



Avalon City Council Weekly Update 12-13-13

Nuisance Bird Abatement/Falconry Services

I had a productive discussion with Randy Herrel and Wayne Griffin on Tuesday to discuss a potential three-way partnership for services from On The Wing Falconry. The three of us will be meeting again - but this time with Rocky Post - this coming Tuesday. I have sent Rocky the prescribed amounts our respective three organizations are able to pay as part of this proposed partnership; as a reminder, the City will not be providing housing or transportation as part of any potential future agreement.

Information Technology

Catalina Broadband has successfully completed their installation of their 5x5 fiber optic line, improving our internet speed and capacity and allowing for the installation/deployment of improved (read: modern) software applications. Next week, Pat Grady's primary goal is to install the firewall, which ultimately will allow for safe and secure remote access to City systems by authorized users. Calendar functionality and HR software are on the near horizon.

Parks and Recreation

We are in the process of reviewing State requirements to avail the City of private party funding that has been provided to bridge the delta between the preliminary cost estimate for the Joe Machado Concession Stand Project and the project cost from the bid received. A draft RFP for concession services will be distributed and reviewed internally next week.

The fencing project has commenced at the Skatepark. Poles were set by City staff, and volunteer labor will stretch the remainder of the chain link fencing this weekend.

Coordination of the Christmas Food Boxes and Toys for Tots Programs, serving Avalon families in need, took place this week.

Intergovernmental Relations - Los Angeles County Fire Department

I have secured a meeting with Daryl Osby, Los Angeles County Fire Chief, on January 10, 2014. In this meeting I plan on speaking with Chief Osby about the City's Baywatch contract for Lifeguard and Paramedic Services (among other topics).

Intergovernmental Relations - Los Angeles County Parks Department

Through the gracious consideration and recommendation of Supervisor Don Knabe and his Trails Grant Program, the City of Avalon's proposed Avalon Canyon Fit Trail project has been approved for the 2013 Competitive Trails Grant Program. The intent of the Avalon Canyon Fit Trail is to provide resistance-based outside exercise equipment along a trail, thereby allowing for fitness opportunities for the entire Avalon community that are currently not available. The Avalon Canyon Fit Trail will begin at Avalon Kids Park (across from City Hall), and end near Joe Machado Field. The \$299,700 in grant funds will pay for site work, along with the purchase and

installation of outdoor fitness equipment. Final approval from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors is expected in February, 2014.

Harbor Department

As a mitigating requirement to the Cease and Desist Order (CDO), the Harbor Department was authorized to purchase a vacuum pressure washer to clean floats and ramps within Avalon Harbor. The unit was installed aboard a seized 29' Panga that has been retrofitted to transport the equipment. I'm happy to report the vacuum pressure washer has been placed in service and does a very good job of cleaning the docks. The Harbor Department will still install bird deterrent measures on the Cabrillo Mole floats each evening and remove them each morning before the cross channel carriers arrive. I anticipate the harbor maintenance staff will clean the floats with the vacuum pressure washer at least once a week; more often if needed.

I've included a couple pictures here in the event that you haven't (yet) seen the vacuum pressure washer and/or the retrofitted Panga boat:





Shoreboat Franchise Agreement

I met again this week with Jeff Stickler, President of Island Enterprises, to continue our discussion/negotiation of the shoreboat franchise agreement. We have made some headway. Please contact me if you'd like specifics as to agreed upon deal points and/or items where there is distance between the City and Island Enterprises.

Public Works:

Our Lower Terrace Project has hit a slight snag due to the need for isolation valves on the SCE freshwater system. Following a meeting that I had with Ron Hite yesterday, SCE agreed to allow for and assist with the installation effort of the valves on their system. With this determination, we will be able to move forward, and (hopefully) avoid any further project delays.

Respectfully submitted,


Ben Harvey
City Manager
City of Avalon

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