



## CAMBRIA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

### MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2024, REGULAR PROS COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE CAMBRIA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

A regular meeting of the PROS Committee of the Cambria Community Services District was held at the Cambria Veterans' Memorial Hall, located at 1000 Main Street, Cambria, CA 93428, on Tuesday, September 17, 2024, at 2:00 PM

#### 1. OPENING

**1.A Call to Order:** Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

**1.B Establishment of Quorum:** A quorum was established with Committee Members Steve Kniffen, Jim Bahringer, Shannon Sutherland, and Juli Amodei attending. Jeff Wilson was absent, on vacation, having informed the committee chair of his absence in advance.

Staff members present: GM McElhenie attended by Zoom.

Public present: Dick Clark, Tony Church, Shelley Becker, Kitty Connally, Karen Argano, Director Harry Farmer.

Public attending by Zoom: Crosby & Laura Swartz, Claudia Harmon Worthen.

**1.C Chair Report, 2:01 PM,** Chair Thomas briefly reported that:

At their September 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, the CCSD Board amended Board and Standing Committee Bylaws. Here is a summary of the changes in the amended Standing Committee Bylaws:

- The Board Member who serves as Chairperson on a Standing Committee will be non-voting and will not count toward a quorum.
- The Chairperson's duties will be to preside over the meetings, provide guidance and be a liaison between the Board and Committee, and appoint needed ad hoc committees.
- Ad hoc committees will consist of 2 Committee Members,
- The Chairperson is not to attend ad hoc committee meetings. Consequently, Chair Thomas is no longer a member of the Community Park Plan ad hoc committee. Shannon Sutherland and Jeff Wilson will continue the work of the Community Park Plan ad hoc committee.
- Ethics training is required by Committee Members every 2 years.

At the CCSD Board meeting this Thursday September 19, among other business, the Board will discuss and consider an Agreement for Consulting Services with Spohn Ranch for preparation of plans and specifications for the Cambria Skatepark.

Chair Thomas expressed appreciation for recent improvements by SLO County Public Works,

- On July 15, Chair Thomas reported the tree at the corner of Center Street and Hesperian Lane blocking the pedestrian pathway, and Public Works got the tree trimmed.
- On July 16, Chair Thomas reported the muddy parking area at the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve South Bluff Trail entrance. On August 8 Public Works filled and graded the parking area.

**1.D Agenda Review, 1:05 PM,** no changes.

**1.E Ad Hoc Subcommittee Report(s), 1:05 PM,** Vice Chair Sutherland recommended that we disband the Signage Ad Hoc Committee, and address signage further down the road as the Community Park Phase 3 Plan matures.

**1.F Committee Member Communications, 1:06 PM,** there were none.

**2. REPORTS FROM AFFILIATED COMMUNITY GROUPS:**

**Beautify Cambria**, Claudia Harmon Worthen provided an oral report at 2:25 PM, as she joined on zoom after completion of this agenda item:

- Working on the spaghetti bowl hillside where the portulaca seems to be successfully rooting and spreading.
- Goodwill drive Saturday September 21 at the Santa Rosa Catholic Church.

**Forest Committee**, Laura Swartz provided an oral report at 2:07 PM: continuing work on Cambria's Invasive Weeds guidebook and will look forward to bringing this to the committee at an upcoming meeting.

**Friends of the Cambria Dog Park**, Shelly Becker provided an oral report at 2:08 PM: focusing on membership, manners, and training.

**Greenspace the Cambria Land Trust**, Executive Director Karin Argano provided an oral report at 2:09 PM:

- A collaborative day tomorrow with the high school kids, in cooperation with FFRP.
- Sponsoring a dog training session at Creekside Reserve.
- Working on permits for modifications at Creekside Reserve.
- USLTRCD will be providing California native plants in Strawberry Canyon.
- Speaker Series continues in October and November, stay tuned to the Chamber of Commerce calendar and CambriaCA, with Naturalist Obi Kaufmann Sunday, October 20, 5 PM at St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

**Lampton Cliffs Adopt-a-Park Iceplant Removal Project**, 2:12 PM: Suzanne Fiedler informed Chair Thomas she will not be attending today. Chair Thomas stated he has met with Suzanne Fiedler and friends August 5 at Lampton Cliffs to discuss the project. Suzanne has met with the Supervising District Ranger, Lasca Gaylord, awaiting the green light. Her current plans are to initiate the first in a series of ice plant pulling sessions the week of October 21.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT NOT ON THE AGENDA**, 2:14 PM, there was none.

**4. REPORTS & PROJECT UPDATES**

**4.A Facilities & Resources Manager's Report**, David Aguirre provided an oral report, 2:14 PM:

- As previously reported, F&R is short-handed, with 2 open positions. Vice Chair Sutherland acknowledged the outstanding efforts keeping everything going while short-handed.
- Removed 22 cu. yds. of sand from the Lampton Cliffs County Park parking area this morning.
- Recently took stock of trail repair needs.

**4.B Friends of the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve Report**, FFRP Executive Director Kitty Connolly provided an oral report, 2:18 PM:

- Great progress on and enthusiasm for the new Linking Boardwalk Trail. Planning on a dedication ceremony Saturday October 26.
- Working on updated trailhead signs and maps to reflect the new Linking Boardwalk Trail.
- Planning a tree planting party the Saturday after Thanksgiving, November 30, with trees to be provided by the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden.
- Working with USLTRCD for understory plants provided by the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden for planting in Fall 2025.
- Public Comment from Laura Schwartz asking about the constraints of USLTRCD access over the 10 year agreement.

**4.C Skatepark Project Update Report**, Juli Amodei provided an oral report, 2:27 PM:

- The messaging is now “ramping up.”
- Raised \$1350 from the fundraiser on the Friday of Pinedorado weekend.
- Going to the Board Thursday September 19 with the design RFP.
- If all goes as planned, the schedule is for grant funding to be awarded January 2025, and potentially starting construction in fall 2025.
- Working on the maintenance fund.

**4.D East Ranch Community Park Restroom Project Update Report**, GM McElhenie provided an oral report, 2:30 PM:

- The restroom has been ordered, still on schedule for a January 2025 delivery.
- The site preparation pre-bid meeting is scheduled for Monday 9/30/2024.
- Because the prefabricated restroom will be set in place by crane, timing will be dependent on weather and ground conditions.
- Responding to a question from Vice Chair Sutherland asking if the PROS Committee will have an opportunity to provide input regarding the location of the ADA concrete walkways, GM McElhenie will discuss with the Utilities Manager.
- Public Comment from Claudia Harmon Worthen regarding the exterior lights on the restroom, requesting no lights at night in support of dark skies, and sunlight tubes to improve interior lighting and reduce energy consumption.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

**5.A Consideration to Approve the July 16, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes**, 2:37 PM

Vice Chair Sutherland moved to approve the minutes.

Committee member Amodei seconded the motion.

Motion Passed: Ayes 4, Nays 0, Abstain 0, Absent 1

**6. REGULAR BUSINESS**

**6.A Discuss and Consider Whether the Draft Community Park Phase 3 Plan and Associated Presentation Materials are Ready to Begin Community Engagement and Committee Member Participation in Community Engagement Sessions**, 2:36 PM

With the following 2 documents on the wall:

- 33 x 51 Community Engagement Wall Plot. Shannon took the original, and
- 36 x 54 Sheet L1.0 Phase 3 Community Park map dated 9/10/2024,

Chair Thomas introduced the topic and clarified the objectives for discussion today.

Vice Chair Sutherland summarized the report, presented the slides, facilitated discussion, and then focused conversation on the Engagement Plan to enlist the committee members in delivering engagement sessions as noted in Attachment 1, the Community Park Phase 3 Engagement Plan.

Numerous discussions and comments from both Committee Members and the public, including the following:

- Public Comment from Karin Argano, 2:44 PM, asking for clarification on the tentative playground location, and asking whether hedging has been considered.
- Public Comment from Karin Argano, 2:49 PM, asking whether special needs access has been considered. Vice Chair Sutherland confirmed.
- Public Comment from Shelley Becker regarding playground safety.

- Public Comment from Karin Argano, 2:54 PM, asking whether solar panels atop the Gazebo Picnic Area has been considered.
- Public Comment from Director Farmer, 2:59 PM, commenting on the popularity of disc golf and asking the source of the photos. Vice Chair Sutherland confirmed that the photos are for example only, downloaded from the Internet.
- Public Comment from Director Farmer, 3:01 PM, asking about the nature of construction permit required. Vice Chair Sutherland summarized, permitting requirements will be determined by staff, but the ad hoc committee is making a conscious effort to minimize impacts that would lead to increased permitting efforts.

At 3:07 PM, discussion turned to the community engagement plan, with extensive input from both Committee Members and the public:

- Public Comment from Claudia Harmon Worthen, 3:40 PM, concerned about listing the Hispanic community as a stakeholder, concerned about maintaining and emptying waste receptacles, and concerned about gazebos covering surface area.
- Public Comment from Laura Swartz, 3:43 PM, commented that when discussion was working on the charts on the wall, public on zoom were unable to see, and encouraging greater consideration for the needs of residents than for the needs of visitors.
- Public Comment from Karin Argano, 3:44 PM, suggesting that we keep the potential for graffiti in mind as community park components are selected. Vice Chair Sutherland discussed the possibility for an art wall.

Committee Member Bahringer moved, and Committee Member Kniffen provided the second, that the Draft Community Park Phase 3 Plan and Associated Presentation Materials are Ready to Begin Community Engagement and Committee Member will participate in Community Engagement Sessions as established during the discussion, and as noted in Attachment 1, Community Engagement Plan to get Input on the Draft Community Park Phase 3 Plan.

Motion Passed: Ayes 4, Nays 0, Abstain 0, Absent 1

**6.B Discuss and Update the PROS Goals Progress Report:** At the recommendation of Vice Chair Sutherland, Chair Thomas deferred this topic until the next meeting.

7. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS, 3:50 PM**

Chair Thomas ask for future agenda items. Vice Chair Sutherland recommended we agendize progress reports on community park engagement each subsequent meeting until the plan is approved.

8. **ADJOURN**

Chair Thomas adjourned the meeting at 3:55 PM.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1, Community Park Phase 3 Engagement Plan.