement was requested. A resident noted that a speed trailer had been placed on Henry Drive, as well as on Reino Road, and another resident said that there was the need for moving one to Ruth Drive. Other residents noted with gratitude that the CHP had been present on Ruth Drive recently. Another speaker asked for help with an address on Kitty Street where tree roots had damaged the gutter. There was discussion about signage on Wendy Drive heading south towards Old Conejo Road, with the suggestion made that this stretch need a sign about vehicles not needing to stop. It was pointed out that *Jay Spurgin* from the City's Public Works had earlier addressed this topic, and that a yield sign was present on this stretch. A resident then said that a more explicit sign was needed, with the yield sign replaced by a sign saying yield to pedestrians.

A resident also thanked the MAC for helping solve her longstanding problem with street sweeping service at her address on Wendy Drive where the City and County lines meet on the map.

8. Information items

- a. *Free recycling and waste disposal event September 18, Newbury Park High School parking lot 8:30 AM to noon*
- b. *September 21, 6:30-9:00 pm, National Park Service Visitor Center, 401 W. Hillcrest Dr., Thousand Oaks: Sustainable and Fire-Safe Landscaping Workshop (with the Univ. of California Cooperative Extension)*

The two events were noted. A resident asked about programs for replacing lawns. **Supervisor Parks** answered that some programs do exist, and that it would be good to ask California Water if it has a program similar to Metropolitan Water's "cash for grass" program.

9. Action items

- a. *MAC recommendations for encouraging Casa Conejo community input, envisioning the flood control channel, including the concept of a pedestrian and bicycle "greenway" along the channel*

Jennifer Clark made a motion, seconded by **Janell Smith**, to create a committee comprised of both MAC members and the public that would be responsible for greenway related topics. She said that it was important to begin community outreach about the idea, and that the MAC approved it 6-0, and **Dustin Woomer** was selected to serve as the committee chair. **Jennifer Clark** also made a motion, seconded by **Dustin Woomer**, to form a committee for the Borchard wetlands. It was approved 6-0 and members were **Dustin Woomer**, **Megan Sandoval**, and **Bobbi Ross-Neier**. A resident said that sidewalks should be fixed before the channel is restored for recreational use, and it was pointed out that federal grant funding could be available for creating a greenway. **Dustin Woomer** said that how to cover maintenance costs of a restored greenway would be an important factor in planning such a project. **Supervisor Parks** said, in response to a question about making the channel wildlife friendly, that a grant application was already submitted and in process for the Borchard wetlands nearby. She announced the date of October 23 for a public walk along the channel. A resident said that clarification about where there are access ways to the channel was important.

10. Suggestions for future agenda items

Clara Deemer requested an item for organizing the CERT team in Casa Conejo, and meeting the new CERT Coordinator from the Fire Department. **Jennifer Clark** requested a regular agenda line for updates on MAC committees. Resident **Nathan Borin** asked for information about when MAC members are elected and how long their terms in office are. **Clara Deemer** suggested that the MAC consider supporting a general tax on the community for improving Casa Conejo sidewalks. **Janell Smith** responded that it could be better for residents to consider this street by street.

11. Adjournment until November 17 MAC meeting

Chair Woomer adjourned the meeting to the November meeting.