

June Lake Citizens Advisory Committee

March 7, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm. Committee member attendees were Ann Tozier, Jeff Ronci, Patti Heinrich, Lindsey Chargin (new), John DeCoster (new), Jamie Schectman (new), Julie Brown, and Dave Rosky. Bob Gardner was unable to attend.

Agenda Items:

Public Comment:

Wendy Sugimura: Bob Gardner was unable to make the meeting due to a flight cancellation.

Patti Heinrich: Friday night the Little Loopers will be having a fundraiser dinner at the JL Community Center. Happy hour starts at 5:30, with dinner from 6-7. Also, on Saturday night, the 17th, the JL Loop Women's Club will be having a St. Patrick's fundraiser dinner, with happy hour at 5:30 and dinner starting at 6.

John DeCoster: John noticed SCE fixing the lights in the village, so the flickering lights may be fixed.

The CAC welcomed three new members; Lindsey Chargin, John DeCoster and Jamie Schectman.

Nomination and Election of Chair: Patti Heinrich nominated Jeff Ronci to be chair again for the coming year. There were no other nominations and the vote to approve was unanimous.

Nomination and Election of Vice-Chair and Secretary: Ann commented that she did not wish to be re-nominated for secretary, due to her hearing issues, and with lack of any microphone system at the meetings. In addition, Patti Heinrich commented that she will be retiring from the CAC, so is not available for nomination. In response, Patti nominated Ann Tozier to be Vice-Chair for the coming year, and Jamie nominated Lindsey Chargin for the position of Secretary. There were no other nominations and the votes were unanimous.

Review of Minutes: Both the February 2018 and December 2017 minutes were approved.

Board of Supervisors Report (Bob Gardner): Bob was unable to attend.

Chairperson/Members Reports:

Jeff Ronci: Jeff, who owns the Whispering Pines Motel, complained about a legal Clark Tract TROD renter using his motel for parking, due to poor road conditions. This started a discussion of parking and rentals in that tract. Jamie Schectman, who also lives in the Clark Tract, discussed how winter renters of a house across from him have occasionally over parked the street. This initiated a discussion of short rentals and violations.

Dave Rosky: Dave continued the discussion of parking issues by saying he noticed people using the June Mountain parking lot for camping, and wondered if that was legal. Julie Brown clarified that it was not legal, and that the Mountain is planning to post signs stating as such, this summer. People are told by locals that it is ok to camp or park there overnight, and it is not.

Julie Brown: June Mountain had a very busy weekend. Julie apologized for all of the illegal parking that occurred on Highway 158, over the weekend. An avalanche closed Mammoth Mountain one

day, and everyone came over to June to ski. She noted that Mammoth Mountain handled the avalanche episode “by the book” and is currently engaged in staff debriefings.

Ann Tozier: Nothing to add.

Patti Heinrich: No comment.

John DeCoster: Returning to the discussion of rentals and enforcement, he suggested that perhaps talking directly to renters, before calling code enforcement, might be the preferable approach.

Lindsey Chargin: No comment.

Jamie Schectman: Jamie wondered if there is any commercial recycling in June Lake. Patti said there is a small glass and plastic recycle bin at the Community Center, and that someone had requested a cardboard bin but never got one. Jamie would like to see a committee formed to work on this. Ann Tozier volunteered to help him. It was requested to be on the next CAC agenda.

Input on Unmet Transit Needs (Wendy Sugimura and John Helm):

Each year the Eastern Sierra Transit Authority (ESTA) must seek public input on unmet transit needs, so John Helm attends County RPAC meetings annually to reach out to residents. People may feel frustrated by an apparent lack of response to requests, however this can be a result of limited funds, and the requirement for the need to be “reasonable to meet.” Handouts were provided of County Resolution 98-01, addressing the definition of “reasonable to meet,” and a “Summary and Analysis of Public Transit Requests for Fiscal Year 2017-18” (included at the end of the minutes). It was noted that there is some funding available beyond “unmet needs.”

Currently there is transportation between Lancaster and Reno five days a week, Monday through Friday. In the winter there is a shuttle from Mammoth to June Mountain early in the morning, and one returning JL to Mammoth in the evening, primarily with the intent to transport June Mountain employees. Due to the early timing of this shuttle, it is better suited for skiers wanting to travel to Mammoth Mountain, rather than for those in Mammoth to come to June. It would be possible to add shuttles if there was enough ridership. Medical services shuttles have been growing.

As of the moment, the fate of the June Lake summer shuttle is undetermined, and will be a spring agenda item for them. As a free service last summer it was still marginally successful, ridership up from 6 people per day to 14. It was stated that Bob Gardner plans to talk to the JL businesses this year about subsidizing the shuttle service again, so that it can remain free if it gets scheduled. Complaints were made about the shuttle not meeting its times as scheduled. John did acknowledge that one sign had a schedule typo. There were queries as to how the notification of the shuttle was accomplished; did the campgrounds know, could it be called for pick up, did the hotels advertise it? Apparently the JL Thrift Store had no signs or schedules for the summer shuttle. Jeff said the Whispering Pines did have flyers about the shuttle in their rooms. The shuttle, if it happens this summer, will run July 1 through Labor Day. There was a request to extend it one more week in order to service the June Lake Jam Fest, which can attract around 700 people.

Report of Planning Activities (Wendy Sugimura):

On March 13 Wendy Sugimura will be at the BOS to give a workshop on the Short-Term Rental (STR) process and proposed policies. (Please refer to the BOS agenda for that date.) The meeting will be in Bridgeport, with an alternate attendance site in Mammoth. Following that, on March 22 starting at 10 am, the General Plan Amendment proposals will go before the Planning Commission. Then on April 3 those General Plan amendment proposals will go before the BOS, if the Planning Commission decides upon their recommendations on March 22. These amendments

include policy for STR and Cannabis regulations. The BOS will probably continue the April 3 hearing to April 10, and may make a decision then, or will continue the hearing as needed until a final decision can be reached. Planning Commission agenda items are backing up, so a special Planning Commission meeting has been scheduled for April 5 to hear use permit applications (including for the June Lake Motel).

Meeting was adjourned at 7:29 pm. Next meeting will be on April 4 at 6 pm.

Minutes taken by Ann Tozier

SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC TRANSIT REQUESTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-18

QUALIFYING UNMET NEEDS

	Request	Unmet Need	Reasonable to Meet/Explanation	Costs/Actions/Solutions
1.	Provide transportation between Mammoth and June.	This is a request for a service expansion, and could be for obtaining necessities of life. It could qualify as an unmet need	Anticipated spotty and low ridership would likely make this route economically infeasible and unable to demonstrate cost effectiveness.	An existing route between Reno, NV and Lone Pine, CA makes stops in both Mammoth and at June Lake Junction. The route runs on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. An employee shuttle operates between Mammoth and June Lake during the winter months and is available to the public.
2.	Provide transportation to intermediate points such as Convict Lake, McGee Creek.	This is a request for a service expansion, and could be for obtaining necessities of life. It could qualify as an unmet need.	Anticipated spotty and low ridership would likely make this route economically infeasible and unable to demonstrate cost effectiveness.	The Mammoth Express route does stop in Crowley Lake that could be utilized. In addition with advance notice or request to the driver, the route will stop at the intersection of 395 and Convict Lake Road and McGee Creek Road. There are private services (e.g., taxis) in the area that can provide further service.
3.	Provide transportation from Bridgeport and Lee Vining to Mammoth Lakes for youth to recreate.	This is a request for a service expansion, and could be for obtaining necessities of life. It could qualify as an unmet need	Anticipated spotty and low ridership would likely make this route economically infeasible and unable to demonstrate cost effectiveness.	Monitor transit demand and needs within the communities of Bridgeport and Lee Vining through annual RPAC meeting outreach.
4.	Provide transportation services on Fridays in Walker, CA for seniors to attend the community lunch and social	This is a request for a service expansion, and could be for obtaining necessities of life. It could qualify as an unmet need	Overall the Walker service is not reasonable to meet as it does not meet the 10% farebox requirement. If the service is to continue there are two possible options for adding Friday service: Option 1 – add eight (8) hour of dial-a-ride service on Fridays. Option 2 - reducing the dial-a-ride service from eight (8) hours per day Monday-Thursday to 7 hours per day and add seven (7) hours of service on Friday.	Option 1: The cost of adding eight (8) hours for dial-a-ride service on Fridays would be \$18,000 for FY 17/18. Option 2 would be to reduce the dial-a-ride hours to seven (7) hours per day Monday through Friday. This would net three hours of additional service per week at a cost of \$9,000 for the year.
5.	Provide transportation between Bishop and Mammoth on weekends.	This is a request for a service expansion, and could be for obtaining necessities of life. It could qualify as an unmet need.	When Saturday service between Bishop and Mammoth was eliminated several years ago, it was not economically effective due to low ridership.	A rough cost estimate to add two round trips per day on Saturday and Sunday between Bishop and Mammoth would be \$47,000/year, estimating that the farebox would be 16% (same as weekday service).

NOT CONSIDERED TO BE AN UNMET NEED

Request	Unmet Need	Reasonable to Meet/Explanation	Costs/Actions/Solutions
<p>6. A comment was received that there is concern over having to raise a total of \$2,500 to cover 10% of operating cost plus \$400 of expected fare revenue of the Summer Shuttle service</p>	<p>This was a concern, not requests for services, and therefore are not unmet needs.</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Supervisor Gardner was present at the meeting and offered his service in approaching the June Lake Chamber of Commerce and Women's Club for financial assistance. The Summer Shuttle was run last year but ridership and fares did not warrant continuation of the route. A proposal was put to the community for operating the service in 2017 if the community would provide 10% of the operating cost plus \$400 for expected fare, since the service is free. The goal is to reduce the total subsidy such that ESTA could operate the service as a free shuttle to truly gauge demand.</p>
<p>7. A question was asked whether paper schedules and information was available in Town. Staff indicated that paper schedules were discouraged by the public in the past when the stop moved from the General Store to the park.</p>	<p>This was a question on a route information, and therefore not an unmet need.</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Although it is worthwhile to note paper copies of transit information is posted in Bridgeport businesses.</p>
<p>8. A question was asked if the local (June Lake) dial-a-ride functioned well.</p>	<p>This was a question of an established service, and therefore not an unmet need.</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Staff indicated that it was on-par with other like systems, averaged 1.6 passenger trips per hour, and the service subsidy per hour is greater than the minimum goal.</p>
<p>9. A request was made to expand services in Mammoth Lakes into the evenings to provide transportation to those without vehicles.</p>	<p>This is not considered an unmet need.</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>This service had been offered in the past and received no use. Mammoth Lakes' free trolley service already provides evening service. Eastern Sierra Transit Authority will continue its outreach to educate the general public on existing services.</p>
<p>10. Some of the issue (i.e. Mammoth to June) is education, if more people had better awareness of the existing services, they would express less of an 'unmet need'.</p>	<p>This comment does not affect the availability of transit; therefore, this is not considered an unmet need.</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Staff continually makes an effort to provide information to the public with fliers, radio broadcasts, schedule postings, and updates to relevant websites.</p>