

Long Valley Regional Planning Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 27, 2012, 6:30p.m., Crowley Lake Community Center

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

Presenters and County Staff: Hap Hazard, Board of Supervisors; Scott Burns, Community Development Director; Heather deBethizy, Associate Planner; Courtney Weiche, Associate Planner; Kim McCarthy, President, Community Service Area #1

1. The Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lee Scotese at 6:40p.m.
2. Minutes from the May 23, 2012 meeting were reviewed/approved.
3. RPAC Members Report
 - Ron Day reported on the status of the Digital 395 project. Eastern Sierra Connect and Mono County have sent letters to Verizon Wireless stressing the need to add the town of Paradise to the project and to drop the 3 year timeline to re-evaluate/upgrade broadband service once installed as the communities of Crowley Lake and Swall Meadows will be under-served based upon Verizon's guidelines. The bid from Praxis sub-contractor, Discovery Corp, was twice the cost than projected, so Praxis is negotiating with them regarding price. The Forest Service permit requires a 50-day hold on construction to allow for public comment. In the meantime, the Bridgeport portion of the project will begin on July 9, with full-scale construction on the project underway in mid to late July.
 - Soon-to-be RPAC member, Johnny Goetz, was in the audience and encouraged to offer contributions to the evening's discussion, similar to any other community member in the audience.
4. Supervisor Update
 - Supervisor Hazard commented on the Digital 395 project and indicated that Praxis cannot trench next to Forest Service land and will need a permit which involves the 50-day hold.
 - The State budget was approved by the Senate and the Assembly; Governor Brown is expected to sign the budget this evening. There is a \$2.5 billion gap which might impact small county road departments. Hopefully Mono County will be exempt.
 - Supervisor Hazard reported that the Rattlesnake Aversion workshop was a success with 35 dogs trained. Another workshop may be offered in Bishop, taught by a different organization.
 - Highway 120 E is open; Highway 395 at Topaz Lake is undergoing road work with delays as long as 20 minutes.
 - A Formal Hearing regarding the Town of Mammoth Lakes bankruptcy filing will take place on July 12.
 - The Graffiti Removal Ordinance has its first reading at a recent Board of Supervisors meeting. The Ordinance was modified slightly and another first reading will take place soon.
5. Public Comment:
 - Courtney Weiche reported that two new applications for the Long Valley RPAC have been submitted for Board of Supervisor review.
6. Review of Proposed Mono County Service Area #1 Ten-Year Plan
 - CSA #1 President Kim McCarthy provided a brief background of the County Service Area, their structure, geographic boundaries and funding. The Board is comprised of 5 volunteer

community members and, although public input is routinely solicited, the group receives very little input from the community. CSA has successfully funded the construction of the Crowley Community Center and now that the project has been paid off, the Board has developed a Ten-Year Plan proposal for spending amassed funds. The proposed Plan includes 7 projects and 4 potential projects to occur in the next ten years.

- Projects in the Ten Year Plan include: Build a permanent Library adjacent to the Crowley Lake Community Center; install a Crowley Lake Community Garden; install a Crowley Lake Community Center sign; offer Community Wellness Classes to residents; Crowley Lake Ballfield enhancements; additional playground equipment for the Crowley Lake Park, and installation of a Skate Park for young children at the Crowley Lake Ballfield. Potential projects include: helping to fund the Digital 395 “Last Mile” for the Long Valley area; install solar panels at the CL Community Center and other public properties; upgrades to the new Library, and Agro tourism/Urban Farming using land from local agencies such as the Bureau of Land Management. Each project has a projected timeline.
 - Ms. McCarthy explained each of the proposed projects. She has met with the County Office of Education and Mono County Finance staff to discuss the building and funding of a permanent Library facility in Crowley Lake. The County Office of Education is not supportive of the project due to budgetary concerns and maintaining property on Mono County land (the Office of Education and Mono County are two different governmental entities). Mono County staff are against CSA obtaining a loan for the construction of the project, despite the CSA’s offer to obtain a Municipal Finance loan which occurred previously to construct the CL Community Center (now paid off).
 - A wooden sign will soon be installed at the CL Community Center. This sign is the result of several community members (D.K. Woodworks, Deb Preschutti) and the CSA working together.
 - Free Wellness Classes will be offered for adults and children.
 - Improvements to the CL Ballfield were explained. There was some confusion regarding the County’s request to consolidate planning efforts and Supervisor Hazard indicated that a Master Plan of the site is needed so that County staff can review all of the proposed improvements at one time. Construction could occur in phases. CSA would set aside maintenance funds for future needs.
 - A community survey regarding Ballfield improvements and the Ten Year Plan was suggested to encourage as much community feedback as possible.
 - CL Park play equipment was discussed, in addition to a Skate Park for young children at the CL Ballfield.
 - Ms. McCarthy asked for feedback from the RPAC
7. Highway 395 National Scenic Byway Designation Process in Mono County
- Heather deBethizy, Associate Planner, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the County’s efforts to have Highway #395 designated as a National Scenic Byway. Currently 395 is a State designated highway. Ms. deBethizy explained the benefits of a National designation and indicated that the County has received a grant to complete an application, and if approved, Federal funding will be provided to implement and promote the program. Ms. deBethizy indicated there are “no strings attached” to this grant. National designation focuses on unique features along the #395 corridor including natural, cultural, historic, and archeological and recreation aspects. Potential funding is available for infrastructure improvements such as bicycle lanes, landscaping, etc.

- This matter will return to the RPAC's for potential projects that may be included in the Plan.
8. Long Valley Area Plan Update
 - RPAC membership primarily represents the towns of Crowley Lake and Sunnyslopes. There was discussion about how to gather input for the Long Valley Area Plan from communities such as Aspen Springs, McGee Creek, etc. Scheduling RPAC meetings in these neighborhoods was discussed, as well as preparing a survey similar to the Mono Basin survey.
 - Detailed maps of Long Valley neighborhoods will be posted online for review.
 9. Information Items
 - Courtney reported that Planning and Building permits have been approved for the Cell Tower. Agreement signatures are still needed from DWP. Construction is slated for the end of July/early August and construction must conclude by September 15. Currently a biologist is onsite to monitor wildlife activity which fulfills the permit requirements. Verizon will be a cell service provider on the tower; however, T-Mobile has withdrawn their request.
 - A Building permit has been approved for a small home and garage on the Hastings property which is located south of the CalTrans service facility. Due to the adjacent wetlands, the structure will be built closer to the highway.
 - A building permit has been issued in Sunnyslopes to build a secondary unit on an 80 acre parcel which already has a structure. This enhancement shouldn't significantly impact the site lines of the neighborhood.
 - On July 10, a meeting will take place in June Lake with residents and Mammoth Mountain Ski Area CEO Rusty Gregory to discuss the impacts of the sudden closure of June Mountain for 2012-2013.
 10. Review Action Items
 - Long Valley Area Plan
 - Digital 395
 - Expansion of demographic composition of the Long Valley RPAC
 11. Next Meeting: **Wednesday, July 25, 2012**
 12. Adjournment
 - Meeting adjourned at 8:45p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Pat Agnitch

