

**SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL – COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CITY AND COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Thursday, March 10, 2016, 3:00 p.m.

Knollwood Country Club, 12024 Balboa Boulevard, Granada Hills, CA 91344

Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee Members: Ken Ashford, Jeanette Capaldi, Steven Freedman, Gale Gundersen, Wayde Hunter (Acting Chair and TAC Alternate), Josh Jordahl (Treasurer and TAC Representative), Laine Caspi, Debbie Pietraszko and Joe Vitti.

**A. Call to Order, Roll Call and Approval of Thursday, January 14, 2016 Minutes.
(Acting Chair/Vice Chair)**

This meeting of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee was called to order at 3:04 p.m. on March 10, 2016 in Granada Hills, California by Acting Chair Wayde Hunter. Roll Call was taken. Seven of the nine Committee Members were present: Ken Ashford, Jeanette Capaldi, Gale Gundersen, Wayde Hunter, Josh Jordahl, Debbie Pietraszko and Joe Vitti. Committee Members Laine Caspi and Steven Freedman arrived later. Absent: zero. A quorum of at least five Committee Members was present.

Landfill and government representatives present. BFI/Republic Services: Rob Sherman and Michael Stewart; SCAQMD (South Coast Air Quality Management District): Mohsen Nazemi, Philip Fine, Larry Israel and Nickolas Sanchez; SCL-LEA (Sunshine Canyon Landfill - Local Enforcement Agency): David Thompson, and Gerry Villalobos; L.A. County Public Health Dept.: Barbara DeRidder; L.A. County Regional Planning Dept.: none; L.A. County Supervisor Mike Antonovich's Office: Jarrod DeGonia; L.A. City Councilman Mitch Englander's Office: Millie Jones; L.A. City Planning Dept.: Nicholas Hendricks; LAUSD District 3: Bill Piazza. Also attending: approximately 32 residents and other guests.

Committee Member Steven Freedman arrived at this time (3:06), making eight Committee Members present (the SCL-CAC quorum is five).

Mr. Hunter noted draft Minutes revisions.

MOTION (by Mr. Vitti, seconded by Mr. Jordahl): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the Minutes of its January 14, 2016 Meeting as amended.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote; zero opposed or abstained.

B. Old Business. Discussion and possible action:

- Outstanding administrative matters (Acting Chair/Vice-Chair).

Mr. Hunter asked everyone to sign in, though members of the public may remain anonymous.

Mr. Hunter distributed to Committee Members an information packet that included a Balance Sheet, Reconciliation Detail and other related Landfill documents, and copies were made available to the public. (See <http://SCL-CAC.org>.) Mr. Hunter announced that Ms. Pietraszko had volunteered to be the Parliamentarian at the end of the last meeting to assist in helping us avoid mistakes, and to help maintain order. He also requested that the public to avoid “speaking out of turn.”

- Treasurer's Report (Treasurer).

Mr. Jordahl reviewed finances. Year-to-date expenses were \$1,911.86; the current balance was \$62,994.18. Mr. Jordahl stated that we get \$6,000 per year for expenses and \$20,000 per year for consultants and noted that we have not received funding for 2016 yet.

Committee Member Laine Caspi arrived at this time (3:12), making nine Committee Members present (the SCL-CAC quorum is five).

The below Motion was made and vote taken after the farther below election.

MOTION (by Ms. Capaldi, seconded by Mr. Freedman): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the March 10, 2016 Treasurer’s Report as presented.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote; zero opposed or abstained.

- Conduct election of CAC Officers for Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, TAC Rep & TAC Alt (Vice-Chair/Chair). Note: For the purpose of selecting a Chair, Mr. Hunter conducted the election of same as the Vice-Chair.

Chair: Ms. Caspi nominated Mr. Hunter. There were no other nominations. The Committee approved Mr. Hunter as Chair by a voice vote; zero opposed or abstained.

Vice-Chair: Ms. Capaldi nominated Mr. Vitti, who declined. Ms. Pietraszko nominated Ms. Capaldi, seconded by Ms. Caspi. There were no other nominations. Mr. Hunter explained the Vice-Chair’s responsibilities. The Committee approved Ms. Capaldi as Vice-Chair by a voice vote; zero opposed or abstained.

Treasurer: Ms. Capaldi nominated Mr. Jordahl, seconded by Ms. Pietraszko. There were no other nominations. The Committee approved Mr. Jordahl as Treasurer by a voice vote; zero opposed or abstained.

Secretary: Ms. Capaldi nominated Ms. Gundersen, who noted that she often will be absent due to other obligations. There were no other nominations. The Committee approved Mr. Gundersen as Secretary by a voice vote; zero opposed or abstained.

TAC [Sunshine Canyon Landfill -Technical Advisory Committee]

Representative: Ms. Capaldi nominated Mr. Vitti, seconded by Ms. Pietraszko. Ms. Caspi nominated Mr. Ashford, seconded by Ms. Pietraszko. There were no other

nominations. Mr. Hunter explained that the TAC Representative has not been a continuous position. The Committee approved Mr. Vitti as the TAC Representative by a hand vote of six; Mr. Ashford received three votes.

TAC Alternate: Ms. Caspi nominated Mr. Ashford, seconded by Mr. Vitti. There were no other nominations. The Committee approved Mr. Ashford as the TAC Alternate by a voice vote; zero opposed or abstained.

C. New Business. Discussion and possible Committee Motions and action to address the following:

- 1. Browning-Ferris Industries/Republic Services Inc. (BFI/Republic)** to report on Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL) activities and operations including status of 1-year ADC Geosynthetic Panel project.

Rob Sherman, BFI/Republic General Manager [24-hour Landfill hotline: 818-779-9170; main 818-362-2124; Info@SunshineCanyonLandfill.com; <http://SunshineCanyonLandfill.com>], reported that “four days were impacted by high winds . . . two days we actually shut the site down.” A new four-acre cell started operating this day. They “will install ten new power poles . . . and 20 new vertical gas wells and 5,000 feet of horizontal collectors . . . we’re going to be upgrading a header line . . . [a] 12” line to an 18” line . . . to create more vacuum for the system . . . we’re dewatering watered-in wells on a ongoing basis and installing pumps in new wells. Speaking to the ADC (Alternative Daily Cover)... “the past 5 years they installed “9 to 12-inch layers of dirt daily as a County requirement.” He indicated that the ADC using the new geosynthetic panel has “to date.. gone without incident.” It is inspected “every night . . . we provide a monthly and a quarterly report.” A member of the public, Arline Melkonian, reported that “we’ve been experiencing odors almost every single day and night . . . the [ADC] clearly is not working . . . it is only getting worse . . . with respect to odors . . . and emission . . . your equipment is not able to capture it . . . we want action.” Mr. Sherman reminded them that he has been the General Manager since July 2014. He said he “heard concerns from parents . . . I had a different experience walking in the neighborhood for a year,” subsequently claiming either he did not smell anything or if there were odors they were faint. “We are asking to be more timely notified of complaints.” He described the odor inspection process and equipment monitoring. He said information the Landfill has received is “not complete, not timely, not when it happens.” A member of the public, Meg Volk, questioned whether he had become desensitized to the odors and described the precautions the SCAQMD inspector takes. She also stated that pumps should be put in all wells, and that the amount of money being invested in infrastructure has declined substantially over the years. Mr. Sherman stated that “we’re going to continue to invest in the infrastructure.” He explained that recent mitigation expenses were less because of one-time large expenses to previously install equipment. A member of the public, Andrea Provenzale, distributed copies of “(21) Odor complaints made by her to SCAQMD 12/1/2015 – 3/10/2016.” She indicated that Mr. Sherman seemed to be asking the public to call the landfill when residents smell odors but she recounted the times that she had called, and believed that the Landfill mishandled her complaints. A member of the public, Mr. Ralph Kroy questioned the replacing of 12” with 18” and whether they save the 12” line. The

response by Republic staff was that sometimes it is saved and sometimes it is not. Committee member Gale Gundersen stated that she has gone by the landfill several times on her way home from Santa Clarita in the evening this past week, and both times she has smelled strong odors.

- 2. South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD)** to report on SCL odor complaints received including charts of year-to-date, NOVs and any other matters within their purview including an update upcoming of the proposed Order of Abatement for Odors in 2016. Mohsen Nazemi, Deputy Executive Officer, Eng. & Compliance SCAQMD to make a presentation on Van Gogh air monitoring summary vs MATES IV, future monitoring and plans for town hall meeting with community.

Mr. Nazemi [909-396-2662; MNazemi1@aqmd.gov] distributed paper copies of slides he was unable to present regarding the Landfill and copies of a "Sunshine Canyon Landfill: Summary of 2012-2013 Air Monitoring Study and Evaluation of Health Risks" paper. He stated that "if the wind is going in that direction, the odors will be smelled in that community . . . we do inspections" including "unannounced . . . if we determine that a considerable number of the public are impacted . . . we will issue Notices of Violation." He stated that there was an Order of Abatement which was modified 4 times. He pointed out in the handout that the dots on the map did not represent the actual number of complaints but the location and that a dot may represent a number of complaints. He explained his preference to "use our resources" other than "notifying the Landfill" whenever they get complaints. He stated that "the way this Landfill was constructed [in the 1950's] . . . it did not have the best collection system." Mr. Nazemi said "the Landfill did everything we asked them to do." He said some improvements are "a result of our Orders of Abatement and some are normal operating." He believed the ADC "is an improvement over putting soil on the Landfill every night." It will not improve the odor situation but over time should improve the gas collection, and reduce water in the wells. He also discussed the improvements such as increased blower size, an additional flare plus permitting for two additional flares.

Dr. Philip Fine, SCAQMD Deputy Executive Officer for Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources [909-396-2239; PFine@aqmd.gov], said he has been working on Sunshine Canyon Landfill "issues for eight years." He explained "emissions reporting" by the Landfill "every year." If emissions exceed standards "we will require a health risk assessment." He explained "ambient air quality monitoring" and that the purpose of the Study was to study "long-term air toxic exposure in the community, and compare to levels at the landfill and in the southern California region." He explained the results: "measured levels at the landfill are typically higher than at the School (data quality review is continuing, and results will be updated); most air toxics too low to be measured, or not higher than MATES (vinyl chloride, etc.); and formaldehyde and acetaldehyde are the only exceptions." Dr. Fine stated that "we're continuing to look at the data quality" due to results inconsistencies. He stated that "we were slow to identify" odors but are now addressing them. He reviewed their action plan and indicated they will do another one-year study. He explained that "fugitive emissions are emissions that

don't go through a stack," such as dust, and/or are "not captured" by the gas collection system.

Mr. Nazemi noted that "the working face [of the landfill] has moved closer to the community" than in 2011-2012. They will meet with the L.A. County Public Health Dept. "to evaluate the data." They will study the air at Van Gogh Charter School, at which they will hold a Town Hall Meeting, "and at the Landfill."

Harvey Abrams, a teacher at Van Gogh Charter School, suggested building a dome over the landfill. Mr. Hunter offered to receive questions for the Town Hall Meeting if any of the attending public wished. Larry Israel, SCAQMD Compliance Lead Inspector [310-233-2370; LIsrael@aqmd.gov; www.aqmd.gov], reported that six Notices of Violation (NOVs) were issued to the Landfill in January and February. There are three pending NOVs for March, "primarily for trash odors."

- 3. Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)** to report on LAUSD actions/response to SCL-CAC requests for action to ameliorate excessive odor complaints at Van Gogh Charter School.

Bill Piazza, LAUSD Office of Environmental Health & Safety (OHS) Environmental Assessment Coordinator [213.241.3926; Bill.Piazza@lausd.net], reported that the local Superintendent addressed the LEA and the AQMD regarding that "the School continues to experience" odors from the Landfill. He believed that "the Landfill owner/operator should be directed" to mitigate odors and conduct "additional air monitoring." He offered to share sampling information with the AQMD that the LAUSD will start "this weekend" for 60 days. Mr. Piazza requested a copy of the Dr. Yazdani Consulting report done for the AQMD titled "Evaluation of the Landfill Odor Problem at the Sunshine Canyon Landfill," which Mr. Nazemi agreed to provide.

- 4. Sunshine Canyon Landfill - Local Enforcement Agency (SCL-LEA)** to report on SCL inspections carried out and other matters within their purview including a brief update on status on April 2, 2015 Adopted SCL-LEA Board Motion.

Program Manager Gerry Villalobos [www.SCLLEA.org] reported that "we always have inspectors on site." The CalRecycle [http://www.CalRecycle.ca.gov] "18-month inspection" was held on March 8th; the Landfill was in compliance.

- 5. County Regional Planning Department & City Planning Department** to report on SCL matters within their purview.

Mr. Hunter requested and City and County representatives agreed not to report at this time, to save time.

- 6. Other persons representing the City, County or State** who wish to report any additional information or subject matter relating to SCL that is within their purview that has not been agendaized for this meeting. If necessary, discussion and action will be agendaized for another meeting.

There were no other reports at this time.

D. Public comment on items Not on the Agenda.

Dr. Tom Williams of the Citizens Coalition for a Safe Community explained different study criteria. Resident Ralph Kroy encouraged having more community meetings.

E. Set next meeting date (May 12, 2016) & adjourn at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Hunter announced that the next Meeting will be here May 12, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. Mr. Hunter declared and the Committee agreed to **ADJOURN** the Meeting at 4:59 p.m.

F. Special Overtime Discussion of Budget, Banking and Financial Matters.

- Discussion of funding for 2016 budget, if necessary.

Mr. Hunter indicated that there was no more discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

David Levin, Note Taker (Minutes Writer). Edited by SCL-CAC. *The first paragraph of some Items, Motions/Resolutions and other wording may have been directly copied from the Agenda.* Minutes are available at <http://scl-cac.org/agendas-minutes>.

Approved May 12, 2016 Meeting