

Windansea

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To: La Jolla Community Planning Association <info@lajollacpa.org>

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 3 attachments (3 MB)

358 reso - Windansea Surf Shack as Historical Site.pdf; CR 358 - Windansea Surf Shack.pdf; Pumphouse 2-10-21.jpg;

Dear La Jolla CPA –

I appreciated the opportunity to voice my opposition to the belvedere/gazebo construction at Windansea at last Tuesday's meeting. I believe it will take away from the natural beauty of the area and I have concerns about the stability of the bluffs. The new stairs that were put in are fantastic – but even they are continuing to have issues with erosion. I do not see the benefits of adding more buildings to this fragile area. I hope the Board considers the comments made by the residents who voiced their **opposition to the gazebo** -- while all were unanimously in **support of continued erosion control and the barriers**. As I mentioned, I think Jim Neri has been very thoughtful in his design and use of natural materials for the parking lot. So, I am in full support of him and the improvements to the coastal walkways – just not the gazebo construction.

I also mentioned there is a physical structure on Windansea – the pump house – that is in horrible shape. This is a photo from yesterday and you will see the peeling paint, rusted metal and graffiti. This is coupled with the constant stench of urine (from inside and outside the port-o-potty) makes it an embarrassment to the area. This is what it looks like to our visitors and local beach-goers – and it smells even worse (photo taken yesterday). There must be a way to make this eye-sore an asset. I was part of the group that painted free murals on the boarded up shops in the village and perhaps there are local artists who could do the same to the pump house. Instead of building more structures that will need to be maintained, perhaps LJCPA and parks can maintain the pump house?

Or, even make it something attractive with an eye of preserving the area's surf culture feel? (The pump house is regularly graffitied to pay homage to a member of the surf community who has passed away – maybe there is a way to recognize surfers over the years at the pumphouse instead.) The surf culture along with the fame associated with Tom Wolf's The Pump House Gang surely makes the pump house a more important priority than reconstructing a gazebo from 1909 that has been gone for 40 years.

When I reviewed the historical designation for the Windansea Surf Shack (attached), the designation specifically calls out the preservation of the post WWII surf culture as the purpose of the designation (complete with interpretive Polynesian design). The Surf Shack and a repaired Pump House would be in keeping with the historic designation. A reconstructed gazebo would not appear to be in the spirit of this historic designation of post WWII surf culture.

I appreciate the time the members of LJCPA put in to caring for our community. I know it can be a thankless job and one you take seriously. I also appreciate you taking the time to consider the opinions of those who are not in support of adding a gazebo to our natural bluff. We may just now be learning of the project and, I know some of the committee members seemed frustrated that they were getting community input so late in the process, however we just learned about it and want to respectfully voice our valid concerns.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,

Susie Piegza

La Jolla resident since 1991
La Jolla business owner since 1995

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Best,
Susie

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