

# SAN MANUEL

## REVITALIZATION COALITION

Box 126, San Manuel AZ 85631 [SanManuelRC@gmail.com](mailto:SanManuelRC@gmail.com)

### BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DATE: September 28, 2024

TIME: 10:05

LOCATION: Community Center

Attendees: Kennedy Ivy, Don Burch, Susanne Holt, Sharon Mathews, Carl Mathews, Steven Rosenquist, Tracy Wruk, Ruthie Wentworth, Deb Pfaff, Annette Cook, Laurie Smalla

#### I. Call to order 10:03 II. Approval of minutes

1. Minutes were reviewed and approved. Ruthie made the motion to approve the minutes. Deb 2nd it. All approved.

#### III. Treasurer's Report - Laurie

1. The balance in all accounts is \$26,370.59

Checking accounts \$5,483.72

Savings account \$20,886.87 (Agrihood balance \$2051.25 included in total)

Petty Cash \$100 (not included in total)

#### 2. Expenditures

Agrihood (folding tables for Street Market)- \$195.63, Car Show supplies including ½ installment on Tshirts - \$1310, Road sign - \$1600.87

#### 3. Income -

Community Center rental \$300, Car Show Venders and registrations \$228, Agrihood Street Market sales \$147

Ruthie made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Don 2nd it. All approved.

#### IV. Business of the Board

1.Car Show Update - The preparations for the Car Show, set for October 12th from 10AM to 3PM is on schedule. Everything is ordered, the trophies are on hand, the events plan has been submitted to the county and 13 vendors have been lined up. Cars and vendors can begin check-in at 9AM or earlier. Everyone in attendance was invited to take a flier, and was encouraged to attend the show.

2.Road Sign Update - The road sign has been ordered and is scheduled to be delivered this Thursday. This sign will be set up at the entrance of town and be used to announce special events taking place at the Community Center.

3.AZ Dept of Forestry and Fire Management Open House - An open house will take place Oct. 23rd at 6PM at the community center. Representatives of the Dept. will discuss fire safety including how to protect property, and means of escape from San Manuel in case a fire closes the roads. Representatives of the Fire, Sheriff and EMT will be available. John Baker of BHP has also been contacted about coming. The public is encouraged to attend.

4.Street Market Update - The September Street Market was successful, with 12 vendors. The next Street Market is scheduled for October 5th from 9AM to 2PM at the Presbyterian Church. There are 12 vendors scheduled.

#### V. Updates from Appointed Positions

1. Elks - Ruthie reported that the Elks will resume Taco Wednesday on Oct. 9th.
2. Museum - Tracy announced that the museum now has AZ Trail maps available. Today was the last day to sign up for a \$25 gift certificate

for

La Casita. There are many new exhibits added. The Museum is open from 10-2 every Saturday, and by appointment.

3. Senior Center - Carl reported all work has been completed on the building. Tracy reminded everyone that cards are played on Monday and Wednesday mornings, and that there will be a potluck the second Thursday of each month.
4. Churches- Sharon encouraged everyone to attend church this weekend. She said the pastors welcome new people to their church services.
5. Agrihood - Annette reported that a member of Uof A gave them some ideas and encouragement. While waiting to set up a Seed Library, everyone is encouraged to save seed from vegetables and fruit. It is important to have food options since we are considered a food desert.

VI. Board Member Comments - Tracy reminded everyone about the November Craft Fair and invited anyone interested to contact her.

VII. Public Comments- The idea of having some type of chamber of commerce to help people successfully start businesses was brought up, including having classes on how to do so. Kennedy explained this was tried several times but very few people attended the classes. It was noted that BHP and the county were both responsive to take care of issues around town when contacted. Kennedy reminded everyone that, while the county and BHP have helped out, it is still our responsibility to take care of our town. A complaint about the vegetation being removed from the McNabb median was addressed. The decision to pave the median was made 3 years ago in response to several incidents of vegetation falling into the roadway. Ruthie thanked BHP and a community member for getting the lower mall area cleaned up.

VIII. Avantus presentation of Proposed Ore Town Solar and Storage Project

Representatives of the project, Kevin Johnson and Jen Jackson, gave a PowerPoint presentation explaining the proposed area covered by the proposed project, discussing the proposed environmental impact, the changes to the land use designation in order for the project to go forward, the tax benefits to the community once the project is finished, the approximately 200

jobs created during construction, the possible backup power should other electrical power fail, the fact that very little water is required to set up or run the project, and the desire of Avantus to be a good neighbor to the communities they are near. Some of the concerns that were brought up and addressed were whether or not the ambient temperature would increase, any light pollution, change in home value, whether the land was purchased, or leased. In response to several of the concerns the representatives directed people to their upcoming website, [www.oretownsolar.com](http://www.oretownsolar.com), and also gave their contact info for ongoing communication: Ore Town Solar 520 527 2168 [oretownsolar@swca.com](mailto:oretownsolar@swca.com) . A question about what would happen after the 35 year lease was answered that there is provision for reclaiming the land. Safety concerns about what happens if the storage batteries should catch fire were also addressed. It was noted that safety should be the #1 concern when it comes to these batteries. Since the timeline to implement this project, best case scenario, would be the 2nd quarter of 2026, with a completion date of the 2nd quarter of 2027, there is still time for the industry to make further advancements in battery storage safety, and other issues. The representatives admitted that they currently have no buyers for the proposed electricity generated, and would need to have a buyer before building the solar farm. There were other questions asked about whether the electrical rates would decrease, once the project was up and running, could it be sold to another company, were the proposed panels USA sourced, and can the panels be recycled. Avantus has nothing to do with the electrical rates, set by the current provider, the whole project could be potentially purchased by another company, the USA currently doesn't make solar panels, and the recycling process is still being developed. Other questions were directed to check for answers on their website, once it gets set up. For people wanting to make a statement about the project, Kennedy directed people to contact the county, or send emails for or against to [sanmanuelrc@gmail.com](mailto:sanmanuelrc@gmail.com) and he will make sure the county gets the info.

IX. Adjournment - Susanne made the motion to adjourn. Sharon 2nd it. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 11:33AM.

Submitted by Susanne Holt, Sec. 9/28/24