

Minutes of the Cayucos Citizens Advisory Council March 6, 2024
Hybrid Meeting: Cayucos School Cafeteria and via Zoom
[New CCAC Website Address](#)

Meeting called to order by President John Carsel at: 7:08

Present: John Carsel, Paul Choucalas, Jim Dantona, Francie Farinet, Roland Hutchinson, Jan Meslin, Glenn Oelker, Vicki Tamoush, Rachel Wilson, Carol Kramer, Larry Fishman, Greg Bettencourt

Absent and Excused: Marie Jaqua, Lynne Harrington, and Steve Beightner

Minutes of January 3, 2024

[January 2024 Minutes](#)

- Motion to Approve: Greg Bettencourt
- Second: Vicki Tamoush
- Motion Carried

Minutes of February 7, 2024

[February 2024 Minutes](#)

- Motion to Approve: Greg Bettencourt
- Second: Vicki Tamoush
- Motion Carried

Treasurer's Report: Roland Hutchinson

- \$244.18 in bank account
 - Paid P.O. Box Rental for 1 Year \$200.00

Announcements and Correspondence

- John Carsel
 - Election of Board Members
 - Precincts 2 and 4 have contested elections
 - Election: March 12, 2024 from 2 to 4 at the Cayucos Library
 - Steinmann Project
 - March 14, 2024 Meeting at Planning Commission Meeting at 9 a.m.

- Analysis of water runoff under worse case scenario (impervious materials)
- Will be presented at the Planning Commission meeting
- Paul Choucalas
 - Once they approve the project, none of the homes will come before us
- Jim Dantona–Can build what they want. The HOA will have total control
- Sue Black requested that we send it out to the entire email list
- Rachel Wilson will send out notification of the project to the entire email list.
- Design guidelines
 - Rachel Wilson says that the design guidelines have not changed
- Sue Black worried about the drainage
- Jim Dantona
 - April 26, 2024–Community Council Meeting from 8:30 to Noon for new Council Members at the San Luis Obispo County Library
 - Paul Choucalas–worthwhile meeting

Public Comments:

- Susan Brownell–Old Creek off of Santa Rita
 - School Board Member–speaking as a citizen
 - Are Mental Health Services being offered to our first responders?
 - 911 At Ease International in Santa Barbara is a provider
 - Why is our county not getting mental health for first responders?
 - John Carsel: Will find out what we are doing

Council Member Comments:

- Rachel Wilson
 - Exposed gas pipe at Old Creek and the Beach is decommissioned and should be removed. It is an attractive nuisance and can potentially block Old Creek causing a buildup of debris in the creek.
- Carol Kramer
 - Third Street and Pacific public access has a lot of foliage plus couches. It needs to be cleaned out. It has a walk-out lookout.
 - We could not see anyone needing help at that access–dangerous situation
- Sue Black–what is the county doing about our county creeks? Flooding caused by overgrowth
 - Greg Bettencourt–there was a site visit re: Little Cayucos Creek; It is the property owners responsibility to clean the creek
 - Must have a permit to do most creek cleaning
 - Kate Valentine from the County met with Greg Bettencourt and Bruce Gibson and walked the creek. She explained what you can do.

- Can remove dead fall that blocks the creek and trim limbs that might block the creek.
 - Can remove invasive plants.
- Sue Black–Worried that owners are not cleaning the creek bed.
- John Carsel
 - 2004–John wrote up a flier on Norma Rose Park as the soon to be built park
 - Norma Rose Park will be on the agenda for our April Meeting
 - Greg Bettencourt requested someone from County Parks attend next months meeting
- Sue Black
 - The street at Lucerne is undercut and is going into the Creek.
 - Blake Fixler will look into it.

Public Agency Reports:

Estero Bay Fire Department–Fire Captain Carillo

- No Report

Sheriff's Department– Sgt. Slaughter (Coast Station)

Calls for Service February 2024: 35 Calls this Year; 30 Calls last Year

- Assault/Battery: 0
- Disturbance: 6
 - 1 loud music
 - Rest were juvenile
- Burglary: 2
 - Found items at their home
 - Roommate situation
- Theft: 0
- Vandalism: 2
 - Juveniles
 - 1 damage to vehicle (no suspect)
- Mail Theft: 1
- Phone Scam: 0
- Suspicious Circumstances: 5
 - Low level
- Enforcement Stops: 10
 - 9 traffic
 - 1 pedestrian
- Preventative Patrol Activity: 3

Sgt Slaughter Responded on Mental Health:

- 911 At Ease is an amazing program. County used to use them.

- Currently contract with Council International for all
- Sgt. Slaughter is on the peer support team and works hard to get the support they need. There is a conference next month.

CHP–Captain Klingenberg

- 2 collisions in January
 - 1 non-injury
 - 1 minor injury
- 1 non-injury collision in February

Mental Health for Highway Patrol

- Robust state-wide peer support program
- Unit dedicated to peer support in Sacramento
- Member of the Peer Support Program since 2004
- Knowledge of 911 At Ease–knowledge of those programs
 - Officers can look for their own programs
 - Use other therapists
- Try to make mental wellness a high priority for highway patrol

Parks-Tanya Richardson

- No Report

County Planning- Andy Knighton

- No Report

County Public Works–Annie Bowsky “Local Roads First”

[SLOCOG Transportation Documents](#)

[LRF Presentation-3.6.24](#)

- Potential transportation tax for November 2024
 - Self Help Tax
 - 25 Counties have a dedicated sales tax for transportation including our neighboring taxes
 - SLO County does not have a dedicated tax
 - Could be worth \$35 million per year
 - Leverage the funds for more funds from the state–more money you put in, the more you get
 - Tax would be kept in the county to spend
 - Project delivery would be more efficient
 - Guarantee the tax would go to transportation

- 1% maximum for administrative fees
- SLOCOG is the regional governing board for transportation
 - 12 Board of Directors
 - Bruce Gibson represents us
- Most money comes from the gas tax
- SLOCOG did the Estero Bluffs Easement
- Produce the Regional Transportation Plan
 - Calculate funding needs
 - Approved in June 2023
 - 5.4 Billion Needed
 - 2.3 Billion Deficit
- Main Issue:
 - Lack of gas tax
 - Fewer gallons of gas due to EV's (25% of all new sales) and better vehicle efficiency
- SLOCOG needs new funding opportunity
 - Misconceptions
 - Gas tax does not have enough funding to fix our roads
 - State will not reprioritize funds to our roads
 - Local funding may or may not be reprioritized
 - CalTrans has only funded 2 major improvements on 101 in the last 25 years
 - The state will change something that will fix everything
- Local Road Maintenance
 - County roads are decreasing in maintenance
 - The more roads deteriorate, the more expensive they become to fix
 - More funding will decrease the cost overall because they can be fixed before they deteriorate too much
- SLOCOG received \$50 million for Cuesta Grade (25 years ago)
- SLOCOG received money for Shell Beach (2023)
- No money for North County
- Rent, Medical, and Groceries will not be taxed.
- \$60,000 per year salary it would cost \$2.31 per week in extra taxes
- Draft Investment Plan–February 7, 2024
 - Measure J in 2016 did not pass
 - Broke the county into 4 regions
 - Split the county based on population
- Cayucos will receive about \$4 million
 - Road repairs, safety improvements, downtown improvements
 - Additional \$11 million for unincorporated areas
- May 1st will approve or deny the final investment plan
- May 29th will determine whether or not to put it on the ballot
- Jim Dantona
 - State looks to see how much locals can put into a project. The more you put into a project, the more the state will give you.
 - We are losing out to other counties, because we can compete with our local match

- Road quality in Morro Bay has dropped from a 63 to a 48 in quality
- Paul Choucalas
 - Not getting a lot of money for Cayucos
 - Cayucos just gets a sliver even though we have a lot of tourists since we have a small population
 - Concern about adding another tax to people on fixed incomes
 - John DiNunzio with SLOCOG
 - Atascadero, Paso Robles and Morro Bay have their own funding
 - 46 West is being redesigned at 101
- John Carsel
 - Need a right hand turn lane from Highway 1 onto Ocean and Shearer Avenue
- Greg Bettencourt
 - What does downtown improvements mean?
 - Annie Bowsky
 - Tell Bruce Gibson what we want for road improvements in our county
- Rachel Wilson
 - Need repairs on Ocean Avenue at the bridge near Old Creek
 - Need repairs on Lucerne
- Rachel Wilson
 - Concerned that the road on Hacienda is being damaged when the water pipes are being replaced and that the repair to the road is not adequate
 - Blake Fixler–Contact Public Works

What do we think is appropriate for our funding? Contact Bruce Gibson and give him your ideas.

Cayucos Sanitary District–Rick Koon

- No Report

Cayucos Chamber of Commerce–Carol Kramer

- May Antique Street Faire is coming up
- Lioness is having the Dog Parade for Easter
- Easter Egg hunt for adults in town may happen
 - Clues on the website

Cayucos School- Susan Brownell

- Will be building a new play structure

Supervisor Report: Blake Fixler (Bruce Gibson is in Sacramento)

- Norma Rose Park Update
 - 2007 a master plan was completed for Norma Rose

- Grading plans prepared 2012
- Construction of restrooms
- Footprint of the park is vested
- Temporary dog park will be relocated when the other features show up
- Hold-Up
 - Construction funding
 - Long-term maintenance funding
- Playground Estimate
 - \$700,000
- Pier Update
 - Pilings fell off of the end of the pier
 - More thorough inspection before it opens entirely
 - Greg Bettencourt on Pier Warranty
 - Talked to Shawn Cooper
 - Cursory walk with Bruce Elster
 - Speculate that one of the really large stumps from the creek near Hardy Park banged up against the farthest right hand side pilings
 - Weakened the pilings
 - Week later—the high surf broke the pilings loose
 - One loose piling caused several to be loose
 - At least 5 pilings are missing
 - Company out of San Diego hired to determine cause
 - Inspection of pier and on the engineering on the rebuild to see if it is faulty
 - Will send divers down
 - Probably in May
 - Report in June
 - July, August—hopefully get a waiver from the Coastal Commission
 - Hopefully fixed before Winter
 - Money—collected more money than we needed in the previous drive
 - County can use this money to repair (interest not principal)
 - \$120,000 in interest over the last 10 years that can be spent
 - Inspection and Engineering Report and Plans will take the \$120,000
 - Ask for money from the Coastal Conservancy
- SoCal Gas Pipe
 - Did not remove due to required environmental permitting
 - Working on permit
- Vets Hall
 - The contractor is a few months behind schedule
 - Completion: Late July or Early August
 - Should get it at the price we were supposed to

- Potholes—did not include general surfacing of the parking lot
 - Public works will work on the parking lot
- Friday, April 26th Training for Advisory Council Members
 - 8:30 to Noon
 - San Luis Obispo Library
 - Last training was 2019
- Supervisors March Items
 - Update on making affordable housing for enticing (March 12th)
 - Redistricting (March 26th)
- Paul Choucalas
 - Wood Shake Roof is a 7 Year Roof
 - Greg Bettencourt
 - Roof on the Vets Hall is wood shingle because that was the original roof
 - Blake Fixler
 - Is required as part of the grant due to historical nature
 - New shake roofs are from tree-farms so the shingles are not as weak
 -

Committee Reports:

Land Use– Jim Dantona

Beachwalker Inn

- Adding a covering over the patio
- Not changing any of the rest of the structure
- Existing Deck
- Land Use Committee recommended approval

Motion:

Motion to approve: Rachel Wilson

Second: Greg Bettencourt

Motion Carried

597 Park

- Currently a duplex with 1 carport
- Single family with an ADU with 4 parking places

Motion: Rachel Wilson

Second: Paul Choucalas

Motion Carried

3250 Ocean Blvd. Project Update

- It is out for revisions and will come back to Land Use

Ash Project

- Project does not require Land Use
- Out of the business district
- Will undergo a Plan Check review.
- Will check on parking.
- Carol Kramer
 - Why does an ADU have a No Parking exemption?
- Jim Dantona
 - Coastal Commission may look at parking

Recreational Planning: Greg Bettencourt

- No Report

Utilities:

- No Report

Community Design:

- No Report

Bylaws

- No Report

CSA 10A-Paul Choucalas

- No Report

Hang Glider Hill–Glenn Oelker

- No Report

Eastward Expansion -Larry Fishman

- No Report

Traffic Calming-

- No Report

Old Business:

- Status of water pipe upgrades on Chaney and Gilbert (continued)
- Election of Advisory Council Members
 - Two Contested Elections–Election from 4 to 8 P.M. at the Cayucos Library

Precinct 2 Candidates in Alphabetical Order (Vote for 2)

- Paul Choucalas
- Carol Kramer
- Eric Solum

Precinct 4 Candidates in Alphabetical Order (Vote for 2)

- Francie Farinet
- Marie Jaqua
- Thomas Sooter

Precinct 6 Candidates (No Election Necessary)

- Jan Meslin
- Vicki Tamoush

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- County's Advisory Council Handbook–Our Action
 - John Carsel
 - Do we keep Roberts Rule of Order or do we use Rosenbergs?
 - Take a look at the Rules
 - Should the agenda be 4 days in advance?
 - It is not required that we use the handbook
 - Will be on next month's agenda
 - Blake Fixler
 - Will bring copies of the Handbook

New Business:

- None

Good of the Order:

Meeting was adjourned at 8:48 P.M. by John Carsel

Next Meetings:

Next Meeting: Hybrid, Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at 7 p.m.

Next Land Use Committee Meeting, March 27, 2024 by way of Zoom at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Rachel Wilson