

June Lake Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)
May 5, 2021 – Meeting Minutes
(Draft pending approval)

1. Call to Order by CAC Chair Julie Brown at 6:00 p.m.; the Pledge of Allegiance was to a virtual flag.
Members present: Julie Brown , Sarah Holston, Kevin Larsen, Bob Marks, David Rosky.
2. Public Comment. None
3. Chair Julie Brown asked for a consideration of the minutes of April 7, 2021. By a roll call vote of five (5) yeas and zero (0) nays the minutes were accepted.
4. Reports.
 - a. Supervisor Gardner. Zooming in from the coziness of his home library, Supervisor Gardner commented on (1) the Vision for June Lake meeting. That was a good start, and he will keep the conversation going; (2) the fishing season opening; (3) SCE and helicopters. He didn't know why they weren't yet flying, but Julie said that it was her understanding the sky cranes could start as early as Thursday; (4) the June Lake Trails Committee, and commended Sarah Holston for her work; (5) the concerns about ATVs and OHVs in Mono Basin and June Lake. They are not allowed on any county roads, and on publicly accessed private roads (such as Peterson tract) they would need owners' permission; and (6) that the Forest Service has closed Grant Lake to dispersed camping for this year, and will begin a process to see if the ban should be permanent. The driving force of doing so now on an emergency basis is the fire danger (already two in Independence and one in Mammoth). In response to a question about enforcement, Supervisor Gardner said the Forest Service and the County sheriff would patrol on weekends, that the LADWP had step up to their responsibilities, and that anyone seeing campfires there should call 911.
 - b. CAC chair. No report.
 - c. Member reports.

Sarah reminded people of the first (Zoom) meeting of the June Lake Trails Committee on Thursday May 7 at 6 p.m. She thanked volunteers for their efforts on Rush Creek, and thought that JLB-donated beer might have helped the turnout. She also said that the Forest Service is replacing the Fern Lake bridge, and in the process will have to remove 20 hazard trees by blowing some up (not kidding about that). Finally, she noted that an aspen grove at her house had been killed by fungus infection arguably caused by improper pruning arguably by SCE sub-contractors. Noting the danger to wider spread of the fungus through root systems, she voiced concern about the SCE aspen cutting under the pole line across from Fern Lake trailhead parking.

Bob Marks brought to the attention of the CAC and Supervisor Gardner five California

legislature bills dealing with broadband issues in rural areas and asked if Mono County had been consulted or had input into the bills. Supervisor Gardner asked Bob to forward to him those bills, and said that north county Supervisor Peters had some expertise in the issue and he would ask him about it.

d. Staff reports: Michael Draper said there was an upcoming meeting of the local transportation committee on unmet transit needs that is open to the public, and that on May 20 the Planning Commission would take up two projects in June Lake: (1) a short-term rental application on Skyline Dr., and (2) a variance request of a residence on Clark St. Both of those are open for public comment. He also said that an additional food truck had been authorized at June Lake Brewing when Ohana's is not open (M-Th).

5. June Lake Village traffic calming. Director of Public Works Tony Dublino started with a history of the issue. After receiving a March 2019 request from some Bruce St. residents for installation of a speed bump to slow down traffic often speeding through, he found \$1000 in his budget and installed the speed bump sometime before July 4. After receiving thanks from residents, he started receiving complaints from other residents about the noise caused by cars and trailers going over the bump. He said all views are being taken seriously, and that he and the roads department are studying the issue, and experimenting with the placement of cones in the road to slow traffic. The speed bump has not been reinstalled pending further study, including an engineering report due in June, and feedback from the community. There followed much discussion of the issue.

The issues taken up included what the best solution is that is acceptable to all concerned, and what process will be used to make that decision. Among the solutions raised included putting the speed hump (not a bump) back, using traffic cones, striping to narrow the street, putting a median strip in, stationing a speed flasher (as in lee Vining), and experimenting with other possibilities on a "demonstration day." Agreement seemed to be that whatever solution is adopted, it needs to be a year 'round solution, since installing and removing speed humps is laborious and causes damage to the asphalt. In terms of process, county staff did not think the CAC could "vote" on the issue at this meeting, and that any action would have to be put on the agenda. Strong opinions were expressed that said that the safety of residents and their children should outweigh noise complaints. In the end, it was decided that a letter to Board of Supervisors would be drafted, and that that would be on the agenda for the next CAC meeting (in June).

6. Conversion of Sheriff's substation into a June Lake museum.

Heidi Vetter, president of the June Lake Loop Historical Society, gave a brief history of the idea. In 2009, the JLLHS first raised the idea with the county, and in 2016 received support from then-Supervisor Tim Alpers and County Sheriff Braun. In 2017 they developed a plan for what needed to be done, which was then derailed by covid shutdowns. The idea is to use one-half of the current sheriff substation by putting a wall in; both sides would be handicap accessible and have toilets. The historical society has been collecting historical materials, and needs a place to display them. The museum

would be open initially on weekends and serve as well as a visitor center. They hope the museum could open in May of 2022.

Questions included those about funding for the project and how to join the JLLHS. Heidi concluded by saying that their goal is to record history.

7. Discussion of Balanced Rock beautification. With no one to speak to it, it was tabled to next meeting.
8. Discussion and updates on COVID-19 impacts and response. Supervisor Gardner reported that Mono County is in the orange tier, and hopes to go to the less-restrictive yellow tier within the week. Mono County now has 60-65% of the adult population vaccinated, and with vaccinations of those 12-15 years old, the percentage of the local population vaccinated will continue to rise. But he cautioned that 1.5 million visitors come to Mono County annually and that precautions still need to be taken.
9. Community updates
 - a. Women's Club. No report
 - b. Chamber of Commerce. No report.
 - c. EV Charging Station subcommittee. Bob Marks reported that the project has been delayed by the need to submit a special use permit request to the Forest Service. Matt Paruolo will oversee that submission, and told Bob that he hopes that the Forest Service will expedite the request. Bob asked Supervisor Gardner if could help by being the "expediter." Bob said that in the meantime, Joe Blanchard and his staff would do what they could to get the project ready for action once the Forest Service permit is received. Sarah Holtson added more on the rationale and expected role in this project and others of the newly established Friends of June Lake Parks. She said membership is open!
10. Future agenda items: Draft letter to Board of Supervisors concerning traffic calming in the Village; Grant Lake dispersed camping.
11. The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Next meeting: TBA

*Respectfully submitted,
Bob Marks, Secretary*