

June Lake Citizens Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes - February 3, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm by Patti Heinrich. Committee member attendees included Ann Tozier, Patti Heinrich, Rob Morgan, Don Morton and Connie Black, as well as new appointees Jeff Ronci, Bob Garner and Carl Williams. New appointee John Logue was not in attendance.

Tim Alpers was not present.

January 21, 2014 minutes - Patti moved to adopt them, Ann seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to approve them.

Public Comment:

Janelle Walker, USFS winter activities special use permit manager introduced herself.

Connie Black mentioned that the JL Winter Event Committee has been meeting, and will have an event this year, snow or no snow. Alana, the JL Triathlon coordinator, is planning to assist. The event will be essentially one day, over the Feb 21-22 weekend. They have left over money for the event from the JL Chamber of Commerce and Mono County recreation department.

Rob Morgan brought up our dire water situation, as he did at the last meeting, and wondered again what Patti Heinrich has heard from the June Lake PUD. There are no new updates, but there will be a **meeting of the PUD at the Village fire station on February 11th at 5 pm**, for those interested in attending. Al Heinrich mentioned that he had attended a meeting of the Inyo Mono Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP), and he learned that the Mammoth Lakes water district is recommending that Mammoth Lakes go to phase 3 water restrictions this summer. Rob thought we should put pressure on someone in power to drill a well ASAP, as he believes down canyon will be in trouble this summer, perhaps with no water. He feels that we need to act now, as everything takes time. Getting a driller is out one year due to the need of the central valley.

Agenda Items:

June Lake Area Plan review (Courtney Weiche, Scott Burns):

The CAC members continued their review of the June Lake Area Plan, starting where they had left off last meeting on the Open Space and Conservation section.

At 7 PM RUSTY GREGORY, with Greg Dallas and Eric Diem, walked in for a unexpected update of the mountain ski areas, so the area plan review was set aside to let him talk first.

Rusty Gregory brought with him a number of documents showing 2015 YTD skier visits and company revenue, as compared with recent prior years. The snow is thin at both Mammoth and June mountain ski areas. Their revenues and visits are ahead of last year, but last year was the worst year they have had in 20 years, so that's not saying much. There is weather coming in this weekend, but it may end up just being wind. If they get some snow at June Mountain they may be able to keep chair 7 open, but if not, they will close June for the season. He said they have cut pay by 15% and hours by 25%, of year round employees.

MMSA is in a purchase agreement with Snow Summit. They took over financially November 2014, but the USFS permit process is not yet completed. Snow Summit was a small public company. They have plans for renovations both at Bear Mountain and Snow Summit, where facilities are very old. They are also looking at the possibility of connecting the two mountains by a lift, as they are only a mile apart and parking is a big issue.

They have gotten 4 or 5 proposals back from drillers for drilling the test wells at June Mountain this summer. That is good news. Rusty reiterated that without snow making capability at June there will be no improvements done, such as upgrading chair J1. Water is an issue at Mammoth also. Their strongest snow making well usually pumps out 3,000 gal/min, but currently is not exceeding 600 gal/min. One test well at June is at the base of chair 7, and only 500 feet from the Snow Creek spring. Before they would be able to remove water from a well, if water is found, there would be an extensive review of the effects on the rest of the JL water system.

June Lake Area Plan review... was continued and completed.

The meeting was adjourned by Patti Heinrich at 8:31 pm. The next meeting will be on Tuesday March 3rd, at 7 pm, when Jim Leddy will be discussing the Mono County Strategic Plan, and CAC officer elections will take place.

CAC Minutes were taken by Ann Tozier