

**SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL – COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CITY AND COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
MINUTES OF MEETING, Thursday, March 12, 2020**

Knollwood Country Club, 12024 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills, CA 91344
Approved July 9, 2020

Members: Jeanette Capaldi (Vice-Chair), Laine Caspi (Secretary), Karen Coca, Richard Fisk, Larry Fleck (Treasurer), Wayde Hunter (Chair & TAC Rep), Debbie Pietraszko (Parliamentarian) and Dr. Donna Zero.

A. Call to Order, Roll Call by Notetaker, and Approval of Nov 14, 2019 & Jan 9, 2020 Minutes (Chair).

This meeting of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee (SCL-CAC) was called to order at 3:05 p.m. on March 12, 2020 in Granada Hills, California by Chair Wayde Hunter. Roll Call was taken by the Note Taker. Four of the eight Committee Members were present: Laine Caspi, Richard Fisk, Wayde Hunter and Dr. Donna Zero. Debbie Pietraszko arrived later. Absent: Jeanette Capaldi, Karen Coca and Larry Fleck. A quorum of at least five Committee Members was not yet present. Landfill and government representatives present: BFI/Republic Services: Chris Coyle; SCAQMD (South Coast Air Quality Management District): none; SCL-LEA (Sunshine Canyon Landfill - Local Enforcement Agency): Jose Gutierrez; L.A. County Public Health Dept.: none; L.A. County Regional Planning Dept.: Tim Stapleton; L.A. County Supervisor Kathryn Barger's Office: Jason Maruca; L.A. City Councilman John Lee's Office: none; L.A. City Planning Dept.: Nicholas Hendricks and Devon Satorski; and LAUSD District 3: Bill Piazza. Also attended: 14 residents and other guests. Mr. Hunter asked everyone to sign in, though members of the public may remain anonymous. He had distributed to Committee Members an information packet that included a Balance Sheet, Reconciliation Detail and other related SCL-CAC and Landfill documents, and copies were available to the public. (See <http://SCL-CAC.org>.)

[This Agenda Item was continued after Item #C. 8.]

MOTION (by Dr. Zero, seconded by Ms. Pietraszko): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the Minutes of its November 14, 2019 Meeting as written.

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

MOTION (by Ms. Pietraszko, seconded by Dr. Zero): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the Minutes of its January 9, 2020 Meeting as amended.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Stapleton requested, and it was agreed to amend the page five, Item #C. 6. phrase “L.A. County Public Health” to “L.A. County Public Works.”

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

B. Old Business: Discussion and Committee motions & possible action:

- Outstanding administrative matters (Chair/Vice Chair).

Mr. Hunter indicated that there were none.

- Treasurer's Report, November - December 2019 & January – February 2020 (Treasurer).

Mr. Hunter reviewed finances. Ending balance for the period 11/01/2019 – 12/31/2019 was \$119,270.31 for all three accounts. For 1/1/2020 – 2/29/2020 (leap year), the ending balance was \$126,001.79 in all three accounts, noting a \$6,729.60 deposit (as requested) from Republic Industries.

MOTION (by Ms. Caspi, seconded by Mr. Hunter): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the November-December 2019 Treasurer's Report as presented.

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

MOTION (by Mr. Fisk, seconded by Ms. Caspi): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the January-February 2020 Treasurer's Report as presented.

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

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

1. **Browning-Ferris Industries/Republic Services Inc. (BFI/Republic)** to report on any and all Sunshine Canyon Landfill daily activities, state of infrastructure/gas collection system, notable events, current and future disposal operations, including continuing efforts to abate odors.

Chris Coyle, General Manager, BFI/Republic [24-hour Landfill hotline 818-779-9170; main 818-362-2124; Info@SunshineCanyonLandfill.com; <http://SunshineCanyonLandfill.com>], gave an SCL "Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Update," reporting that "there have been no changes to our disposal operation or location . . . We continue to use the Enviro-Cover for ADC and monitor its performance on a daily basis . . . As of last Monday, we are now accepting" waste "from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. . . . We have had pretty light rains since the start of the year; at the last CAC meeting I told you that we had received 10.61 inches of rain for the season; as of yesterday the season total is now 11.75 inches.

“Winterization plans have been successful. Grass is growing all over the site; this last rain will help keep the site green longer. We have made good progress on our plans to continue to enhance our gas collection system . . . During Q4 of 2019, SCL installed a new landfill gas blower skid to increase our ability to pull more gas from the collection wells to the flare station. This enhancement included the installation of two new 300-horsepower electric blowers that work in concert with the existing blowers and enable us to continue to apply enough vacuum to the wellfield . . . We are now slowly increasing vacuum to the wellfield to optimize that gas collected. We are in the process of upgrading headers to allow for the enhanced capabilities of the new blower skid to effectively distribute vacuum throughout the wellfield; also known as “balancing.” We finished installation of our first well schedule for 2020, which included about a dozen vertical wells . . . [We] are now installing the first layer of horizontal collectors in our new cell. The new cell was fully approved by the Water Board on January 14, 2020; it is our primary fill (cell) but we have had some overfill go to CC4 part 1 & 2. Wells are being evaluated for the presence of liquids and pumps are being installed as needed. We continue to move through the permitting process for the installation of Flare 12 with an install target of 2020, pending approvals . . . The new disposal cell project includes the Gabion cubes of which all have been covered with trash. They all have vacuum applied, and all are performing as expected.”

Mr. Fisk asked that “last year the independent quarterly report mentions the landfill gases, and the County asked you to get as much gas as possible or economically feasible, and the City basically wanted to know the beneficial uses of it; last year the State Senate passed SB1440 about the gas collection, and there is a new bill to require people like Sempra Energy and all the gas companies to buy 20% of their gas from renewable sources (biogas). Is there any changes... have you been able to capture any more gas than you have since a year ago? Mr. Coyle replied that “we are capturing all the gas that we can; around the 18,000 scf/minute mark, however, we don’t own the gas rights to our landfill gas, which was sold to the Sunshine Gas Producers which owns the landfill gas-to-energy plant which is on-site; they are currently taking 9,000 scf/minute and converting that to 22 megawatts. So the onus is on them, however, we do have a capital lever to force them to potentially get those gas rights back. I don’t know the exact process at this point.” Mr. Hunter noted that, at the February ATAS meeting, he spoke to Republic’s Dennis; Mr. Hunter was going north on the I-5 Freeway the day before (February 19) and saw dust hanging over the canyon. Dennis had said that Republic was not doing anything different, but would speak to Mr. Coyle about it. Mr. Hunter would have called the AQMD but was driving and needed to be somewhere else. Mr. Coyle said that Dennis did come back and say that Mr. Hunter had mentioned it; Republic did not have any writeups from the LEA over the month and have two water trucks if needed and contractors on site. Mr. Hunter said that he could not see any particular operations causing the dust but that there was no wind blowing and the entire area (landfill) was brown with dust. Mr. Coyle said that there were only usual operations going on (landfilling, cover and roads).

2. **South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD)** to report on odor complaints received and NOV's issued including any year-to-date charts, and any other matters within their purview.

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #C. 8.*] Mr. Hunter reported for Larry Israel, Compliance Lead Inspector, SCAQMD [909-396-2370; LIsrael@aqmd.gov; www.aqmd.gov], relating recent statistics. Mr. Hunter noted that there were 46 odor complaints for 2020; in January there were 29 complaints and no NOV's [Notices of Violation] issued; for February there were 17 complaints and no NOV's. Mr. Coyle noted the odors reported on February 19th and 20th on Shamrock Drive by the LAPD Training Center on the south side of the LA Reservoir are over three miles away from the Landfill and should be classified as "Other" as it may be from decomposing mulch from a nearby City mulching facility. Mr. Hunter said that the Committee would question those complaints if Mr. Israel turns up.

3. **Sunshine Canyon Landfill-Local Enforcement Agency (SCL-LEA)** to report on any SCL matters within their purview.

Jose Gutierrez [Code Enforcement Bureau, and Environmental Supervisor, LEA; 213-252-3348; Jose.Gutierrez@LACity.org] reported for Dee Hanson-Lugo that the LEA's role is to inspect the landfill under California Code of Regulations Title 14 and 27; "since the last CAC meeting, the LEA has not issued any violations or areas of concern." The LEA will hold a Board of Directors meeting at the end of April or the beginning of May.

4. **Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)** to present the CAC's Request for Proposal to Review/Evaluate Air Quality Data from the 11th Annual Ambient Air Monitoring Reports for SCL & Van Gogh School, including a list of qualified consultants. **Motion: To approve the CAC's RFP and to send it out to the list of qualified consultants.**

Mr. Hunter, reporting for Bill Piazza, Environmental Assessment Coordinator, LAUSD Ofc. Of Environmental Health & Safety (OHS) [213.241.3926; Bill.Piazza@lausd.net], stated that the Committee had the RFP within their package of documents; that the RFP was sent to them to review, and that they were to withhold any comments in order to prevent any serial email. He noted that this is the same document as sent out with the exception that, on the first page under "background," there is an added note saying "depending on the search engine used, additional steps may be added," because he had been getting different results as he tested out the hotlink. Ms. Devon Satorski, Management Analyst, Los Angeles City Planning (213.978.1275; Devon.Zatorski@LACity.org), presented four copies of a compact disc with data regarding "[SCL] Air Quality Monitoring – Hourly Data 2010-2019."

Mr. Hunter indicated that he did not feel that the Committee needed to vote on this because it already had agreed to this at previous meetings; however, just to make

sure that nobody could say that the Committee did not do the right thing, because it now had a written RFP, three recommended consultants, and now the data discs, he called for a motion to approve.

MOTION (by Ms. Caspi, seconded by Mr. Fisk): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the CAC’s RFP as written, and to send it out to the list of qualified consultants.

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

- 5. County Public Works** to report on the status of any SCL matters within their purview.

No representative was present; there was no report.

- 6. County Regional Planning Department** to report SCL matters within their purview.

Tim Stapleton, Zoning Enforcement Planner, L.A. County Regional Planning Dept. [213-974-6453; TStapleton@planning.LACounty.gov ; <http://planning.LACounty.gov>], reported that there were “no updates.”

- 7. County Public Health Department** to report on the status of actions to work with STI to create a “fact sheet” as offered per Ms. Katie Butler, Environmental Toxicologist at the May 2019 CAC meeting, and any other SCL matters within their purview.

No representative was present; there was no report.

- 8. City Planning Department** to report on, the SCL-TAC meeting held on January 22, 2020, and any other SCL matters within their purview.

Nicholas Hendricks, Planner, L.A. City Planning Dept. (818-374-5046; Nick.Hendricks@LACity.org; www.planning.LACity.org), reported that they “had nothing to report on the last TAC meeting; public Hearings are being cancelled in the City of L.A. through the month of March and extending into April due to the Coronavirus; City Halls in Van Nuys and downtown will be closed to the public but some functions are still active.” Mr. Fisk asked if that was all employees or just the mayor’s office and City Council’s offices. Mr. Hendricks said that employees are still going to be reporting to work for now, with a possibility of telecommuting for certain types of functions; the City is trying to figure out if we can do, like conference calls, or video conferencing so that we can still interact with the public; if anybody has meetings coming up he recommended that they call first to verify. Ms. Caspi commented that if entire college campuses can shut down, that she would assume that live streaming could be done to get public comment, and that the LAUSD Board has been livestreaming. Mr. Hendricks responded that they have so many public hearings going every single week and thousands of people in

different locations and it is not easily managed. Resident Cherie Mann questioned about important legislation coming up and public comment, to which Mr. Hendricks replied that a person could still call in and listen to the audio, but most Council meetings had been canceled for March. Mr. Hunter thanked Mr. Hendricks for the information and noted that the Committee thought of not having this meeting, but that was for 50 persons and above; on a good day we only have about 25, plus we were in a bind because we were trying to get through our RFP (item C. 4) and then we would have to wait another two months for our next meeting; so we hoped to squeak this meeting in despite the rain, the roadwork (on Balboa), and the virus.

Committee Member Debbie Pietraszko arrived at this time (3:22), making a quorum of five Committee Members present (the SCL-CAC quorum is five). Now the Committee could take binding votes on Agendized Items.

- 9. 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 agendized for this meeting. If necessary, discussion and action will be agendized for another meeting.

There were no other reports at this time.

D. Public comment on items NOT on the Agenda.

There were no public comments at this time.

E. Set next meeting date (May 14, 2020) & adjourn at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Hunter noted that the date may change due to the “Coronavirus situation.”

F. Special Overtime Discussion of Budget, Banking & Financial Matters. Potential budget items FY 2019.

Mr. Hunter indicated that there was no more discussion.

Mr. Hunter declared the Meeting **ADJOURNED** at 3:40 p.m.

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 SCL-CAC Meeting
July 9, 2020**