

Long Valley Regional Planning Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 23, 2012, 6:30p.m., Crowley Lake Community Center

Members Present: Lee Scotese, Ron Day, Pat Agnitch, Pete DeGeorge, Haislip Hayes

Presenters and County Staff: Hap Hazard, Board of Supervisors; Scott Burns, Community Development Director; Courtney Weiche, Associate Planner; Nate Greenberg, Digital 395 Project Manager; Kim McCarthy, President, Community Service Area #1

1. The Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lee Scotese at 6:30p.m.
2. Minutes from the April 4, 2012 meeting were reviewed/approved.
3. RPAC Members Report
 - Fred Stump has resigned from the RPAC due to his candidacy for the Board of Supervisors.
 - Haislip Hayes, new RPAC member was introduced.
4. Supervisor Update
 - Supervisor Hazard reported that a Rattlesnake Aversion workshop is being held on June 14th, taught by instructor Judy Beard. The cost is \$75/dog for a 15-minute session that apparently is very effective. Member Agnitch mentioned that snake bite shots are also offered by the local veterinarians as a preventative measure.
 - Highway 120 E is undergoing road work and is now closed. It will re-open on May 25 with lane restrictions.
 - Highway 395 at Topaz Lake is also undergoing road modifications, with closures each night. There will be daytime traffic delays.
 - Community members should soon be receiving an invoice for FY 2011/12 SRA fees, which will range from \$115-\$150 per dwelling. Residents have 30 days to pay or contest the fee, otherwise it will be considered delinquent and a lien can be placed upon one's home. An invoice for FY 2012/13 fees will also be mailed this year.
 - An ordinance will soon be implemented regarding graffiti removal. The County will be able to remove the graffiti and then bill the property owner if they are not responsive to removing the graffiti when reported.
5. Public Comment:
 - Kim McCarthy, President of CSA #1 distributed a 10-year plan of the organization's proposed projects. At the June RPAC meeting, the list will be formally introduced and discussed.
 - Kim indicated that the CSA #1 has been approached by a community member asking for picnic tables and BBQ's at the athletic field. A concern regarding trash removal and possible fire hazards was voiced. Ms. McCarthy indicated that a request for a drinking fountain was also received and that the CSA is working with the County on this CSA-funded project.
 - Kim also reported that the Little League program will not use the Crowley Lake athletic field due to the composition of the infield as it is not a clay surface. Supervisor Hazard indicated that the current infield was installed based upon Little League's specifications requested years ago. County staff requests that all improvements should be submitted at the same time for consideration, as opposed to being submitted individually.
 - RPAC member Hayes asked if there was a Park Master Plan.

6. Digital 395 and Eastern Sierra Connect Update

- Nate Greenberg, Digital 395 Project Manager, described the project and its challenges. The project spans California and Nevada. Verizon applied for and received a grant earlier this month from the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) to help fund broadband service to Crowley Lake and Swall Meadows. CASF now has new guidelines referring to broadband speed, however, Verizon will be installing the broadband based upon the older guidelines which will leave Crowley and Swall underserved. It is hoped that the project will begin in early July in California and mid-June in Nevada. The contractor, Praxis, would like to have conduit in the ground before the snow arrives.
- Member Ron Day shared information regarding the Eastern Sierra Connect group. A meeting was held recently in Palmdale with 50 people in attendance, all vying for a portion of the \$225 million in funding available for the Digital 395 "last mile". The counties of Kern, Inyo and Mono are involved. Ron indicated that the under-served and unserved (dial-up) communities are priorities. If funding is received, a property manager will be hired to manage the "last mile" projects. Ron mentioned that the County and Nate are being very pro-active.
- It was mentioned that CSA's may be a funding option for the "last mile". Kim questioned how a CSA could be involved and the potential cost.
- The County's goal is to provide the cheapest internet service possible to the community.

7. Workshop on Planning Concepts and Policies

- Scott Burns, Community Development Director, summarized the group's discussion from previous months regarding the Specific Plan, residential guidelines and landscaping options.
- Courtney Weiche, Associate Planner, provided a large-scale map of the Long Valley area and there was extensive discussion regarding housing density. Courtney also provided a description of how density is measured, and density examples of other communities as a comparison.
- Staff was requested to email maps with an overlay to the members or to place it on the website for review.
- The need for a workshop to be held in the future to review land use designations and development patterns with the community was also discussed.

8. Additional Information Items

- Courtney reported that a Planning permit will soon be issued for the cell tower project. Signatures are needed from DWP and construction is still slated for mid-July, with completion by mid-September. There is also a variance issue to be addressed.
- Scott reported that staff received a \$326,000 grant to update the General Plan.
- CalTrans is working on a feasibility study at Lower Rock Creek (frontage road) to improve the intersection at Tom's Place.

9. Next Meeting: **Wednesday, June 27, 2012**

10. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 8:40p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Pat Agnitch