

June Lake Citizens Advisory Committee

July 5, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Committee member attendees were Ann Tozier, Jeff Ronci, Patti Heinrich, Julie Brown and Jora Fogg. Bob Gardner was also in attendance.

Agenda Items:

Public Comment:

Al Heinrich gave a June Lake Fire Safe Council report. Chipper weekend this year is a "Chipper Day" on July 15th at the south June Lake junction from 7 am to 3 pm, starting earlier than usual. Free dump tickets will be available. The county needs chipped wood for their biofuel project. The Defensible Space Grant, which reimburses 75% of the cost for tree removal on private land, ends in May of 2018, but they will stop offering it in October or November in order to have time to complete paperwork.

Dennis Lindsay reminded the council that the library windows leak water, which doesn't mix well with books. He asked whom to contact about getting them fixed, as the building belongs to the county. Bob Gardner said he is working on getting this addressed.

Review of Minutes: The June minutes were approved.

Board of Supervisors Report (Bob Gardner):

[Please see the text of Bob's report at the end of these minutes.]

In regards to Bob's comments on bears (see text), Jil Stark asked how we might get bear safety signage like they have in Mammoth.

Chairperson/Members Reports:

Patti Heinrich – The June Lake Historical Society meets tomorrow at 6:30. At next month's meeting Bill Bramlette from the Benton Hot Springs will give a talk.

Jora Fogg – There is a June Lake Trails Committee meeting tomorrow at the Double Eagle at 9 am, and a workshop for the June Lake Down Canyon Trail concept on July 15, 9 am-noon, at the JL Community Center [and another one on August 22, 6-9 pm].

Julie Brown - The June Lake Triathlon is this Saturday. Registration will be on Friday at the JL Community Center, and Saturday there will be event parking and shuttle service from the June Mountain parking lot. June Mountain is still on track for fuel reduction on the mountain. She will have more details in the future.

Ann Tozier – (no comments)

Jeff Ronci – (no comments)

June Lake Trails (Gerry Le Francois):

Gerry has been working with the June Lake Trails Committee on trails, including the concept of a Down Canyon Trail. Maps of the “concept” were handed out.

[Maps can be viewed on the Mono County website at:]

<https://www.monocounty.ca.gov/rpac-june-lake/page/june-lake-trails-committee>

Notices about the Down Canyon Trail meetings were sent out to about 2,000 property owners. Workshop meetings will be held on July 15 and August 22. The meetings will include a survey. The maps show trails that exist Down Canyon, but that are not permitted. The Trails Committee is seeking community input on the possible route for a permitted trail, by using some of these unofficial trails. This is not technically a “project” yet, and community support is needed to move forward. As far as funding for the trail, the state has some pots of money for non-motorized trails that could be applied for. Maintenance will be another cost. The committee will be seeking support from the Board of Supervisors to help with funding. The gas tax has been increased in California, and hopefully this will help increase potential funding as well. Parking considerations need to be addressed, and existing parking, such as at the Fern Trailhead, provides some options. Who will be served by the trail, such as bicyclists, is up for discussion. First there must be support, then details to be fleshed out. Perhaps someone could be hired for the trail design as early as next year, followed by at least a couple of years to build the trail. Community support is determined by the consensus perceived at the meetings, as well as public response (positive or negative) at the BOS meetings. It is believed that the Double Eagle has been 100% behind such a trail, but Gerry will be checking with them again.

Cannabis/Marijuana Land Use Regulation (Michael Draper and Wendy Sugimura):

The County is going to all of the communities in Mono County to inform them and get their input regarding land use regulation of marijuana-related activities in the county, due to the passage of CA Proposition 64. Prop 64 passed in California by 56.4%, and in Mono County by 61.6%, where it passed in every precinct. We are now left with three options; use the state regulations, enact a complete county ban, or draft our own controls in the form of county regulations. Right now the County is in the planning process and needs to develop their plan by January 1, when the proposition goes into effect. The goal is to develop and adopt land use policies and regulation standards, for our county.

Tonight the presentation addresses land use regulation, including personal and commercial cultivation. Should the county regulate these operations? Where can marijuana plants be grown, indoor and/or outdoor? In regard to commercial cultivation should the county add more regulation or less regulation (than the state), and/or the requirement for a use permit? The county staff at this time supports the concept of a use permit requirement in addition to any other regulations. Requiring use permits would allow for public comment on any applications. One note, if a local license is denied then the state will also deny its license.

Personal cultivation considerations include indoor vs. outdoor growing (animal consumption and non-native plant concerns were brought up), location, ventilation/odor, security features, maximum growing area, screening/visuals, property line setbacks, and details addressed by building codes. Commercial considerations cover retail, manufacturing,

testing and cultivation aspects. Mammoth town is separate from the county, in this process, but according to Bob Gardner the county plans to collaborate with them. As of the moment, Mammoth is planning on banning outdoor plants. Because they are a town, they are mostly dealing with retail and manufacturing/testing. If we only go by the state regulations, there will be no land use regulations, as they have none. Potential relevant land use designations might include commercial, service commercial, industrial & industrial park, agriculture and/or mixed-use.

Proposition 64 includes rules about growing within a certain distance from schools and parks, hours of operation, and security requirements. Within our county we can choose to expand on these rules, for example in June Lake we could choose to prohibit any growing within 600 or 1000 feet of our park, an increase in the distance regulation. The state regulations also include identification of water sources for commercial cultivation, and state that no large scale growing can occur until 2023. Cultivation will remain illegal on federal land. In June Lake there is some commercial property in the Village, as well as Down Canyon.

Get your opinions heard. On July 19 the Mono County Planning Commission will be discussing this issue, and on August 1 there is a BOS workshop on it.

Report of Planning Activities: (there were none)

One note: Paul McFarland has left the County as an employee.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:13 pm

Minutes taken by Ann Tozier

June Lake CAC BOS Report (Bob Gardner) July 5, 2017

- **The June Lake free summer shuttle bus started last Saturday.** I appreciate the strong support of the community for this effort. The free shuttle will start July 1 daily, and run through Sunday August 13, then weekends through September 4.

- You may have heard that all the passes are open at this point. There are limited services in Tuolumne Meadows and still plenty of snow around, but the traffic is moving through the park quite well at this point.
- I am still working with SCE on the **blinking streetlights** in the Village.
- Thanks to Ann Tozier and other volunteers for their money and labor for the continued work on the **status of roads in the Clark and Petersen Tracts**. We will keep everyone informed on possible solutions for improving our roads in these areas.
- We had a successful community meeting on June 19 with SCE staff and other agency representatives on the **status of the three SCE dams in the Rush Creek area**, and the expected runoff. While the runoff has peaked, we expect there to be high flows for the next few weeks.
- I missed the **Trails Day June 24**, but I heard it was a great success, with about 40 participants who got much work done on three different trails in June Lake. Thanks to FOI and all the volunteers who came to this event!
- We continue to have **bear problems** in the community. I want to remind everyone, and encourage you to remind your friends and neighbors, to keep all garbage containers either inside, or make sure they are bear-proof. The Sheriff will respond to reported bear intrusions or other problems, but cannot provide patrols to prevent bear problems in the community. California Fish and Wildlife will also respond when requested. We will be holding a meeting the last week in July to provide information for residents on bears and how to protect our homes.
- Congrats to the Women's Club and the many volunteers who put on the first **June Lake 4th of July Celebration** yesterday. It was a wonderful day with a good crowd and lots of fun!
- Finally, I know we all experienced **large crowds over the July 4 holiday**. This will probably continue. I ask that we remember to be patient with tourists as they visit our region. They are important to our economy and need to be welcomed and treated well. I am aware there were some parking problems around the loop and elsewhere. Our visitors must be responsible and obey our laws and regulations, but we must be courteous and polite as we interact with tourists and deal with occasional problems. Remember one encounter may be the first and only impression we leave with a visitor. None of us want a nasty write-up on Trip Advisor or some other social media website that unfairly defines our community. Thanks in advance for your consideration on this.