

**SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL – COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CITY AND COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
MINUTES OF MEETING, Thursday, July 11, 2019**

Knollwood Country Club, 12024 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills, CA 91344

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 May 9, 2019 Minutes (Chair).

This meeting of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee was called to order at 3:02 p.m. on July 11, 2019 in Granada Hills, California by Chair Wayde Hunter. Roll Call was taken by the Note Taker. Seven of the eight Committee Members were present: Jeanette Capaldi, Karen Coca, Richard Fisk, Larry Fleck, Wayde Hunter, Debbie Pietraszko and Dr. Donna Zero. Absent: Laine Caspi. A quorum of at least five Committee Members was present. Landfill and government representatives present: BFI/Republic Services: Chris Coyle; SCAQMD (South Coast Air Quality Management District): Larry Israel; SCL-LEA (Sunshine Canyon Landfill - Local Enforcement Agency): David Thompson; L.A. County Public Health Dept.: none; L.A. County Regional Planning Dept.: Edgar De La Torre; L.A. County Supervisor Kathryn Barger's Office: Jarrod DeGonia; L.A. City Councilman Greig Smith's Office: Jessie Strobel; L.A. City Planning Dept.: none; LAUSD District 3: Bill Piazza. Also attended: 11 residents and other guests.

MOTION (by Mr. Fleck, seconded by Dr. Zero): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the Minutes of its May 9, 2019 Meeting as written.

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 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 Landfill documents, and copies were available to the public. (See <http://SCL-CAC.org>.)

- Treasurer's Report, May - June 2019 (Treasurer).

Mr. Fleck reviewed finances. The beginning balance of all three accounts was \$123,634.36; debits \$1,396.39, (interest \$1.79); the ending balance was \$122,240.06.

MOTION (by Ms. Capaldi, seconded by Mr. Fisk): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the May and June, 2019 Treasurer’s Report.

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.” He reported that “there were no changes to our disposal operation or location”; they “are continuing to use the Enviro-Cover for ADC and monitor its performance on a daily basis.” There has been no rain since the CAC last met, and “they are in the process of preparing the site for the 2019-2020 rainy season . . . cleaning out stormwater channels, and the terminal basin... we have Filtrex erosion control material on site, and cocoa matting and straw wattles are being delivered this month. We continued to maintain and expand our vegetative cover area and hydroseeding which we planted over the summer and fall last year and which has now gone dormant and brown . . . we will be hydroseeding again in September. We have made good progress on our plans to continue to enhance our gas collection system . . . efforts are currently underway to install 35 additional extraction points (wells), and 22 additional collection points . . . five vertical wells were drilled down to the Gabion Cubes and now all of the cubes are connected on the site, and all are performing well.... efforts are underway to install additional extraction wells around the active disposal area... we’ve also started on our 2019 vacuum header upgrade, which includes installing larger pipelines to ensure that all our wells continue to have adequate vacuum.... we’ll continue to assess the new wells for the presence of liquids and install pumps as necessary.... the looped header system is performing well. . . we are seeing ample vacuum around the entire developed footprint of the site . . we continue to move through the permitting process for the installation of Flare 12 with an inspected, installed completion target of sometime in 2020 pending all the approvals. As part of the site development, we have completed the excavation on the new cell... clay is on the floor.... rolling out liner today... during liner tie-in operations we successfully exposed the existing liner for CC4 part 2 and encountered no odor issues... about two years ago we had issues when we tied into prior (CC3) part 1, and we had quite a bit of gas coming out of the liner system... this time, no odors no gas at all, which means that the collection system for Parts 1 and 2 are working properly.”

“We did not accept any debris from” the Woolsey Fire and “we did not seek an extension of our approvals to accept the material once they expired at the end of May . . . AQMD’s Stipulated Order for Abatement expired on June 30th with it noted that the Site is in full compliance with the Order. Final reports are being prepared and will be submitted to the District by July 15th.”

In response to a question from Ms. Pietraszko, Mr. Coyle added that SCL will not get any debris from the Malibu Fire. In response to Ms. Coca’s questions regarding the frequency of radiation loads and pick up of litter, he noted that radiation loads happen at least once a week, but in the last two weeks there has been an uptick from the City of L.A. transfer station (CLARTS); these events appear to be random and could come from a Republic site or a competitor’s site. “We notify them when we hold up their trucks, but it is up to them to monitor for radiation.... Republic monitors for radiation (at their MRFs) because we don’t want to see our trucks held up.” He noted that radiation monitors are set at different levels because the background levels may be different (at each site) 999 times out of 1000, it is I-131, which is a common radioactive isotope used in medical treatment. Every day five different routes to the Landfill are covered to pick up trash spilled from trucks going to and from the Landfill. He also said, in response to Mr. Fisk’s question, that the quantity of electronic prohibited waste of 190 was “units.”

Mr. Hunter concurred that I-131 was the prevalent material detected and that in all the time he has monitored the Landfill reports, only on one occasion was he aware that true radioactive material, Lu-177, a piece of medical equipment, had been detected at the Landfill; unlike the other short-life material, it had to be disposed of off-site in Utah. Mr. Coyle responded that, occasionally, the County asks SCL to remove irradiated material, and Republic will pick through until they find it. He added that he believes there were several strange that occurred in late 2017 and it looked like a vacuum plate to an x-ray apparatus, a bag of 10,000 to 15,000 radon dots. Mr. Hunter also stated that he believed that the radiation load detection at SCL works well.

Resident Cherie Mann asked where two waterfalls were that used to exist in the area of the Landfill; Mr. Coyle said he will follow up on it. She also asked where the medical waste was going. Mr. Coyle said that it was mostly I-131; it was buried in the Landfill because it has a very short half-life; to which she said “no” ... medical waste. Mr. Coyle said they accept treated medical waste and bury it within the footprint.

In response to Mr. Hopkins’ question, Mr. Coyle said that treated medical waste is buried in the Landfill and treated with heat and pressure to kill the pathogens... “autoclaved” after treatment; it is considered by the City as solid waste... the material is bagged, and after treatment shrinks... you can tell they are treated. “They’re isolated, segregated loads . . . it’s a dedicated truck coming specifically from the medical waste treatment facility; it’s not co-mingled with the other trucks.”

- 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/or any other matters within their purview.

Larry Israel, Compliance Lead Inspector, SCAQMD [909-396-2370; LIsrael@aqmd.gov; www.aqmd.gov], reported that no NOV's [Notices of Violation] were issued since the last Meeting. For the month of May the AQMD received two complaints. In June there were five odor complaints; only one was investigated and no odors were detected; in mid-June odors seem to arrive in the morning hours. So far in July there have been no complaints. The Order for Abatement for Odors has sunsetted after three years. Mr. Hunter noted that, over the years, a pattern has developed: at this time of year odors normally decline; in summer, trash at other landfills really stinks and it is a problem for a lot of landfills. Due to weather patterns, this doesn't happen at SCL. Mr. Israel concurred that we have the May grey, and the June gloom and into July... so you have an on-shore flow with the winds (from the south) to the north; we don't get a lot of complaints during the morning hours when a majority of them were received in the past. The AQMD is hopeful that when the winds blow out of the north again, hopefully the odors will be less.

- 3. Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)** to discuss any correspondence and potential CAC responses to County Regional Planning/Public Health Department regarding previous STI's Quarterly/Annual Ambient Air Monitoring Reports. Motion: To approve draft CAC response to Los Angeles County Regional Planning Department letter of May 8, 2019.

Before Mr. Piazza spoke, Mr. Hunter pointed out that a draft letter and a Motion were in the Committee's package and that, "for the record," he had sent the draft Monday night to the entire Board and they were instructed not to respond to anybody; if they had any comments they should save them and we would address them here in order for the public to know that we were not having a serial email going out to the entire Board itself."

Bill Piazza, Environmental Assessment Coordinator, LAUSD Ofc. of Environmental Health & Safety (OHS) [213.241.3926; Bill.Piazza@lausd.net], reported that, with the Committee, the response letter with Wayde's edits was drafted for the Committee's consideration. He explained that "we're asking to get some interpretation to all this monitoring data" and read aloud the draft letter, a copy of which was provided to the public. More revisions were discussed. Mr. Hunter said that, after the Motion is approved with amendments, he would have it out within the week because the Committee needs to get it to the Technical Advisory Committee (SCL-TAC) which is meeting on July 31st [see the below Motion]. Mr. Fisk opined that he had read STI's (Sonoma Technologies Inc.) 61-page contract, of which 3-1/2 pages were a statement of work; it included the word "characterize," which is problematic. Mr. Piazza agreed in principle with Mr. Fisk's

idea that, instead of continuing to pay for the eight remaining months of the contract with STI for data collection, that they (City & County) use the money for analysis. There was discussion of the contract and the meaning of the word “characterization.” Mr. Piazza stated “why would we simply collect data for the sake of collecting data? ... Don’t be fooled, STI knows how to characterize data.” There was discussion that the Committee may want to request the County Public Health Department (CPH) to conduct a Health Risk Assessment based upon the data. It was noted that STI’s 11th Annual Report was one month late. Mr. Coyle confirmed that STI billed the Landfill. Mr. Hunter noted that CPH’s Katie Butler commented at the Committee’s May 9th Meeting that “we really need for STI to provide that translation of the air monitoring results... it’s hard for us to digest the report in its current form.” Mr. De La Torre, Zoning Enforcement Planner, L.A. County Regional Planning Dept. [213-974-6453; EDeLaTorre@planning.LACounty.gov; <http://planning.LACounty.gov>], said “we haven’t received anything” (meaning the STI Report). Dave Thompson, SCL-LEA Program Manager [213.252.3932; David.Thompson@lacity.org; www.SCLLEA.org] suggested asking the City and County Planning Departments to revise the STI contract. He encouraged the Committee to attend the SCL-TAC (Technical Advisory Committee) meeting. Mr. Hunter stated that “we have contacted the SCL-TAC and asked for an item to be put on their agenda to address this letter.”

MOTION (by Dr. Zero, seconded by Ms. Coca): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves amending the draft CAC response to the Los Angeles County Regional Planning Department letter of May 8, 2019 (along with minor other corrections) as follows: revise “for laypersons and community members, which they neither understand nor findings they can rely on” to “for the community to understand how that data relates to air quality and their health.”

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

MOTION (by Ms. Pietraszko, seconded by Ms. Capaldi): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the draft CAC response to the Los Angeles County Regional Planning Department letter of May 8, 2019 as amended.

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

Mr. Piazza indicated that, after he and the Committee have reviewed the STI Report, then it would be good for the Committee to Agendize a Motion to draft a letter to Public Health.

- 4. County Public Works** to report on the status of the Woolsey Canyon Fire cleanup and any other SCL matters within their purview.

No representative was present; there was no report. Mr. Hunter commented that Mr. Coyle had stated that the Landfill had not taken any Woolsey Fire debris, and that the Emergency Order had expired so it is a dead issue.

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

Mr. Thompson, Program Manager for the Sunshine Canyon Local Enforcement Agency, reported that no NOV's were issued since the last Meeting for solid waste regulations under their authority. He said that the site has been operating well without any problems... they are preparing for the wet weather season... the LEA will continue to monitor that... and the Landfill must complete it by the October 1st. deadline. At the May 30th LEA Board meeting their budget was approved... their next meeting should be in late Fall. He said that, at the last CAC meeting, the CAC said that they had received an application for modification of the Joint Technical Document which talked about the Committee's contact information, the application of the ADC Cover and the Intermediate Cover.... the LEA did not receive any additional comments, and it has been approved.

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

Mr. Hunter reported that Tim Stapleton [Zoning Enforcement Planner, L.A. County Regional Planning Dept. [213-974-6453; TStapleton@planning.LACounty.gov; <http://planning.LACounty.gov>] emailed him that he could not attend but that Edgar De La Torre would. After acknowledging Mr. De La Torre, Mr. Hunter noted that the only information he has is that the next TAC meeting would be July 31st. Mr. Hunter noted that he is the CAC TAC Representative and that a CAC Alternate TAC Representative is need. Ms. Coca nominated herself; Ms. Capaldi seconded the nomination. Karen Coca was APPOINTED the CAC TAC Alternate Representative unanimously by a voice vote.

7. County Public Health Department to report on SCL matters within their purview.

No representative was present; there was no report.

8. City Planning Department to report on SCL matters within their purview.

Mr. Thompson reported that Nicholas Hendricks, Planner, L.A. City Planning Dept. (818-374-5046; Nick.Hendricks@LACity.org; www.planning.LACity.org), could not attend due to a previous engagement, but wanted to remind us of the upcoming SCL-TAC meeting.

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.

Resident Bill Hopkins, President, Southern California Preparedness Foundation [<http://SoCalPrep.us>] and Chair, annual Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair [<http://www.ValleyDisasterFair.com>], reported that registration is open for the next Preparedness Fair of Saturday, October 12th, 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., again at the Northridge Fashion Center. He also noted that Dr. Lucy Jones, Seismologist and speaker for earthquake science and earthquake safety in California, who has been with the U.S. Geological Survey and a Visiting Research Associate at the Seismological Laboratory of Caltech since 1983, and as seen on TV recently regarding the Ridgecrest earthquake, would be speaking here at the Knollwood Country Club on August 16th; interest has been so great they are having to add a waiting list and an additional room.

E. Set next meeting date (September 12, 2019) & adjourn at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Hunter noted the above.

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 4:00 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
September 12, 2019**