

## **June Lake Citizens Advisory Committee**

### **Meeting Minutes - June 2, 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Patti Heinrich. Committee member attendees included Ann Tozier, Jil Stark, Don Morton, Jeff Ronci, Patti Heinrich, Carl Williams, John Logue, Connie Black and Bob Gardner.

Tim Alpers was also present.

May 5, 2015 minutes - Ann brought up one correction to Joe Blommer's public comment. Jil moved to adopt them with the one correction, Patti seconded the motion passed with one correction.

#### **Public Comment:**

**Joe Blommer (Caltrans)** updated everyone on the Mono Lake Rock Fall Project on Highway 395. The pass through speed was increased to 35 mph after it was determined that most drivers go 35, not 25. That will result in a 30-40 second delay at most. There has been a problem with bicyclists not pushing the button at the signal. The button causes a longer delay between green and red to allow for their slower travel rate. They have put up better signage to address that. There were a few recent traffic signal issues but they have been resolved. They are discussing the July 4th weekend, as traffic is expected to be heavier. So far the contractor is ahead of schedule which is really nice.

**Ann Tozier** referenced the recent TROD (Transient Rental Overlay District) applications in the Clark Tract down canyon, and asked that there be a CAC agenda item so the county could bring information to residents and home owners, and people could in return ask questions and express concerns.

**Ian Fettes**, Clark Tract resident and one of the TROD applicants, presented his feelings and frustrations over the TROD process. He mentioned that the county may want to give more teeth to Chapter 26, the section that deals with regulatory enforcement once a TROD is in place. He feels there are 3 groups of people in regards to opinions about TROD applications; indifferent or supportive, against a specific application because of their history of issues [with them as illegal rentals], and those against them philosophically. (Note: his TROD application was vetoed 4 to 1 by the planning commission)

**Jil Stark** reminded everyone that Chipper Day is Saturday/Sunday July 18+19th, from 10 am-4 pm.

**Patti Heinrich** made some announcements:

June 11th is the June Lake Music Festival fundraiser spaghetti dinner. There will be live music and the dinner costs \$10. It will be at the JL Community Center. The music festival is July 24-26th.

June 18th is the Ladies with Altitude fundraiser for the June Lake Women's Club. The lunch will be up at the June Mountain chalet, and is by RSVP only. The cost is \$15 for members, and \$25 for non-members.

June 21st is the one year anniversary of the June Lake Brewery, and there will be a celebratory party at the brewery from noon-7 pm.

## **Agenda Items:**

**Supervisor Tim Alpers' report:** Mono County CAO Jim Leddy has left to work for Sonoma County. Mono County has retained a head hunter service to find candidates for his position. The county is also seeking an HR director.

The special BOS meeting in Lee Vining last month resulted in 160 different project suggestions. They have started a process to prioritize the projects, and to match the projects to their budget. On July 16th, in the evening, at the June Lake Community Center there will be a budget presentation. By then they should have an idea of the projects they want to take on.

The general budget is being stressed in spite of increased TOT take (up 7% per Alicia Vennos).

June 10-11 the California Fish and Game Commission will meet at Mammoth Mountain main lodge. One issue on the agenda is statewide bobcat trapping. There is local fears that if both Inyo and Mono counties do not receive a temporary ban on the trapping that there would be local decimation of the bobcat populations. The animals are highly coveted for their pelts.

BOS meetings are now streaming online.

Tim is going to talk about local fisheries/fishing during public comment at the Cal Fish and Game Commission meeting. We are spending \$138,000 and Mammoth town \$70,000 on trophy trout.

**June Lake Trails Committee update (Jil Stark):** More than \$1 million is being spent on maintenance of the Rush Creek Trail this summer.

Non-system [illegal] trails are being built in June Lake. It is a misdemeanor to do so. These trails bypass the NEPA process. They can result in up to a \$5,000 fine and 6 months in jail. The newly constructed June Lake trail [at the end where the cabins are] is going to be obliterated by the USFS. The one enhanced from the Snow Ponds down to Rush Creek by the Silver Lake Campground is not built properly and will be subject to erosion by water runoff.

June 27th is the June Lake Trails Day from 8:30 to 1:00. Meet at the JL Community Center. After the work there will be lunch and a raffle with prizes, including a winter pass for June Mountain. They will be working on the JL Triathlon running trail, Fern/Yost trails, Gull Lake trail and placement of signage for the approved Reversed Peak Trail.

Jil would like everyone to look at the fire road between the town and June Mountain as a possible candidate for the start of a down canyon trail. The road was built for firefighting access during last summer's fire at the base of June Mountain.

She wanted to respond to comments made at the last meeting that compared the JL Trails Committee's seemingly inadequate approach to fundraising for trails to what Mammoth has done building their trails. Jil stated that Mammoth has not built one new trail in decades, in spite of their measures and town taxes that provide \$300,000 allocated to trails. She wondered if the town could run the local campgrounds for money.

She also reiterated that there are citizens who do not want trails by their homes, something that needs to be discussed by the community. Also, that the number one desire that comes up at meetings is for a Down Canyon Trail. She feels that this should be on the CAC agenda, or discussed at a special town meeting.

Al Heinrich interjected that Cal Fire will conduct initial inspections of potential fuel reduction areas at the end of June.

**Review June Lake Area Plan (Courtney Weiche):** The CAC went through a remaining portion of the JL Area Plan. Patti Heinrich commented that there are some homeowners in the Village area who are concerned about Crawford Street being a possible business connector road. Don Morton, on the other hand, feels there needs to be a business option for growth. Courtney added that by leaving such items in the JL Area Plan it provides options, but that the county would not initiate action on such items unless the community asked them to. There were some notes made on the area plan for Courtney to take back to Wendy Sugimura, who was not able to attend the meeting.

**Report of Development Activities in June Lake (Courtney Weiche):** There was denial of a TROD application in the Clark Tract [mentioned earlier] by the Mono County Planning Commission. Reapplication will probably happen, and more notice will be given.

Ohanas 395 has applied for a year round, permanent use permit, next to the JL Brewery. It will be publicized in the local papers, and go before the Planning Commission.

**Next regular meeting of the CAC will be on July 7th:**

Possible agenda items will be the June Lake Area Plan and an informational workshop on TROD.

Possible August agenda items could be discussion from the JL PUD and JL trails.

Carl Willams was asked about the status of June Mountain for public summer activities. They will be open Thursdays through Mondays for lunch starting June 19th, and going through Labor Day. The lift will operate from 10 am to 3 pm, and lunch will be available from 11:30 am to 2 pm. There may be some Saturday closures due to weddings.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 pm

*CAC Minutes were taken by Ann Tozier*