

**Ocotillo Community Park**  
266 Imperial Hwy.  
Ocotillo, CA 92259  
*Monday, June 3, 2024*  
*6:00 P.M.*



**Committee Members:**  
*Darren A. Apedaile, Chair*  
*Vacant, Vice Chair*  
*Ava M. Mead, Secretary*  
*Frank Vrettas*  
*Patricia Thompson*

## **May 6, 2024, meeting minutes**

### **Ocotillo Area Community Advisory Committee**

The meeting was called to order by Darren Apedaile, Chair, at 6:03pm.

Roll call, members present: Darren Apedaile, Ava Mead, Patricia Thompson, quorum was met.

Darren Apedaile led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **Meeting open for public comment: 3 minutes per speaker**

No public comment.

#### **Approval of the order of the agenda.**

Ava Mead made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Cynthia Medina suggested an addition for a speaker, Priscilla Lopez to be added to the agenda VII d. Seconded by Darren Apedaile. Voted and passed.

#### **Approval of the April 8, 2024, meeting minutes.**

Patricia Thompson made a motion to accept the meeting minutes. Ava Mead seconded, the motion passes. Minutes will be filed as presented.

#### **Discussion and Action items**

Discussion of the OCAC vacancy, encouraging the public to apply.

**POSTING LOCATIONS: This meeting was legally noticed and posted at the following locations:**

<https://board.imperialcounty.org/ocotillo-advisory-committee/>

- Ocotillo Community Center
- Imperial Valley Desert Museum
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Priscilla Lopez:

1. Imperial County is working on updating its Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). The CEDS is a five-year plan that details the County's programs to improve the local economy and create better job opportunities for residents. Having an adopted CEDS also allows the County to apply for federal funds for infrastructure and other investments in economic development. During the Ocotillo Community Advisory Committee meeting, the County's consultant will provide an overview of the CEDS process and will also ask for community input on ideas and priorities for improving local economic conditions, as presented by Priscilla Lopez, Director, Workforce & Economic Development Office.
2. "Public Hearing to solicit citizen input on any potential projects and programs requested in the community for consideration should any funding sources become available for application."

Public Works Presenter, John Gay and Robert Ureña.:

John Gay: reported critical findings from Coyote Wash Bridge to the east found one to have a pile with dry rot causing the pile to expand and move when cars/vehicles pass over.

Quick fix suggested was 2 half cylinders welded and filled with grout/epoxy. This process is a better process and leaves a much smaller footprint to the environment and increases pile strength by 65%. Epoxy has a 75-year service life and requires no regular maintenance.

Proposed was 33 piles with original wrap process however with the new epoxy process the cost is much less allowing for more piles to be wrapped.

Verbiage: less cost – maintenance vs. bid project.

Ernie Minor asked how long it will take from start to finish?

John Gay says six months once approved.

Darren Apedaile asked how many pile are there?

John Gay says 96.

Darren Apedaile asked how deep around each pile will you go to put on the epoxy wrap?

Bobby said they will dig down 1-2 feet past good wood and start fixing it at that point. He says this process is approved by both the Army Corp of Engineers and Caltrans.

Once the piles are repaired they will work on the cross rails, replacing missing and damaged ones.

Darren Apedaile would like to know when we will need to move the artifacts from the sandbar?

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Ava Mead will email John Gay about a date to remove the artifacts.

Carmen Zamora was happy to announce work completed on the park as well as work to come.

- Lowered the swings.
- Slide status – will get a quote for a new slide.
- Add doggie waste station.
- Lights – will be done next week or will install LED lighting.
- Handicapped spaces and parking spaces marking was completed.
- Boarder on the bark will be a project coming up soon.

Carmen Zamora will be working with California Department of Corrections CDC to do park clean up and possible light maintenance in the future.

Sgt. Fowler announced that after 32 years of service to the Sheriffs Office she is retiring and will now be working for the Calipatria Police Department as the first female Police Chief.

Member reports
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The Imperial Valley Desert Museum continues to ask for volunteers. Contact the IVDM for more information. ***Reminder to local kids; volunteer hours at the museum count towards your graduation incentive.***

Next Meeting Date: June 3, 2024

Meeting adjourned at 6:32pm
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Recorded and submitted by: Ava Mead, Secretary

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