

+June Lake Citizens Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes – February 2, 2016

Patti Heinrich called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. Committee member attendees included Jeff Ronci, Ann Tozier, Patti Heinrich, John Logue, Rob Morgan and Bob Gardner. Tim Alpers was also present.

Election of Officers:

Patti nominated Jeff Ronci for president, Rob seconded; there was a unanimous affirmative vote.

Rob nominated Patti Heinrich for vice president, Jeff seconded; there was a unanimous affirmative vote.

Patti nominated Ann Tozier to remain secretary, Rob seconded; there was a unanimous affirmative vote.

Jeff Ronci, as new president, took over control of the meeting.

Review of October 6, 2015 minutes: Patti made a motion that the minutes are adopted, Bob seconded, the vote was unanimous and the motion was approved.

Public Comment:

Jake Suppa – Joe brought up the community gardens and how they are good for health and the environment. The county supports community gardens and there are some already in existence in the area. Land can be a constraint. It would be nice to have one in June Lake and perhaps integrate it with the mountain or a daycare center. He has started a Facebook site for it, June Lake Community Garden, and would like to see it on next month's agenda.

Janelle Walker (USFS) – The Inyo National Forest is beginning a process to designate snowmobile (OSV) use areas and trails, and they need public input. She handed out cards that have a link to a site where comments can be posted:

[Http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=48393](http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=48393) OR

Email: elnoesser@fs.fed.us

They are in the pre-scoping phase; the formal scoping phase begins in April.

Agenda Items:

Supervisor Tim Alpers' report:

Tim commented on the OSV project. He said trail grooming for snowmobiles started years ago when folks would get lost and end up breaking into cabins to survive. He said it is a great program and it would be nice to tie the trails in with the June Lake Village.

The regional area transportation quarterly stats are out and Yosemite had 4.3 million visitors. The Park is establishing a committee to study the impact, and options perhaps to tie YARTS in with SF bay area BART, and local ESTA. This could connect June Lake to the SF bay area!

The BOS has directed Tony Dublino to come up with a facilities plan for the Conway Ranch. In the coming months he will be conducting public meetings in order to get ideas for what this should look like.

Thank goodness the June Lake street project is completed. Tim has heard that the program that funded it has gone into the red and that future projects, including the airport road realignment, have been canceled or put on hold.

Update on USFS burn piles (Ann Tozier):

Ann received a call from Andrew Weinhart of the USFS regarding the burn piles down canyon, and our concerns regarding them. She learned that they allow the piles to dry for a year or two to minimize the smoke, and then burn them when there is moderate snowpack present. Ideally they might even burn them during a snowstorm. They check in with the Great Basin Air Quality Board first to make sure wind and air conditions favor burning. As far as wood retrieval from the piles, he said the area is too environmentally sensitive to allow folks to tramp around gathering the wood, especially with the stream there. Also, when they do that they break apart the piles they paid to have created for the burn. As far as trail disruption, they tried not to disrupt any trails, but some of the non-system trails did get covered as they raked to help encourage aspen regrowth. A few large aspens were cut because either they were dead or they were in the way of other areas that needed to be cleared. He emphasized that the area was very constraining for the large equipment they needed to use. He may be contacted by email at:

aweinhart@fs.fed.us

Margie Wood (?) from the USFS was present and said the fuels reduction is challenging. She mentioned aspen enhancement as a goal. She said the do try to notify the public of the burns, but it is difficult because sometimes they don't know they will be able to burn until the morning of the burn. Rob and Bob commented on the risk to the community if we don't burn the piles. Al brought up how the Fire Safety Council has been bugging the USFS to do the clearing; it is what they see as necessary.

Skate Park (Jeff Ronci): (Jeff worked for the Palm Desert Park and Recreation Department)

In September a group of June Lake kids brought up their desire for a skateboard park in JL. In October they presented a petition in favor of this, with many signatures on it. Skate parks are an athletic facility, usually concrete, landscaped and diverse depending upon the community. One in JL could showcase our outdoor recreation. 13 million people ride at parks each year, usually between 5 and 24 years old. 16% of that age group rides skateboards, and skateboarding has surpassed baseball in participation. Jeff showed a PowerPoint presentation and excerpts are included here.

Mono County population is about 14,202, with 20% under the age of 18. Where do they skate now? Vacant lots, parking lots, sidewalks, etc. Safety is increased when they don't skate in the streets, but in skate parks.

What size is needed? Jeff had a calculation that came up with 19,000 square feet, but that is probably much larger than JL needs. You can build one any size. Larger parks are safer and serve more people; smaller parks obviously cost less. The ballpark is isolate, so the ideal would be where the JL community park is near Gull Lake, but there is not enough room. The cost for just the park is about \$50/sq. ft. and that comes to \$950,000. 40% of the cost is in the infrastructure (parking, lights, restrooms, etc.).

How do you pay for this? Land donation, grants (government and private), fundraising, etc.

In Palm Desert they had cards to get into the park. Jeff thinks 8-12,000 sq. ft. would be big enough for our community. First they need to identify a location. Tim Alpers suggested that Jeff initiate a community action to create a County Service Area (CSA). This will help get money. He should meet

with the county to find out how CSA have been successful, and to find out about other possible funding sources.

Review of Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEV) (Courtney Weiche): Courtney had a hand out from the Local Transportation Commission regarding ZEV. The hand out had on it a stated goal to “Promote the Highway 395 scenic corridor as a ZEV-friendly highway.” They have an objective to “facilitate ZEV fueling infrastructure along Scenic Hwy 395 within Mono County communities to promote corridor and community visitation, protect the environment and comply with national and state policy.” Apparently the Tesla Company has its own charging stations, which they sometimes install for free. The county is responding to an assembly bill on this issue.

Report of Development Activities in June Lake (Courtney):

There is a grant to look at removing some of the dead trees on June Mountain. Also, there are a couple of remodels in town.

There is a meeting next Thursday February 11 at 10 am with the BOS and Planning Commission to review the status of the TROD concept. It will be in the Mammoth Lakes BOS conference room, with video attendance available in Bridgeport. There will be no action taken, and the purpose is just to check in to see how the process is going, and to have a discussion over how successful the TROD chapters have been up to now. Folks on their email list, due to prior involvement, will be notified of the meeting by email. Any changes proposed will be brought back to the CAC. Public comment will be accepted at this meeting, and it will be streamed on the Internet.

Next regular meeting of the CAC will be on March 1st.

Possible agenda items are: Community Garden, Skate Park update, TROD meeting update

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm.

CAC Minutes were taken and drafted by Ann Tozier.