

SANTA SUSANNA FIELD LAB-COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (SSFL-CAG)

MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 20, 2013

BELL CANYON COMMUNITY ROOM

Meeting called to order: 7:05PM

Members present: Alec Uzemeck, Ron Ziman, Richard Brandlin, Christina Walsh, Brian Sujata, Diana Dixon Davis, Sharon Ford, Poly Georgilas, David Karchem, Michael Kuhn, John Luker, Barry Seybert, Abe Weitzberg, Mary Wiesbrock, Kathy Weiner

Absent: Frank Lopez, Thom Slosson

I. Minutes from the October 16th meeting were approved.

II. Administrative Items:

A. DTSC has scheduled Scoping Meetings for the CEQA Process. The meetings are scheduled for Chatsworth on December 10th and Simi Valley for December 14th. Public comments are being sought.

Discussion: regarding the importance of attending these meetings and verbalizing all concerns so that the concerns are on record.

John Luker mentioned that he has provided Fran Pavley's staffer Louise_____ with information from the CAG's perspective on clean-up issues

B. Alec put forth Kathy Weiner's name to fill the Secretary's position left vacant by the resignation of Leigh Nixon. Motion seconded by Poly. Motion passed.

III. PRESENTATIONS:

Full texts of these presentations will be made available to CAG members.

Outline of Demography & Epidemiology

Diana Dixon Davis

Demography is the statistical study of human populations usually based on recorded data: Vital statistics, Birth & Death Certificates.

Epidemiology is the study of distribution patterns, causes & effects on health & disease conditions in a defined population.

“CORRELATION DOES NOT IMPLY CAUSALITY”

Links need to be proven that connect cause & effect.

**Look at studies with an eye for criteria used, assessment of causality evidence, reproducibility(sp) & quality of data used, among other hallmarks.

Radioactivity, Radionuclides, Radiation & Risk

Abe Weitzberg

Abe gave a detailed overview of the DOE Dose Ranges & the relative risks inherent to various situations.

Take home message: The cleanup of the SSFL, in total, to background would be unnecessary from a health risk standpoint. This endeavor would also be cost prohibitive & create transport risks on the 2 lane mountainous road. (Alec, this is where I need some help- help me capture Abe’s presentation more fully, please)

Archaeology & Clean-up Sites

Michael Kuhn

Archaeologically, the area known as SSFL is awash with:

World class Rock Art

Tools, some dated 7,000 years ago

Chumash/Gabrielino Indian bones & artifacts

The area known as Burrow Flats has never had a Phase 1 Archeological survey. (Phase 1 survey=walking through the area)

During the period from 1953-54 there was an Archeological survey that detailed the areas Rock Art. The Art was recognized & deemed protected. There is however, no good information on its antiquity.

Area IV has had a Phase 1 survey of its North Boundary Zone (date ?)

IV. Member Comments:

The Los Angeles Times front page article on the mismanagement of toxic waste on November 17, 2013 was brought forth by Sharon Ford for a brief discussion. Sharon suggested that we respond to the article as individuals (?) with letters to the editor. The problem of “losing track” of thousands of tons of toxic waste underscores our argument for safe clean-up of the field lab.

V. Public Comment:

Chris (?) commented about the level of arsenic in the surrounding groundwater, stating that NRDC advocates for 4 parts per billion. He also questioned the monitoring of enriched uranium. (?)

VI. CAG Rules:

Richard Brandin, Rules Committee Chair

A. Meetings of Committees: Each committee sets their own schedule of meeting days & time. There may be more meetings required initially depending on the committee and their responsibilities. Committees should regularize their meeting times so as not to conflict, nor unduly burden members: suggested committee meeting per week with each committee choosing 1,2,3rd week etc.

B. Meeting calendars will be kept by the CAG secretary. Please forward your information to twloveskw@aol.com.

C. All (?) CAG meetings are open to the public & there should be no expectation of a charge. (Are our committee meetings also open to the public? We do not operate under the Brown Act)

D. A Rules Committee generated “Internal Dispute Resolution” policy was read. There was some discussion but no vote on this issue.

E. General Guidelines for Representing the CAG

1. Any CAG member may participate in outside activities in representing himself or an organization. Also the member may represent himself as an individual supporting any CAG issues & actions.
2. No member may represent the CAG on any topic, action or commitment that has not been approved by the CAG.
3. Any member may represent the CAG in support of any topic, action or commitment that has been approved by the CAG

F. The concept of an “Action Team” was brought up. The need for this Team may present itself when eminent action is required and the CAGs

next meeting is at a distance. The Team would consist of 3 members of the Executive Committee. There was discussion but no vote on this issue as there was some concern that this concept may violate our communication protocol. **“All CAG output shall be approved by the CAG”**

G. Minutes should be prepared by each committee & reported at the next CAG meeting following the committee’s meeting. Much discussion followed. Timing appears to be the primary stumbling block as committees may meet the night prior to a CAG meeting & these minutes need to be approved by the committee members. One alternative would be to post minutes to the “repository”(?)

CAG members have just received this Rules Committee report today therefore there will be no vote taken until next month.

VII Technology Committee

Brian Sujata, Chair

Structure & Function

Brian reports that the Technology Committee has 11 members. Their goal is to:

Generate White Papers

Present Orientation Briefings

Generate Technical Summaries

Hold Public meetings in a large venue.

Brian will be distributing to the CAG the Boxer/Brownley (?) letter. The committee recently met, minutes will be forthcoming.

VIII. Communication Committee:

Christina Walsh, Chair

Structure & Function

We all communicate in some form or another. Presently information & discussions about the SSFL are disseminated through SSLFCAG a Yahoo Group. This group was created by Christina Walsh in 2000. It holds years of discussion and discovery that has historical value. There is also a Facebook discussion group. Other sites exist plus media reports

Features of the Yahoo Group site include our ability to receive even daily feedback about activity/content(?) on the site. And the ability to take a poll.

We need to have a vehicle to communicate amongst ourselves, safely & securely, **and** with outside interested parties.

A website may provide the features that we need. However, there is a cost for creation & upkeep. And, we already have the resources available to communicate & store info.

Also, would we choose to communicate via a “page” vs a discussion group?

Alec requested a tutorial as there was not a majority “show of hands” when asked the question “how many members are familiar with Twitter & Facebook?” Christina agrees to give a tutorial.

IX: Membership Committee

Ronald Ziman, Chair

The Membership Committee has been meeting to determine policies & procedures for the addition of CAG members . The Udall Selection

Panel has shared the form that they used initially. The committee is looking into modifications of this form to help with the selection process. Ron began the discussion as to the CAGs thoughts on new appointees. Do we want a certain expertise, geographic location or background to “round out” the CAG? General consensus is the application for CAG membership should be Open to all.

Discussion: increased members=change in quorum required to vote.

Brian Sujata made a motion: We will not use the limit of 23 CAG members as criteria. Poly seconds. Motion carries.

X. Chair’s Comment: Next month’s meeting is a critical one. Wednesday December 18th , 7PM at the Bell Canyon Recreation Center. Speakers will include: Ray LeClerk, David Dassler, John Jones & Mera Lee.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

