

AGUA DULCE TOWN COUNCIL

Regular Meeting of Wednesday, November 11, 2015 APPROVED MINUTES

Agua Dulce Women's Club
33201 Agua Dulce Canyon Road, Agua Dulce, CA

Council Members Present: President: Don Henry (DH), Secretary: Mary Johnson (MJ), Treasurer: Troy Fosberg (TF) arrived 6:45 PM, Clerk: Steve Cummings (SC), Ed Porter (EP)

Council Members Absent: Lou Vince (LV), Scott Keller (SK)

Community Members: About 20 community members in attendance

TOPIC/DISCUSSION	MOTION	RESULT/DECISION
ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING: Regular Council Operations:		
1. Call to order at 6:38 PM		
2. MSP: Move to Approve Agenda moving School board liaison report from 12.J. to 9.B. after Reyes Winery Presentation	M: MJ S: EP	4-0-0
3. MSP: Move to Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting of October 14, 2015 as submitted	M: EP S: SC	4-0-0
4. Council Reports:		
A. President Report		
i. General: Parks Needs Assessment: informative meeting and mandatory training meeting November 18. DH and MJ to attend		
ii. Outgoing Correspondence:		
a. Angeles National Forest: comments regarding CHSRA proposal to perform geophysical/geotechnical investigation within the Angeles National Forest relating to tunneling for CHSRA.		
b. Acton Town Council response regarding the development of the Acton/Agua Dulce Community Resiliency Coalition to develop the Board and leadership from within the Coalition members.		
iii. Incoming Correspondence: See Community Meeting, Item 10.B., C., and D.		
iv. Miscellaneous Incoming & Webmail:		
a. Acton TC petition addressing Regional Planning Commission's interpretation of Town and Country AV Area Plan		
B. Secretary Report: Nothing to report		
C. Treasurer's Report		
i. Beginning Balance: \$1,767.34, Payment of \$252.96 for Insurance, Ending Balance: \$1,510.38		
D. Association of Rural Town Councils: October 28, 2015		
i. Animal Facility Ordinance Update: MSP: Move to support ARTC Letter of opposition to AFO to Editor of Antelope Valley Press since they are in alignment with Agua Dulce community views.	M: MJ S: SC	5-0-0
ii. Antelope Valley Area Plan regarding fast food restaurant in Acton		
E. Other: Report back from SC on Public Works increases speed limit on Agua Dulce Canyon Road to 40 mph between Darling Road and Escondido Canyon Road: Information from Gilbert Tsoi, Dept of Public Works dated March 31, 2015.		
5. Other Business: None		
COMMUNITY MEETING: Reports and Presentations:		
6. Call to order at 7:03 PM. Pledge of Allegiance and Flag Salute led by EP		
7. Agency Reports		
A. California Highway Patrol/Cops Team: Officer Vargas: October Statistics: Collisions-27; 3 DUI related, 12 with injuries.		

DUI Arrests-10. Misdemeanor: fail to install an Ignition Interlock Device (IID) and suspended license.		
B. Los Angeles County Sheriff Resident Deputy: Deputy Scott Short: Absent		
C. Los Angeles County Fire Dept/Community Service Rep: Stephanie English: Absent		
D. Acton-Agua Dulce Library: Librarian John Elford: Announcements of programs and activities for November. Astronomy program November 21 at 3:00 PM. Red Cross Blood drive Wednesday, December 23, 2015. 10:00 AM to 4:15 PM at Library.		
8. Fifth District Report: Rosalind Wayman: Absent		
9. Presentations/Discussions		
A. Minor Modifications to CUP-Reyes Winery Project R2006-00500: Robert Reyes-Applicant. 10262 Sierra Highway, Agua Dulce, CA. For details: http://planning.lacounty.gov/case/view/r2006-00500/ Hearing Office to make decision on application request on November 3, 2015. To oppose granting request, submit a written protest by deadline of October 7, 2015. Regional Planning received 2 protest letters during the comment period. Normally the request would be denied based on the two protests. ADTC had requested additional time for the applicant to present his proposed modifications and for community input and discussion, so Hearing Officer continued the hearing to a date after Nov. 11.		
i. Existing single family residence to remain as single family residence		
ii. Signage plans		
iii. Reduced parking spaces		
iv. Access road from Sierra Highway: change the requirement from “paved” to “unpaved.”		
v. Elimination of left turn pocket and related conditions		
vi. Allowance of wine tastings and tours without appointments		
vii. Clarification of wine club, corporate parties, gatherings and Temporary Use Permits		
viii. Allowance to bottle and sell wine in containers less than 750 milliliters.		
ix. Allowance of 4 cargo shipping containers (Agua Dulce Community Standards District allows only 3)		
x. Community Discussion		
Mr. Robert Reyes (RR): For the last 3-4 years, Reyes Winery has been working with Regional Planning on a Minor Modification to their CUP. Modifications were triggered by reported violations of original CUP. A number of modifications have been incorporated into the Minor Mod to CUP. The majority of the discussion centered on paving the access road from Sierra Highway which was a requirement in the original approved CUP. RR stated the fire department doesn't require the road to be paved. DH stated community concerns raised in 2008 when RR attended to discuss the proposed CUP was dust and paving of the access road. MJ read the ADTC letter written to RP on July 15, 2008 indicating community concerns and specifically the concern of a paved road. The approved CUP states the access road is to be paved. RR indicated the “paved road” was an oversight and he never intended to pave the road indicating paving was “obsolete and unnecessary.” Most of the Council members in attendance indicated they personally didn't care about the actual paving of the road...but were concerned about the process of non-compliance with a CUP and erosion of the process. Based on time constraints placed on the Council by Regional Planning and their date for the hearing of the Minor Modifications, the Council was unable to gather current community input on the proposed changes. In order to uphold the community comments from 2008, the Council was obligated to file a protest which they did on October 5, 2015. Lillian Smith of the Country Journal offered to run a survey to determine current community concerns on paving the road. MJ objected to the survey indicating the survey could undermine the purpose and effectiveness of the Council of gathering community input in a public way through our meetings. MSP: Move, with objection, to accept Ms. Smith's generous offer to run a survey in the Country Journal to see what the community has to say about these issues. (Paving of road and number of cargo containers)	M: EP S: TF	5-0-0
xi. ADTC to determine whether or not to retract protest letter or uphold the protest.		

10. President's Report		
A. General:		
B. Incoming Correspondence for Action:		
C. Incoming Correspondence for Notice:		
D. Report on Public Hearing/Community Meetings:		
i. LA County Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) Needs Assessment: February 3, 2016 6:00 PM at Agua Dulce Women's Club, 33201 Agua Dulce Canyon Rd, Agua Dulce. DPR is initiating a countywide assessment of the need for parks and recreation. The goal is to gather data and input for future decision making on parks and recreation improvements, projects, and future park planning. ADTC to be host and facilitator for Community Outreach meeting to be held February 3, 2016. For details: http://lacountyparkneeds.org/		
11. High Speed Rail Update: Pam Wolter/Dale Bybee/Scott Griffin:		
A. Coalition Against High-Speed Rail planning and strategy meeting November 9, 2015 at Acton Library, 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM		
B. CHSRA Board Meeting, Fresno, November 17, 2015. Looking for Acton/Agua Dulce residents to attend and support the central valley group Citizens for California High Speed Rail Accountability. www.cchsra.org		
12. Committee Reports		
A. Bylaws Revision Committee: Lou Vince/Mary Johnson: Inactive		
B. CSD Revision Committee: Mary Johnson/Scott Keller: Nothing to report		
C. Election Committee: Chair: Lorna Leslie: Judy Bartlett		
i. 2014 Election Materials were turned in to LV on November 1, 2015 by Lorna Leslie		
ii. Election Results: 97 total ballots, 7 provisional (counted) Mary Johnson-66 votes, Troy Fosberg-58 votes, Candy Clemente-57 votes, Lou Vince-47 votes, William Alch-45 votes. Top 4 will get installed at December 9 th ADTC meeting.		
iii. 2015 Election Audit report per Election Procedures XVI submitted by Judy Bartlett		
iv. 2015 Election materials for storage turned in to MJ by Judy Bartlett		
D. Film: Steve Cummings: Addressed the Council stating his platform he had when running for town council. 1. To give back to the community, 2. Annexation and 3. Term limits. He wanted to poll the audience to see how they felt about term limits. Term limits for only the President. Staggered every 2 years. EP: stated that to poll the audience about term limits might not be the best way to determine how the Council operates. While term limits may be the cornerstone of democracy, there are some situations that are better served without term limits. If the Council evolves into a monopoly of power, that may be the time to address it. Until then, the current system is working. SC: As a parting gesture, he will withdraw his request for presidential term limits.		
E. Land Use: Ed Porter: Average price in Agua Dulce is \$642,000. Average price in Santa Clarita Valley is \$509,000. Average of 60 days on market in AD. Average of 69 days on market in SCV. No one is loaning on land sales. Usually done with owner carrying the paper. 3.875% for 10 year loan. 4% for 30 year. Home Value Increase from last year is 6%. Building and Safety is sabotaging new construction. \$140,000 for septic/seepage pits.		
F. Parks and Trails: Mary Johnson: Save the date for Parks Needs Assessment		
G. Water Stewardship: Don Henry: Hauled Water EIR in the works.		
H. Ways & Means: Troy Fosberg/Scott Keller: Holiday potluck for December meeting		
I. Disaster Planning: Gary Hebdon: Enrique Moreno: CPR certification class for community. Date to be determined.		
J. Acton/Agua Dulce School Board Liaison: Ed Porter: Moved to 10.B. Chris Burgard, Agua Dulce Community member: Related the complaint by a parent of a 7 th grade High Desert Middle School about an assignment for a comparative world religion history lesson. Based on the complaint, Dr. Woodard, Superintendent suspended drawings of all religious symbols. Mr. Burgard felt the Superintendent was imposing Sharia Law and denying the freedoms contained in the First Amendment to the Constitution of the US. He requested the Town Council draft a letter to Acton-Agua Dulce School Board petitioning them to reverse the "Pro-Sharia Law" decision and		

<p>restore the constitutional rights. EP: Explained the process the School Board operates under. They must uphold the US Constitution and as board members, they are held to stringent limitations and guidelines and can be held criminally responsible. He appreciates Mr. Burgard's efforts trying to address the important matter. As a district, they must watch for actions that are purposefully intended to create conflict or discord. There has been misinformation reported in the media. The required curriculum has not been pulled. The immediate response was to stop everything on a temporary basis until the matter was investigated and policy was reviewed. The proposed policy will not ban drawing of any religious figure or symbol. Nor will they require a student to draw a figure they are not comfortable with. EP invited Mr. Burgard to attend the next School Board meeting to address the Board and to hear about the proposed policy. DH: Indicated the ADTC has certain procedures to follow. This issue was not listed on the agenda so we cannot take any action, but if Mr. Burgard feels the need to request the ADTC take action, he can request the item be placed on a future agenda so the community has a chance to weigh in on the matter. School Board meeting is Thursday, November 12, 2015</p>		
K. Acton Town Council Liaison: Lillian Smith: November 24 BOS Taco Bell hearing.		
L. Other: Robin Orefice camel trainer had serious accident in Texas. Fund me account set up for transportation back to California. Country Journal will publish details.		
13. Open Forum: None		
14. Announcements		
A. Women's Safety & Self-Defense Class sponsored by Assemblyman Tom Lackey: November 17, 2015 3:30 PM to 6:00 PM, Palmdale Oasis Park Recreation Center, 3850 East Avenue S, Palmdale, CA. RSVP to 661-267-7636 or via email to assemblymember.lackey@assembly.ca.gov		
B. Next regular ADTC meeting: December 9, 2015: Holiday Potluck with possible raffle. No Business. Talked about having meeting at VR Interpretive Center. We would have to pay to have staff on duty.		
C. Association of Rural Town Councils: January 27, 2016, 7:00 PM, Fire Station 129, 42110 6 th St West, Lancaster, CA		
D. Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment Community Outreach Meeting: February 3, 2016 at 6:00 PM at Agua Dulce Women's Club, 33201 Agua Dulce Canyon Rd, Agua Dulce		
E. Agua Dulce Women's Club Parade of Tables and Friday night preview party. December 4 and 5.		
15. Unfinished Business: None		
16. New Business: None		
17. Future Agenda Items:		
A. Installation of Council Members and Election of Officers and Holiday Celebration (December) RW to install		
B. Cemex Update: Andy Fried- January or February		
C. Gentle Barn-Traffic & Safety Issues		
D. Richard Bruckner of Regional Planning for discussion of development roadblocks. Grading, juniper woodland and septic. Have a meeting with community to find out specific concerns builders are running into. Then invite Mr. Bruckner when we have our list of issues.		
E. Chris Burgard regarding School Board and restoring the First Amendment at Acton-Agua Dulce School District		
18. MSP: Move to Adjourn at 9:25 PM	M: SC S: TF	5-0-0

Respectfully Submitted: Mary Johnson, 2015 Secretary
APPROVED: December 9, 2015