

Minutes  
19 June 2008

GPAC Chairman **Colleen o' Sullivan** called the General Plan Advisory Committee meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

#### Minutes

**Susie Price** mentioned the correction she had already passed on to the Secretary. There being no further corrections or changes, **Colleen o' Sullivan** called for a motion to approve. **Kelli Gant** moved acceptance with **Greg Simmons** seconding; the motion passed with a voice vote.

#### Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

#### Report from the Director of Natural Resources and Long-Range Planning

Director **Susan Price** reported on the change to her position through the County reorganization and explained that the new scope of her position would provide ample time for the General Plan revision process.

Further, she reported on Title 3 grant fund availability which will help economic development, land-use. The housing element work will be done in-house and was done well enough the last time to facilitate updating through revision.

Airport Comprehensive Land-Use's environmental study requirement has been removed so county staff will be able to carry through with those plans.

GPAC's vacancies were discussed noting **Dennis Corp's** acceptance and the fact that District II's seat is still vacant.

**Susie** updated GPAC on the status of Junction City's Community Plan and progress of the Hayfork committee noting that their last meeting was dominated by the FEMA flood maps and insurance repercussions. **Susie** discussed the status of other grant applications. **Lynn Scott** asked whether actual physical maps could be produced with Title 3 grant funds. Director **Price** said the grant did permit this.

## Public Comment

There was no public comment.

## Introduction of New GPAC Member

**Colleen o' Sullivan** introduced **Dennis Corp** and asked that each GPAC member identify themselves to **Dennis**.

## Election of Vice Chair

**Colleen o' Sullivan** announced that the vacancy created by the resignation of **Jackie Rae** needed to be filled and read the responsibilities of the position from the Bylaws. **Lyn Scott** nominated **Joan Carr** and **Dave Cox** seconded the nomination. There were no further nominations; the nominee was elected with a show of hands.

## Safety Element review

This draft contains new sections at the direction of the Board of Supervisors, i.e., law enforcement, critical facilities, etc. **Colleen** asked for direction from GPAC members about their preference for attending to this element, whether to go section by section, work only the new material or attempt to create material still absent. **Ross Burgess** asked to submit several minor corrections before the discussion began. **Sandy Bechtold** suggested that all corrections be addressed first, and then that Director **Price** could indicate, section by section, the status of the material, complete, partially complete or still to be submitted. **Kelli Gant** suggested that it would be helpful to have a table of contents of each element in future, before beginning the revision. **Ken McCoy** commented that section 1 of this draft of the Safety Element was far superior to the first one GPAC dealt with, but that it looked like Section 2 was put together in a big hurry and somewhat strayed from the Vision Statement; he asked to address **Ross's** corrections and then the inconsistencies he had noted before moving on.

**Ross Burgess** had the following corrections:

Page 14—"... significantly active along on or ..." should be "... significantly active along one or ..."

Page 19—the last paragraph of the Hayfork Airport Location description reads that it is 55 statute miles north of Red Bluff airport and that the same statement is repeated 3 more times, for the each of the county's airports. This error has been mentioned before.

Page 22—"... selling bedspace in the mail ..." should be "... selling bedspace in the jail ..."

Page 28—Effects of VGA has one or more malapropisms.

And then, generally, on geology, **Ross Burgess** asked that there be a section specifically dealing with south county's geology.

**Cedric Twilight** suggested that the author of GPAC material be available at the time of committee review and that each section should outline the precision of its conclusions so that permit applicants and authorities would benefit from the framework of conclusions and anticipate when further research or study might be required.

**Carol Rogan** stated that she thought much of the geology section was not relevant to Trinity County and might be deleted or at the least, pared down. **Ross Burgess** pointed out that while Trinity County is not in a hazardous seismic zone, south county has major, ongoing surface changes.

**Travis Finch** corrected the spelling of Carrville on page 30.

**Ken McCoy** requested that the geology section be completely revised from the textbook emphasis to an essay dealing with the geology of Trinity County.

**Kelli Gant** suggested that footnoting or citing references would be preferable to the textbook approach; **Travis Finch** thought a definition or glossary might suffice.

**Cedric Twilight** pointed out that the landslide definition was the sort of thing the General Plan might want to avoid as it stated that any land with a 15-percent or more slope was at risk and that this definition would perhaps have significance in Kansas.

**Ross Burgess** requested that the geology section be tabled until rewritten and that footnotes direct the general plan user to the correct source. There followed a discussion of reference selections.

**Colleen** summarized that the general plan would include a glossary; **Travis** suggested that a list of terms begin with the revisions.

**Ken McCoy** suggested that we submit wordsmithing errors to the director via email and not take up meeting time—**Kelli Gant** requested that these procedures be committed to writing, particularly concerning data submission, deadlines for agenda items and so on. **Susan Price** said this topic should be agendaized for the next meeting, **Ross**

**Burgess** agreed, providing that GPAC had review prior to the next meeting. **Ken McCoy** expressed the thought that clarification was necessary to get the GPAC membership in concert, to understand committee responsibilities and staff responsibilities with **Carol Rogan** and **Dave Cox** emphasizing that deadlines and reminders needed also to be included. **Colleen o' Sullivan** requested that the subject be on the agenda for the 17 July meeting.

**Colleen o' Sullivan** summarized conclusions from the above discussion of the draft: to seriously revise geology, add table of contents, add a working glossary and then moved the GPAC members to the remaining sections of the Safety Element.

**Ken McCoy** objected to the narrative about global warming; that is it is in the same category as the textbook presentation of geology and not relevant to Trinity County. **Travis Finch** thought endorsed including snowpack statistics, historical temperatures and hoped such might satisfy the intent of the mandatory global warming section. Several members saw the global warming section as a welcome opportunity for Trinity County to lead in creative land-use, new economic development and increased employment. There was consensus to reframe the issue as climate change to accommodate the instability of traditional weather patterns.

**Ross Burgess** asked that the fire safe councils, fire agencies and the forests' supervisors make their contributions before the next meeting. **Kelli Gant** hoped that the General Plan would reference pertinent documents and not incorporate them wholesale as changes in those documents would require changes to the General Plan. **Joan Carr** reminded the meeting that with the reorganization of CDF into Cal Fire, their fire plan had also changed and there would be some instances where several issues of documents would need to be referenced as some of their conclusions are in conflict. **Ross Burgess** would like the General Plan to document the errors contained in externally generated mandates as a defense when implementing some "pushback" against onerous colonial rule. He cited the errors found in the FEMA floodmaps as an example. **Susan Price** stated that she thought it might be appropriate in the implementation section of the General Plan. **Ross Burgess** thought it might be an avenue for appealing inaccurate and burdensome mandates rather than rolling over. **Andy Reiling** of Cal Fire explained some of the ramifications of the definitions of the fire hazard severity maps. **Greg Simmons** noted that the fire safe plans don't really pay attention to county lines and that there should be some cooperation between regulatory agencies. **Dero Forslund** briefed the meeting about

impending legislation that is even more restrictive regarding fire hazard.

There was more conversation regarding the geology section's scope.

**Susan Price** noted the combination of Evacuation and Critical Facilities into Emergency Management.

There was discussion regarding naturally occurring asbestos with **Ross Burgess** questioning the length of its treatment and **Ken McCoy** objecting to the textbook generality. The draft declared particulate matter to be more severe than any other contribution to air quality except fire severity and that this would present another opportunity to correct an error. **Ken McCoy** pointed out several major inconsistencies in the logic of statements made and conclusions drawn and **Kelli Gant** suggested this was another reason for footnoted documentation. **Ken McCoy** declared that the section does not cover the county outside of Weaverville thoroughly enough in answer to the AQMD's concerns. **Cedric, Kelli, Travis** and **Sandy** believed that the safety aspect of dust needs to be defined while **Ken McCoy** emphasized that the AQMD sets the definition and has declared the extent of the county's problem which the draft section failed to address. **Dave Cox** mentioned that the committee should also strive to mitigate excess costs in complying with AQMD mandates.

**Ross Burgess** objected to the emphasis on woodstove smoke and road dust when wildfire smoke is demonstrably ubiquitous countywide. **Joan Carr** concurred and believes it should lead the section and the group wants the AQMD to prioritize the remaining items.

After a short break, **Kelli Gant** explained some of the background to the Airport Safety draft section. She proposed to reference the Noise Element and the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan reports in order to reduce General Plan redundancy. In response to **Joan Carr's** question about delaying the draft until the ALUCPs are completed, **Kelli** noted that existing conditions at county airports are not part of policy formed in the ALUCPs, unless there is some area of concern not usually addressed by the ALUCPs.

**Dave Cox** apologized for omitting the Marshal's Office from the law enforcement draft section and will include it for the next meeting. **Colleen o' Sullivan** wondered whether personnel numbers were necessary; **Dave Cox** thought future goals needed a baseline and that Trinity County's geography presented some unique considerations and the draft headlines the necessity of staying on top of manpower needs. **Ross Burgess** advocated using

statistical comparisons to demonstrate the deficiencies. **Joan** thought the Safety Element should include issues of safety that affect county residents. There was discussion over whether the county had verifiable crime statistics at all as the public was disinclined to report and that the attendant danger associated with public drunkenness might overshadow marijuana grows. This lack of enforcement **Dave Cox** believes has been responsible for the increase in violence and property crime fostered by illegal drug activities. He also noted that in the eighties, there were 7 resident deputies who worked weekends; Hayfork and Weaverville had full weekend coverage with a sergeant and officers on duty in both towns. Currently, there might be one or two deputies on duty on the weekend. **Sandy Bechtold** said she hoped recruiting would be included in General Plan goals.

**Kelli Gant** suggested that Safety Element sections should be listed in order of priority or importance to safety. **Susan Price** suggested that **Kelli** do that for the Safety Element for the next meeting, with wildland fire first, followed by law enforcement. **Travis Finch** doubted that the order mattered as most users of the General Plan come to it with a focus but **Kelli** thought that as the public reviewed the document, they would appreciate the document's organization by level of importance. **Ken McCoy** thought this was less important than identifying today's issues and setting goals for future remedy; that in his portion of the county the problems are lack of available land, lack of law enforcement and threat of wildfire. **Susan Price** said there are statutory remedies available for adoption where fees charged builders and developers go toward funding solutions to problems like those.

**Ross Burgess** wants volunteer community organizations included in emergency response and questioned whether we needed such level of detail in the hazardous materials section. Several committee members thought the entire section should be redone to reflect the position of Trinity County, retaining the transmission lines, gas pipeline issues and so forth. It was suggested that mercury mines be added. **Cedric Twilight** thought zoning was more pivotal in ameliorating most of the hazards in this draft section and **Ross Burgess** noted that most of the topics were already covered by state law. **Joan Carr** suggested merely listing the items after a statement defining the state as the authority.

With regard to the water quality draft section, **Sandy Bechtold** recommended the four bullet points should be listed in order of lethality or hazard and **Colleen o'Sullivan** noted that there were actually five points and that the section pretty much only discussed the fifth, that is, blue-green algae. Several committee members

doubted its prevalence in the county and asked that the section be revised. **Lyn Scott** said the EPA was concerned with lead, copper and arsenic and turbidity as the latter masks parasitic activity in domestic water. **Kelli Gant** thought state law already dealt with these subjects. **Ken McCoy** thought material after the second paragraph began to reflect a policy agenda and was not appropriate in the General Plan.

In the communications draft section, **Kelli Gant** suggested it be reorganized to outline the safety risk existing now and then follow with existing conditions.

There were no comments on the landfill section.

**Kelli Gant** said she would have the proposed outline finished by the next GPAC meeting as well as the airport safety draft. **Susan Price** said as time permitted, she would return with tonight's revisions. **Kelli** inquired about circulating her drafts via email prior to the meeting. **Dero** and **Susan** stated that communication had to be restricted to less than a quorum and that a website posting might be better. **Ken McCoy** wants to work on section one and two in parallel even if **Susan** has not had time to complete all revisions to section one.

#### **Vision Statement**

**Colleen o' Sullivan** reported on comments from the Board of Supervisors regarding the use of the word *shall* vs. *will*; that the statement should be advertised to the public. The GPAC will place the advertisement in a box ad, and in an article and on the website.

#### **Joint Planning Commission Meeting**

The meeting scheduled with the Planning Commission will be rescheduled when the Safety Element draft is complete enough to circulate.

#### **Website Subcommittee**

**Travis Finch** demonstrated the features of the website and discussed the possibility of getting away from paper. Travis has plans to revise the site and solicited comments from the GPAC. It was felt that draft material should be distinguished from completed material; that agendas were not necessary once the meeting has been held. **Dero** suggested that all files be PDF. **Susan** wanted to know if the community plans should have a presence; **Kelli Gant** thought community plans should do their own while **Carol Rogan** recommended establishing a link. **Dero Forslund** stated that a search tool will become invaluable.

**Next Meeting/Agenda Items**

17 July 08 is the next meeting date. Proposed agenda items are: procedures for information dispersal, schedule of revisions and work products, submission deadlines.

**Joan Carr** asked to have the Housing Element advanced on the schedule so we are compliant with the state deadline.

**Colleen o' Sullivan** reminded GPAC members that ethics training must be completed and will send an email to that end.

**Adjournment**

**Colleen o' Sullivan** adjourned the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

SANDY BECHTOLD  
Secretary to the GPAC

**Members present:**

Sandy Bechtold; Ross Burgess; Joan Carr; Dennis Corp;  
Dave Cox; Travis Finch; Kelli Gant; Ken McCoy; Carol Rogan; Lyn Scott; Greg Simmons; Colleen o' Sullivan.

**Members absent:** Bill Chambers; Bryan Taylor

**Staff present:** Susan Price, Dero Forslund

**Guests:** Andy Reiling; Cedric Twight