

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

6:14 pm, by Blake Herrschaft due to John Ambert late arrival

MEMBERS PRESENT (MARKED WITH “X”)

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|---|
| X 1 Dan Dennison | X 3 Blake Herrschaft | X 6 John Ambert (Chair) <i>(arrived 6:20pm)</i> |
| 1 [VACANT] | X 4 Craig Klein | X 6 Tom Gawronski |
| 2 [VACANT] | 4 Andrew Waltz | X 7 Valerie Paz <i>(arrived 7:23pm)</i> |
| X 2 Nanci Kelly | X 5 Jane Gawronski | X 7 Georgia Sparkman |
| X 3 Pete Ruscitti | 5 [VACANT] | <i>Numbers indicate district</i> |

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS & APPROVAL

- Motion from Craig to move Action Item #1 (Cameras) in front of Information Item #1, seconded by Jane.
 - **Motion passes, 8-0-0**
- Motion from Blake to add Information Item #4 (10th Update to Land Development Code) after Information Item #3, seconded by Pete
 - **Motion passes, 8-0-0**

MINUTES MODIFICATIONS & APPROVAL

Postponed due to printing issues.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Postponed due to John Ambert late arrival.

CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 2 REPORT – CONRAD WEAR

- New Sunset Cliffs Park Ranger has been hired and is now working. A new Senior Park Ranger (overseeing all coastal parks) still needs to be hired.
- The OB Branch Library air conditioning is scheduled to be installed this week.
- The OB Community Plan was adopted by City Council on 11/9. It should go into effect after the California Coastal Commission (CCC) issues its final approval during its January meeting. The item is expected to be on CCC’s consent agenda and pass quickly.

U.S. CONGRESS CA-52 DISTRICT REPORT – BRIAN ELLIOTT

- Hosting a workshop on the Affordable Care Act and Covered California Tuesday 12/8.
- Hosting a “Scam Stopper” workshop Monday 12/14.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

- *Giovanni Ingolia (OB Town Council):* Announced upcoming events: Charity Auction Thursday 12/3 at Sunshine Company; Holiday Parade on Saturday 12/5.

[6:20pm: John Ambert arrived and assumed duties as Chair]

- *Mara Elliott (Chief Deputy City Atty, candidate for City Atty):* Summarized her campaign for City Attorney and desire for community engagement.

- *Richard Parkllan (Neighborhoods for Clean Elections)*: Asked for support for Neighborhoods for Clean Elections.
- *John Beaudry (Landscape Architect)*: Summarized support for "green roof" development and said he is planning to present in more detail at a future meeting.

ACTION #1: SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS ALONG THE WATERFRONT

- *John*: Clarified that this intended to be a discussion and that action is not needed or requested by the City. It is only an action item to allow the Board to take action if desired.
- *Conrad Wear*:
 - Explained that community feedback has repeatedly said crime is a growing concern.
 - Councilmember Zapf's office asked San Diego Police Department (SDPD) what resources they needed to address the issue better, and they said cameras would help. Camera footage can be used as evidence in prosecuting criminals.
 - Cost for installation and 2 years of operation is \$25,000 from General Fund, which was part of a larger sum that had originally been earmarked for carpeting Councilmember Zapf's office floor in the City Admin Building.
- *Dan & Nanci*: Raised concerns about the speed of the decision by the City and lack of community review.
 - *Conrad*: Explained budget process and timing of decision.

SDPD Presentation

- *Officer David Surwilo (SDPD)*:
 - The demand for cameras is not new. It has been requested repeatedly by many community members and groups for many years.
 - Cameras have been proven to be extremely effective as evidence in prosecutions.
 - The project will install a total of 10 wireless cameras covering the beach and public grass park areas, no private areas. Will be placed on existing structures or light poles. Installation date unknown.
 - Video is stored on a rewritable loop housed at lifeguard tower, which links into the city's intranet. Generally only examined if incidents are reported, otherwise will be rewritten in about 1-2 weeks.
- *Blake*: Raised concerns about SDPD's stewardship of the data.
 - *Surwilo*: Once designated as evidence, no longer property of SDPD.
- *Lt. Garland (San Diego Lifeguards)*: There are already cameras in OB operated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, which are directed mostly at the coastline. All are located on public property and are only filming public areas.

Public Questions for SDPD

- Why are they on the beach instead of business areas?
 - *Surwilo*: Crime occurs on the beach as well. Cited several incidents.
- Can they be used to prevent crime?
 - *Surwilo*: Not directly, but can be used to deter crime and successfully prosecute offenders.
- Are there statistics on crime on the beach in the last few months?
 - *Surwilo*: Visit crimemapping.com for full data.

Opposition Presentation

- *Rick Callejon (OB Citizens Against Privacy Abuse (CAPA)):*
 - Hosting a community forum on Wednesday 12/9 at OB Rec Center.
 - CAPA believes the money could have been better spent. Possible ideas include outreach to homeless, cleanliness of bathrooms, etc.
 - CAPA encourages community policing. Cameras are no substitute for police presence.
 - CAPA believes there is no empirical data showing effectiveness of cameras on beach.
 - CAPA believes there is no proven deterrent effect on crime. But cameras could be a deterrent to visitors to the beach.
 - CAPA is concerned that cameras could push criminal activity into alleys and other areas.

Initial Board Comments

- *Craig:* There is clear evidence all over the nation of cameras allowing for the successful apprehension and prosecution of criminals.
- *John:* Aside from the cameras themselves, clearly a key concern by is the lack of community review and input.

Public Comments

- *Frank Gormlie (OB Rag):* Expressed concern about disregard for the privacy rights of citizens in public areas.
- *Kimmy:* Opposes cameras and is concerned by police surveillance and the lack of community input. Also believes there are higher priorities for City funds.
- *Ben Leaf:* Encourages debate on this issue and is concerned about the lack of community input in the decisionmaking.
- *Pat Herron:* Opposes cameras. Concerned about growing surveillance and erosion of rights by multiple government agencies. Also concerned about effects on behavior of visitors.
- *Ben Murphy:* Supports cameras to improve safety and make SDPD more effective.
- *Joe Ghio:* Supports cameras for safety.
- *Colleen Dietzel:* Opposes cameras and surveillance by police.
- *Denny Knox (OB Mainstreet Association):* Supports cameras, thanked SDPD for helping to reduce crime in OB.
- *Jeane Patton:* Opposes cameras and surveillance by police. Concerned with lack of community input. Concerned that cameras could push criminal activity into alleys and other areas.
- *Julie Klein:* Supports cameras for safety and prosecution of crime.
- *Patty Lewis:* Supports cameras for safety and prosecution of crime. Mother of stabbing victim mentioned previously by Officer Surwilo.
- *Lou Ghio:* Supports cameras for safety and prosecution of crime. Coaches surf team and sees criminal activity regularly on beach.
- *Scott Andrews:* Opposes cameras. Statistics show beach crime is not widespread, and therefore it should not outweigh privacy rights.
- *Mary Orem:* Supports cameras for safety and prosecution of crime.

Board Comments

- *Pete*: Supports cameras but requests more community review and input.
- *Valerie*: Concerned about surveillance but believes safety benefits outweigh those concerns. Her son died at cliffs and cameras could have helped to determine what happened.
- *Tom*: Supports cameras and believes data should be examined after first 2 years to evaluate effectiveness.
- *Nanci*: Opposes cameras until more data is available on their effectiveness in other communities.
- *Blake*: Supports cameras but is cautious about surveillance. Encourages community review of signs to be posted.
- *Dan*: Supports cameras. Has witnessed their effectiveness in other locations where he has planned communities.
- *Georgia*: Supports cameras and pointed out their effectiveness as deterrents.
- *Jane*: Supports cameras but wished more community review had occurred. Also believes data should be examined for effectiveness.
- *Craig*: Supports cameras and clarified issue of privacy rights in public areas.
- *John*: Supports cameras. Expressed concern for crime victims and said he believed the intent of the cameras is in good faith.

ACTION #3: 10TH UPDATE TO LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE (LDC)

- *John*: Due to time concerns, need to defer to a future meeting. Distributed an excerpt from the draft 10th Update to the LDC modifying the requirements that trigger Coastal Development Permits. John asked the Board members to review the changes—specifically items 9, 12, 13, and 22—and be ready to discuss and take action at a future meeting.

ACTION #2: SHORT TERM VACATION RENTALS

- *John*: Due to time concerns, need to defer to a future meeting.
- *Conrad*: Issue will be heard by Planning Commission on Thursday 12/3.

ADJOURNED

8:32pm