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| **BIG PARK REGIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL****COMMUNITY NEWS*****MEETING HIGHLIGHTS are BELOW Community News ... Keep scrolling!*** ***Time Sensitive scroll down*** - See P&Z Report below:  **Wednesday, APRIL 20TH at 5pm**- A pre-application **public participation meeting** is being hosted by **The Collective**regarding a special use permit. **REMINDER:   Library Giving Day is APRIL 27th** and that’s when our library will celebrate this national day of supporting local libraries.  The Sedona Public Library has **a $20,000 matching gift**.  April 27 will also be a day of celebrating poetry, with festivities at both locations. If you'd like to join the celebration with a personal donation, click [HERE](https://bigparkcouncil.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=1d84ec59cba91b5dec0eec85b&id=544adfc7ba&e=13e034e6d4) after April 6th to go directly to the library's website.  The library donation form provides options to direct your gift to the Village Library, or otherwise.  **Construction on SR 89A Oak Creek Canyon Improvements to begin April 18   *Plan for lane, vehicle-size restrictions and delays***The Arizona Department of Transportation advised that work is beginning on the SR 89A Oak Creek Canyon Improvements on Monday, April 18.  The improvements, which will be constructed at various times through the end of 2023, include rockfall mitigation, erosion control and a bridge rehabilitation along portions of the roadway between Flagstaff and Sedona. Drivers should be prepared to slow down, stop and use caution around construction personnel and equipment while the following around-the-clock restrictions are in place seven days a week: The restrictions will be in place through the duration of the project.  Please visit [azdot.gov/SR89A](https://bigparkcouncil.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=1d84ec59cba91b5dec0eec85b&id=d94a68fe77&e=13e034e6d4) for additional project information. **Construction on I-17 Anthem to Sunset Point - OPEN HOUSE Public Meeting April 26**Click on [ADOT I-17 Improvements (improvingi17.com)](https://bigparkcouncil.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=1d84ec59cba91b5dec0eec85b&id=af59c568ad&e=13e034e6d4) to go directly to the ADOT website and register to attend the open house, or to find out more about the project.The 23-mile section of Interstate 17 (I-17) between Anthem Way and Sunset Point is one of the most heavily utilized roadways in Arizona, seeing more than 1 million travelers each year. ADOT anticipates construction will begin in 2022 and take approximately three years to complete. This timeline makes it possible for the project team to minimize impacts on the traveling public while work is underway. Because much of the travel and congestion on I-17 occurs on weekends, lane closures will primarily be limited to weeknights from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. However, travelers should remain cautious in the construction zone, which will be active seven days a week. No weekend lane closures will be scheduled for construction, which allows you to use I-17 during peak travel days and times with limited construction impacts or restrictions. (A closure might occur on a weekend because of an emergency or unplanned incident.) **April 14th BPRCC****MEETING HIGHLIGHTS****Public Agency Speaker:** Investor Education Coordinator, Terri Alexon of the Arizona Corporation Commission’s Securities Division. Camille welcomed Terri, noting that she is a two-time graduate from A.S.U. with degrees in business and communication.  Since joining the Commission in 2002, Terri has specialized in statewide presentations on wise investing and fraud prevention.  Terri’s presentation focused on how to avoid the worst investment risk of all, which is fraud.  **Terri** emphasized that the [www.azcc.gov/AZInvestor](https://bigparkcouncil.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=1d84ec59cba91b5dec0eec85b&id=d3bd16bc8e&e=13e034e6d4) website is the GO-TO place for information.  Terri recommended that investors review the “Ask & Check” section of the Division’s website ***before*** investing.  The Division’s website provides information on the license status and disciplinary history of investment professionals, allows you to submit an investor complaint, provides information on enforcement cases and gives tips on how to generally avoid fraud.  There are investigators (“fraud-busters”) standing by to answer your questions: You can call 602-542-0662 or 1-866-837-4399 toll free in Arizona, or you can email: info@AZinvestor.gov and your inquiry will be answered promptly.  As a helpful guideline for any investment, Terri cautioned never to invest more than you can afford to lose.  All investments involve a degree of risk.  After Terri's presentation, Tom Binnings and Anne Marie Mackler updated the Council on the Village branch of the Sedona Public Library.  In addition to the currently available small meeting rooms, they recently signed a lease with the school district to add a larger meeting room, to be available by early June timeframe.  All of the rooms may be reserved for a small donation, according to the group’s ability to pay.Tom emphasized that the Village library is a full-service facility with many additional public services including free Wi-Fi free notary (Wed), free computer support (Tues), computers for public use, and printing/scanning. Anne Marie announced an upcoming fundraiser on October 1st called Novel Night that involves hosted book-themed dinner gatherings followed by a champagne and desert afterglow with a costume contest and silent auction.  The library is seeking five additional hosts.  Attendees will reserve via the library ($100/person).   To learn more, call Anne Marie (x8125) at the library or email info@bigparkcouncil.org.  A meeting quorum of 20 member organizations were present along with 11 guests.  **President’s Report:**  Camille announced that David and Ania Hanke were hosting a Ukrainian refugee family.  Temporary resident status applications are in progress for the family.  Please send questions on how you can help the family to Camille at info@bigparkcouncil.org and she will forward them. Camille then noted that the Sedona Sister City Association has moved ahead with its organizational efforts, selecting members of their Board of Directors. The Village was well represented at the Sedona Chamber of Commerce leadership luncheon with eighteen ladies joining Camille and an additional group joining Lenore Hemingway. Camille then congratulated Village winners of the Keep Sedona Beautiful Annual Awards of Excellence.  Richard and Monique Sidy for Landscaping and the Verde Valley School for Sustainability (BPRCC Member Organization). Also honored was the Science Vortex for Education.  **Secretary’s Report**: Mary Pope noted that membership and representation have remained the same.  March meeting minutes were approved unanimously without change. **Treasurer’s Report**:  Patty Reski reported that the BPRCC library donation was submitted for a matching donation in April, and that the Council has a healthy bank balance with no surprises.  Expenses for the Community Plan website are not paid out of BPRCC dues as that project is fully supported by contributions from the community. **New Business:  Art in the Roundabouts**:  Camille noted the roundabouts on SR179 in the VOC were designed to feature artwork.  Two VOC residents recently stepped up with donation offers.  One has interest in funding a commissioned sculpture, and the other resident artist would like to donate an existing sculpture.  Steve Fiedler has been communicating with the donors, both of whom understand that a structure and process is being explored. She then reviewed a proposed process including community participation and fiscal accountability. A partnership arrangement between the Sedona Village Partnership and Big Park Council could jointly manage the project. Slides from Camille's presentation can be downloaded by clicking [HERE](https://bigparkcouncil.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=1d84ec59cba91b5dec0eec85b&id=9078d8f98b&e=13e034e6d4).  A three-person steering committee is proposed to be comprised of one representative each from SVP and BPRCC and Steve Fiedler, an independent contractor for the SR179 road improvement district. Subcommittees would then be established to manage the various aspects of the process. Camille then asked if the project was of interest to the Council.  After discussion, a motion was approved to create an ad hoc committee to study and recommend a Purpose and Scope for the committees, to be reviewed and approved by the Council in May.   Camille Cox, Dave Norton, Dennis Bauman and David Gill agreed to serve.  Members of the public are encouraged to participate in this process by joining the committees to be formed in May.  If you are interested, please email info@bigparkcouncil.org. and/or come to the BPRCC regular meeting May 12th.  **Policy Update:**  Camille explained that the Policy on BPRCC Committees has been updated to include the previously approved purpose and scope of the two newest committees, Emergency Preparedness (EPPiC) and Strategic Plan & Leadership Development.  No changes are proposed.  This policy update was unanimously approved. **Committee Reports:****Planning & Zoning:**  Mary Morris reported that a pre-application public participation meeting is being hosted by **The Collective on April 20th at 5pm** in person at the Sedona Arts Academy and via ZOOM, to review their plans to request a Special Use Permit similar to the previous one (approved in 2009), which expired in 2019.   Click [HERE](https://bigparkcouncil.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=1d84ec59cba91b5dec0eec85b&id=117c681913&e=13e034e6d4) to download the Notice, including meeting details.  You are encouraged to attend and/or to make your opinion known via a letter or email directly to The Collective, or to their attorneys.  **APS Powerline Subcommittee:**  Duane Thompson, chair, provided an overview of the proposed 13-mile backup powerline proposed by Arizona Public Service (APS), noting that BPRCC had submitted a comment letter on the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) by the USFS in January.  Currently the USFS is reviewing all comments and a Final EA is expected to be released in July.  The Council's position, approved last year, is to bury key sections of the powerline.  The Council also supported a feasibility study of a community microgrid option.  He noted that the subcommittee continues to work in a very positive collaborative effort with Keep Sedona Beautiful (KSB) regarding a feasibility study and that the USFS had not considered this alternative within their draft EA.  One of the BPRCC subcommittee members identified an opportunity for free advice from the National Community Solar Program (NSCP), which is administered by the U.S. Department of Energy.  KSB has joined NSCP to pursue this further.  As offered at the March BPRCC Council meeting, the subcommittee will pursue a meeting with the USFS for further discussions and will keep the Council apprised of their progress. **Emergency Preparedness (EPPiC):**  Mary Pope reported that the committee has continued its meetings with frontline agencies and met with Chief Trautwein of the Sedona Fire District last week. The meeting confirmed the collaborative nature of the various agencies and their understanding of their respective division of responsibilities was reassuring to the committee.  Chief Trautwein emphasized that advance preparation and situational awareness are critical.  As fire-season begins, prepare your home, yourself and your family.  Take Ready-Set-Go seriously and if you are told to "Go", follow instructions and evacuate.  After the presentation, the committee agreed that communication to the community should begin now rather than waiting for all frontline agencies to be interviewed.  Approved EPPiC meeting minutes, are publicly available.  To download a copy that includes Lt. Johnson's report (YCSO) click [HERE](https://bigparkcouncil.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=1d84ec59cba91b5dec0eec85b&id=d94d03d7d6&e=13e034e6d4).  In May, the committee will meet with the Yavapai County Office of Emergency Management.   **Dark-Sky:**  Curt Schneider reported that the three committee members were able to meet with Jeremy Dye of Yavapai County Development furthering a positive dialog on updating the County's lighting ordinances. Work on updates to the ordinance will begin upon completion of the County's Comprehensive Plan. On **April 28th**, 3pm, the Dark-Sky committee meeting will host Ms. Ashley Wilson, Director of Conservation for the Dark-Sky International organization. Jeremy Dye from the County and Mark Lawler from KSB/Sedona Dark-Sky will be part of that working meeting.    Curt reminded the Council that the Dark-Sky Committee would have a booth at the 8th Annual VOC Community BBQ, May 14th 12-4pm, and would be hosting a Star Party at the Hilton Tequa Ballroom parking area on May 22nd, at 8pm.  **Mark your Calendar***All meetings are open to the public - email**info@bigparkcouncil.org**for additional details***P&Z Meetings:**April 15th at 10am, Cancelled .. Next meeting May 20th at 10am via ZOOM**Next Dark-Sky Meeting:**Thursday, April 28th 3pm, KSB meeting room, 360 Brewer Road, Sedona**Next Executive Board Meeting:**Tuesday May 3rd, 3pm, location TBD.**Next BPRCC Regular Meeting:**Thursday, May 12th, 9am, Zoom - Guest speaker  Ed Rose, General Manager, Sedona-Oak Creek Airport Authority**Next EPPiC Meeting**: Friday, May 6th, 2pm, location TBD.    |

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