

BLM Desert District Advisory Council
Dumont Dunes Subgroup Minutes
June 11 2013

Meeting was held in the BLM Barstow Field Office in Barstow, CA.

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 10:03 am by Dr. Bill Presch and he led the subgroup in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Introduction of Attendees

Dr. William (Bill) Presch, Chairman, Cal State Desert Studies Center
Randy Banis, DAC Member
John Dagleish, Friends of Dumont Dunes
Brian Brown, Local Business Owner, China Ranch
Pat Chassie, Chief Ranger, Barstow BLM
Leland Boldt, Lieutenant, San Bernardino Sheriff Department
Mickey Quillman, Resource Branch Chief, Barstow BLM
Terry Allen, NV OHV Representative
Deborah Flores, Budget Tech/Minutes Transcriber, Barstow BLM

3. Agenda

The agenda was presented by Presch. Terry Allen moved to accept the agenda, John Dagleish seconded. The agenda was approved by consent.

4. Minutes

Minutes from Feb 19, 2013 meeting were previously distributed to members, no changes noted. Randy Banis moved to accept the minutes, Allen seconded.

5. Business

DAC Applicants

There was an error concerning the due date. Applicants are accepted until Jun 17, 2013. Banis will make the nominations to the DAC and there should be interim appointments by the end of June 2013.

Dumont Fee Usage Report

A status of the current Dumont Rec Fee account was given to attendees with a side-by-side comparison of the previous 2 years.

The total amount collected at the Dunes has dwindled in 2013 as a reflection of the economy and fuel prices. A state grant from CA OHV has been approved for next year which will help offset expenses.

Allen mentioned that decline could be reflective of LE issues.

The budget shows a contract set aside for road base. Comments included considering other types of base. Type II road base created clouds of dust and the asphalt shavings have now been scraped to the side of the road so there is no recovery. It was requested that no silk be used this time.

All season BLM has had issues with water since the Amargosa River has been dry. Water trucks are going to Shoshone to fill up which has reduced the number of loads significantly. This will continue into the next season.

Update on DAC/RRAC and Fee Increase

El Centro's Glamis Rec Area (ISDRA) has gone through a long process of changing entrance fees. El Centro has gone 9 yrs. without an increase in fees. The fees are currently \$90 for a seasonal pass and \$35 for a weekly pass. BLM National/State/CDD/El Centro has written a Business Plan to change the fees based on the deficit encountered by El Centro for operations at Glamis. The first proposal was to double the prices. Duners responded with an ASA report of their own. Another alternative was to change passes to eliminate annual fees and charge only weekly fees. The proposal that has moved forward is a \$150 annual pass and free entrance during summer months. This proposal now needs to go to the RRAC July 27, 2013, and the DAC will vote on the fee revision.

Barstow, Dumont Dunes, will need to have a new Business Plan before revision of fees will be considered. Barstow will start Business Plan spring/summer of 2014.

Friends of Dumont Dunes clean-up March 16, 2013

The Friends clean-up had great BLM participation. 1 ½ - 30 yd. dumpsters were filled. Trash such as carpet, easy ups, and fire pit debris was gathered. The event was fun and is scheduled again for next year.

Member Items

Silurian Valley Wind/Solar Project

There is some concern that solar project at Silurian Dry Lake will dry up water resources, affect visual resources, and will impact recreation.

Banis proposed, and Allen seconded, and all agreed on a motion to ask the DAC to urge BLM to apply for NRT status for T&T RR through Silurian Valley.

LEO's

- No grant funding for upcoming season for BLM or the Sheriff's Office.
- Public safety #1, education #2.
- Chassie suggested a MOU between the BLM and San Bernardino County Sheriff to share funding.
- LE concerned with demographics of Dune users.
- BLM has a full time assigned LE to the Dumont area.
- Chassie will supply budget breakdown of costs for OHV Razor, maybe friends group can help with costs.

6.Upcoming Meetings-

Sept 24, 2013 – Dumont Subgroup, Barstow, 10 am.

Nov 1 & 2, 2013 – DAC

Brown motioned for adjournment, Allen seconded. By consent, the meeting was adjourned at 11:39 am.