MINUTES

LUCERNE VALLEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (LVEDA)

TUESDAY, June 6, 2017 -- 5PM -- SENIOR CENTER

Meeting called to order 5PM. Minutes approved, moved Richard Selby, second Brashear. Attendance taken.

Treasurer's report: Collection was $79.25. Balance $8615.07.

Introductions.

Cong. Cook (Dakota Higgins) Report. He is now the Dep. Dist. Director. HR 857, 2365, 497--all bills aimed at restoring common sense to use of desert lands, returning decision-making to local communities.

Assemblyman Obernolte by Chris Scott. Discussed several bills: AB1, 132, 288 (killed in committee-would have extended fire tax protest period to 60 days). AB912 passed on to Senate. Water hauling bills useless to address our issues in LV and JV with current wording.

Third Dist. Sup. Sandy Baca introduced herself as our new field rep for James Ramos. She is from Barstow, has run a small business, and solicited any questions she should funnel to Ramos. Richard asked about the Renewable Energy (RE) Element--would it become code immediately if passed, or does it have to wait until the revised community plan passed? Chuck Bell asked when the RE Element would go before the Planning Commission? She will try to have answers at next MAC or LVEDA meeting.

Schools by Jim Harvey. Thursday Board meeting will honor Jan Morosco for 20 years’ service on high school scholarship committee – raised $50K this year. Good graduation rates. Special bd. meeting on LCAP this month. Also they will be considering partnering with another charter school that has thousands of at risk students that may end up in trouble if school cannot help them. Tries to help them catch up, get back on track, learn skills.

JV/LV MAC: Roger Peterson discussed the Mac Board’s strong negative response to Ord Mountain Solar project, along with others.

Richard Selby reported on the status of the Senior Housing Project. Enterprise Grant given up, along with every other attempt made to make progress. Now we are going to Jim Wolfe of Gobar Assoc. to do a professional needs assessment with the hope that we will get usable results. LVEDA Board decided to sign contract to have Wolfe do the study.

Responding to comments by Bill Lembright about Hinkley as a good place for solar and the mess it has become with pollution, Richard mentioned the big money available to deal with Chromium 6 levels that might help the community out.

Lorrie Steely on Sunshot Initiative--how use the $10,000 obtained thru their great presentation. Nothing much new to report. Can be used for technical advice. Not real money, but a credit with Dept of Energy. Hoping to do a micro-grid for community solar at Tamarisk Flats. Become an example for other communities to become energy independent. We want to meet with SCE to see how we can produce energy that is for our community only, and not destined to go on the grid.

Chuck Bell on Renewable Energy Element (formerly SPARC). Looks pretty good. Need to get comments in ASAP. The best thing: no large utility scale projects in areas with a community plan, with intent to keep out the big ones. SB County has an agreement with BLM re all of this. Once County is done with RE Element, County tries to reconcile with BLM’s DFAs. Most state lands are turned over to BLM for this purpose, but there are areas (particularly around Old Woman Springs Ranch) where state keeps the land which becomes vulnerable to becoming developed for solar to provide revenue to the State Teacher’s fund.

June 13, 6PM, at LV Community Center -- Scoping meeting for Ord Mt. solar (Next Era). Important to be there. Comments due by June 30.

Re solar moratorium we wanted the County to pass: Ramos took it to the Board, but it didn’t pass. However Supervisors requested that there be a final draft of RE Element.

Much discussion about the number of projects threatening us, the various levels of government involved, SCE's plans, the potential new substation in LV, and many other aspects of this that are way over the heads of many of us.

Announcements: CofC meeting on June 13. Suggested that CofC come to scoping meeting and help with the issue.

Saturday, June 24 household hazardous waste at the Fire Department.

Tracy Quillen presented the idea of opening a medicinal marijuana dispensary in LV and wants to know what the community thinks. Not yet allowed by County. Doesn't want to do this without community support. Richard: how gauge the feelings of community? Surveys to get input from a broad base of LV people.

Meeting adjourned 7PM.