

NORTH VALLEYS CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARD



Minutes of the regular meeting of the North Valleys Citizen Advisory Board held **July 11, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ DETERMINATION OF QUORUM - The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Teresa Aquila. A quorum was present with a delayed start. Members of the North Valleys CAB include Teresa Aquila, Wendy Leonard, and Roger Edwards. Absent: Derek Schoepf.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT –

Kathleen Egen provided a written public comment that recreational shooting ranges would provide a safe place for neighbors for target practice without starting fires.

Battalion Chief Jay Sweyak said 150 responses in North Valley. He said we had seen an increase in fire activity in the region. He said open burning will reopen in fall or spring. He said information is on the website for recreational burning. State and Federal lands have put a restriction on burning. He said a number of their personnel are out on wildland fires. They are deployed for 14 days. He said our prevention staff inspects businesses to ensure they are up to code with fire safety practices. www.tmfpd.us for more information.

Edwin Lengar, Washoe County District 5 candidate, introduced himself. He had a handout available. He said he wanted to talk about bi-partisanship. He said he grew up in Battle Mountain and served in the military. He said he went to a County Commission meeting and witnessed people saying not nice things to each other. He said the other candidates had endorsed him. He said he grew up shooting, but we must do it safely.

Carole Burns, Sun Valley CAB member, said their Chair saw a zoom recording talking about their CAB that she wanted to refute. She said a developer, Tedcore presented a proposal of 240 units on a 45-acre parcel on the undeveloped west side of Chocolate Drive. At one point, they asked him how much he paid for the land; he said he paid \$75000. She said we spoke with them after the meeting. One resident on Chocolate Drive was in attendance, and the developer called her the head of the 'shit-stirrers.' She said the CAB opposed the development, and Planning Commission opposed it. The County Commission approved it. We are being burdened by it. There is another development going in. They wanted the GID to pay for the improvements. In the master plan, it talks about traffic. Everyone comes through Sun Valley from Pyramid highway. She wants no right-hand turn on Highland Ranch, but the traffic engineer said it would worsen it.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETINGS OF May 9, 2022 and June 13, 2022 (For Possible Action)

Mr. Edwards commented said the minutes are a mess. They need the title 'Draft Minutes for Approval.' There should be separation. He said he could not vote for these.

MOTION: Wendy Leonard moved to approve the minutes of May 9 and June 13, 2022, with formatting improvements. Teresa Aquila seconded the motion with amendments. The motion moved two in favor, one opposed.

5. COUNTY MANAGER CHECK-IN – Washoe County Manager, Eric Brown, will be present to request feedback from the CAB and community members regarding the community-focused CAB format and the development meeting HUB interface. (Non-Action Item)

Mr. Edwards said Mr. Brown is a proactive manager.

Mr. Brown provided an update on the status of CABs.

Ms. Leonard responded to a public member's inquiry about becoming a CAB member. She said the CAB program is under the County Commissioners, and if you are interested, complete an application online, and the Commissioner could appoint public members for each district. This CAB has three open positions – one at-large and two alternates.

Mr. Leonard said the community loves to see Mr. Brown and representatives from the County attend these meetings. As citizens, we love participating in the process, but without anyone from the County here to interact, it doesn't go anywhere. She asked how we get things done more effectively. Mr. Brown said the Commissioner attends and agrees with priorities that the public wants. Alex, Marc, or Candee will take the discussion and pass on information to Mr. Brown about roads, sheriff, or waste management.

Mr. Edwards asked if the information goes to the other Commissioners. Mr. Brown said he will share it with them if it applies to beyond this specific district. There are some Commissioners who care about the County as a whole, but there are Commissioners who only focus on their district. Mr. Brown said traffic calming is shared with all Commissioner. We are addressing the issue with mitigation efforts and regular updates on what the County staff is doing. Mr. Edwards requested those updates. Mr. Brown said we are working on it; the goal is to provide Commissioners with quarterly updates. Some will involve County roads, City or Reno/Sparks, RTC, and NDOT. We are working on it. It depends on the issue. Mr. Edwards requested longer speaking time at BCC. Mr. Brown said speaking time is determined by NRS and the presiding Chair. Mr. Edwards said he was Chair of the Planning Commission and had the discretion to extend speaking time.

Ms. Leonard said we provide information but aren't getting information back. She said she would love to see information back and forth.

6. WASHOE COUNTY LEADERSHIP ACADEMY (WCLA) – Commissioner Support – Outreach Coordinator, Candee Ramos, to provide a presentation and general information on WCLA, including how to apply. (Non-Action Item)

Alexandra Wilson provide a PowerPoint presentation.

7. RENO AREA DIRT BIKE RIDERS – President/Founder, Mike Marcum, to provide information on this group and how they are good stewards for trail management and educating riders on proper riding areas/etiquette. (Non-Action Item)

Mike Marcum provided information regarding Golden Valley, Lemmon Valley, and Sun Valley community clean-ups. He spoke about single-track advocacy. He said he wanted them to know it's not the dirt bikers who are trashing the desert. He said he adopted the edge of the County along Peavine and Dog Valley. He said we improved the trails for snowmobiles, quads, and bikes. He said we are improving and preventing erosion. He said they will have completed 600 miles of trails when they are done. Chair Aquila asked how you are educating groups to ensure they follow the etiquette. Mr. Marcum said they build kiosks with information and by leading by example. He said we have put in 1000s of hours of work. He said they work with KTMB, Hells Angels, and Desert Pigs. Chair Aquila asked if the latitude and longitude coordinates are on the kiosks. Mr. Marcum said the trails are numbered, and most riders have GPS units.

Mr. Marcum said that is the first time that has been brought up. He encourages everyone to carry GPS and care flight insurance. He said everything needs to be approved to be on forest service land. Ms. Leonard suggested sharing the information with the search and rescue team. Mr. Marcum said he is working on a mapping project for official trails. He reported cleaning up a pile of tires. They spoke about trail cameras. He said a lot of trails had been developed on. He provided brochures.

8. SUBMISSION FOR TRAFFIC CALMING – CAB Member, Wendy Leonard, to propose submission of a traffic calming request for a radar sign to be posted along Golden Valley Rd. (For Possible Action)

Ms. Leonard noted at a previous CAB meeting that public members from Golden Valley requested traffic calming permanent radar signs on Golden Valley Road out by the high school in both directions for traffic calming and reducing accidents. She said she brought this to BCC.

Ms. Leonard said she would work with the public members in attendance to ensure she was submitting what they wanted. Mr. Edwards recommended it should be installed near every school and in new developments. Chair Aquila asked Ms. Leonard to provide the status of the process.

MOTION: Wendy Leonard moved to recommend a representative from Planning Department attend a future meeting to provide an update on traffic calming. Roger Edwards seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

9. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS — This item is limited to announcements and/or requests for future agenda items by CAB members and/or Commissioner Jeanne Herman (Non-Action Item)

Mr. Edwards said the Golden Valley is flooding as they overcharged the aquifer. The new development is bringing 35 more homes to the neighborhood, which will cause more problems. Dwayne Smith is not listening. Golden Valley is having an issue, and we aren't getting any County representation. He said he attended the BCC meeting. He said he hopes for change. Ms. Leonard said that when the County representatives spoke about this a few months ago, they said they haven't been recharging since 2016. Mr. Edwards said it was already recharged too much. 888-acre feet of water is put into the ground. He said the recharge level is rising even though they haven't done the recharge. It continues to recharge. Ms. Leonard requested Mr. Smith to come back. Mr. Edwards said they must shut off the charge and stop taking our \$13,000 a month.

Ms. Leonard thanked Mr. Brown for coming. She requested information and an update on decommissioning of the Lemmon valley wastewater plant, an update on grant funding for the stormwater work in Lemmon Valley, and an update on Silver Knolls Park. She said she brought this to the BCC a few weeks ago. Parks Department stopped watering that park due to the high cost of watering.

10. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT –

A Golden Valley resident said the Golden Valley Property Owner Association has been attempting to get the traffic calming sign. She said we had been told it's too expensive and the two signs in Lemmon Valley were stolen, and they don't want to take a chance, but we do. There is a new development going in with more kids crossing the street. We got cross-walk flashers installed. There is a recent traffic study proving our point. The RTC master plan includes a project in 2040 to widen O'Brien Pass coming into Golden Valley to four lanes. We have a traffic problem now. They told us it was not time yet. We need to be aware they are trying to funnel it through here. They are putting in a freeway between Disc and 395, so not sure why they are funneling it through here. She spoke about the cost of signal signs.

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.