

# Winchester-Homeland Municipal Advisory Council

## MEETING MINUTES

Date: June 13, 2024

Place: Winchester Community Center, 32655 Haddock Street, Winchester

### Attendees:

Winchester-Homeland MAC: Andrea Mares presiding. Chairman Andy Domenigoni was not reappointed. Vice-Chairman Jimmy Sheldrake is out due to a family emergency. Thomas Laury was reappointed. James Horecka. Members of the Public.

**Call to Order:** Call to order by Andrea Mares at 6:32 PM.

**Pledge of allegiance.**

**Swearing-in:** Kate Alder was sworn in as our newest board member. Tom Laury was reappointed.

**Introductions.**

### Approval of the Agenda:

Motion TL; seconded JH: Unanimous.

**Approval of the Minutes** from April 11, 2024:

Motion TL; seconded JH. Ayes: TL, JH; Alder abstained (was not yet on the board).

### Staff Reports:

- A. Riverside County Third District Supervisorial District: Supervisor Chuck Washington.
  - Andrea Mares noted that there is an error in the Agenda: The MAC will be dark in July. Reconvene August.
  - Washington stated that the Winchester-Homeland Municipal Advisory Council is here for our community, at his discretion. One of a number of MACs in Riverside County.
  - He noted that Winchester has changed, and continues to change, in some ways rapidly. We want new residents moving into the area to be aware of the MAC, and participate. He noted that Supervisor Jeff Stone helped set up our MAC originally, circa 2010. He read aloud our Mission Statement.
  - After our meetings, Staff engages, to see where they may be of help. The Third District aims to support us.
  - Supervisor Washington spoke glowingly of Andy Domenigoni's service, as a founding member and chairman of our MAC, & a fine citizen in general who has greatly helped mold the future of our community over years. He spearheaded Specific Plan 310 long ago. Also cofounded the long-running Domenigoni Ranch Charity Ride for Diabetes. Supervisor Washington presented Andy Domenigoni with a Proclamation, recognizing his invaluable contributions to the community of Winchester over decades. All applauded, photos were shot!
  - Washington stated that he wholeheartedly supports Winchester becoming a city, and respecting our opportunity for self-determination.
  - There will be Elections tonight, for three positions: Chair, Vice-Chair, & Secretary.
- B. Sheriff Department update; Captain Kevin Lamb, of the Perris Station:
  - Winchester Stats: Last month 300 calls, 18 arrests. Homeland had 280 calls. More houses mean more calls.
- C. California Highway Patrol; Jonathan Torres (public info officer out of San Gorgonio):
  - They are officially getting four motorcycle officers. Current call stats not available.
- D. Cal Fire Winchester Station #34; Captain Ken Moffitt:
  - Stats, Station 34 (Winchester): May 134 calls. 56 calls so far in June. Station 54: 188 calls; 70 so far in June.
- E. Emergency Management Department. See below, after item K (inadvertently missed).
- F. 36th District Assemblyman Eduardo Garcia's office: No representative present; no report.
- G. 60th District Assemblymember Dr. Corey Jackson's office: No representative present; no report.
- H. Senator Kelly Seyarto's Office; Amanda Fisher:
  - Fisher brought us up to date on various bills and the status of each.
- I. Department of Animal Services: Leslie Huennekens:

- Stats: April 1 thru June 10: 199 calls for service. Includes 8 bites, 16 welfare; 39 animals impounded.
- J. Code Enforcement; Nicole Gonzales, Code Enforcement Officer:
  - She is the new area officer for the Winchester area. 22 new cases opened; closed 53.
- K. EMWD Updates; Alma Ramirez & Phil Paule:
  - Remember to change your irrigation controls to irrigate early in the morning during hot weather.
  - The latest Water Quality Report is set to be released by the end of this month.
  - Q: Are these reports covering all sources? A: A that is in drinking water; broken down by area.
- E. Emergency Management Department. Camille Collins:
  - They continue to wrap up their updated EOP; then to the state, then to the County Board of Supervisors.
  - Collins related a number of incidents that unfolded, & their support. More CERT training is coming up.
- L. Valley Wide Park & Recreation District; represented by Craig Shultz:
  - Our Community Center building is undergoing a restroom remodel for disabled access compliance.
  - Shultz told us of many upcoming events, including a new park that will be opening soon!
- M. Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians: No representative present; no report.
- N. City of Menifee update; Doug Darnell not present.
  - Orlando Hernandez, with Community Development, introduced himself
- O. City of Hemet: Mark Prestwich, City Manager:
  - Prestwich noted they're wrapping up this fiscal year: 84 initiatives! Much paving is in progress in town.
- P. Winchester Land Use Committee update; Angela Little:
  - Little noted that we all are very excited to hear news of the status of the Winchester Community Plan.
- Q. Other Departments and Public Agencies: None.

**New Business:**

- A. Guest Presentation: Guest presentation by John Hildebrand, Planner, on the Winchester Community Plan.
  - The Hildebrand shared a PowerPoint presentation covering history, starting with an initiative back in 2016. Five Workshops held, with good participation by citizens. COVID-19 slowed things down, but all is picking up again. There was a Workshop at the County two weeks ago. They'll engage nearby cities, as well. Grant funding may be available through SCAG.
  - He covered six prongs: Design Guidelines, revised land use designations, several boundary changes, including the Downtown Core area (Winchester Policy Area). Highway 79 Policy Area. The MAC covers ~23,000 acres. A mix of land uses.
  - The Foundational Components may only be changed once every 8 years. Most of Winchester is already set for land use, much being residential, medium-density. What is being changed? The Winchester Policy Area. About 12,000 more units of residential development. Land use changes are mainly in and around this area.
  - A set of Design Guidelines is proposed, illustrating best practices. The state has a no-net-loss requirement.
  - The Draft Proposal is still in process.
  - Next steps: Continued engagement meetings. Most of the technical studies required have been completed. For the latest news on progress, tap into the Planning Department's special web page on-line, for the Winchester Area. This includes an interactive map.
  - Opened up for questions:
    - Q: Will the Patterson House be adversely affected by the new land use designation of Medium Density Residential at its site? A: That's an existing facility, 'grandfathered' in.
    - Q: What is a realistic date for the General Plan amendments to go before the Planning Commission? A: Unsure. Likely Q4?
    - Q: What is the proposed land use of the museum property? A: See Map. Remember that the General Plan is a vision. Won't affect museum, as an existing use.
    - Q: The Hwy 79 Policy Area extends partially into the city of Menifee, which dissolved it (that portion?). How will changes happen? A: Not known at this time. They are looking into all options.
    - C: A local veteran expressed concerns about losing our local VFW Post.
    - Q: What's the status of the Downtown Core? A: That's in the future.
    - Q: Will Homeland be addressed? A: At some point. In process at present is the Winchester Community Plan. Homeland: POST approval of that.
  - Citizens thanked the presenters for their presentation and lively discussion.
- B. Discussion of adding Homeland amendment to the Winchester Community Plan, post-approval.

- Q: Will Homeland be annexed to Winchester? (There is fear of being annexed into the City of Menifee.) A: Unknown. Perhaps someday. But not during this current processing of the WCP. Still in the future.
- C: Don't forget Green Acres! R: Understood!

**C. Election of Council Roles (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary)**

- Nominations were proposed for the above roles, as follows:
- Chair Tom Laury. M: Horecka; 2<sup>nd</sup> Alder; Vote: Unan.
- Vice-Chair, Jimmie Sheldrake. M: Horecka; 2<sup>nd</sup> Laury; Vote: Unan.
- Secretary James Horecka. M: Laury; 2<sup>nd</sup> Alder; Vote: Unan.

**Public Comments:**

- A local veteran pleaded for support for our local VFW Post #4379. They need a new place! They are in process on certain possible venues, a new location.
- Andy Domenigoni thanked Supervisor Washington for the Proclamation, and thanked the board members of our MAC and citizens of Winchester & Homeland.

**Councilmember Reports and Comments:**

- What is the status on the Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon at Winchester Road & Haddock Street, for the school? Horecka noted from April's Meeting Minutes that copies of the available plans were requested. We hope to see those soon, for review, to help our understanding.

**Agenda Items for next meeting:**

- Suggestions for future topics: RCTC (tentative).

**Adjourn Meeting:**

- The next WHMAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 8, 2024, 6:30 PM, at the Community Center.
- The WHMAC adjourned at 8:21 PM.