



Spanish Springs Citizens Advisory Board

DRAFT: Approval of these draft minutes, or any changes to the draft minutes, will be reflected in writing in the next meeting minutes and/or in the minutes of any future meeting where changes to these minutes are approved by the CAB.

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Spanish Springs Citizen Advisory Board held May 14, 2014 at the Spanish Springs Library at (7100A Pyramid Lake Highway)

1. CALL TO ORDER/ DETERMINATION OF QUORUM - The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by David Espinosa, Chair. A quorum was present.

MEMBERS PRESENT – Dawn Costa-Guyon, At-Large arrived at 6:07 p.m., David Espinosa, At-Large, Chair, Catherine Gustavson, At-Large, David Schneck, At-Large Alternate sat in for Ken Theiss, Vice Chair and. James Scivally, At-Large

MEMBERS ABSENT - Ken Theiss, At-Large, excused and Charity Rosasco, At-Large Alternate,

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Makey Crandall, troop 511 led the salute to the Flag.

3. *PUBLIC COMMENT

- Dave Hansen, Scoutmaster introduced members of Scout Troop 511: Chandler Davis, Keaton Hatch, Makey Crandall, Trevor Damon and Tanner Stimpson.
- Catherine Cota, a Spanish Springs resident off of Dromedary near Gator Swamp Park stated concern regarding dry tumbleweeds and other dry vegetation that has been blowing into the residential neighborhood from vacant property owned by HAWCO. Ms. Cota provided photographs of the amount of dry vegetation that has blown up against wood fencing and structures for the record. Ms. Cota stated concern that the dry vegetation could be a wildfire hazard.
- James Scivally stated that Ms. Cota is a neighbor of his and he also provided a photograph of the field which is the source of much of the debris. Mr. Scivally stated that he has spoken with Jesse Haw who is addressing the issue. Mr. Haw has agreed to move in some rocks and k-rails to help reduce the amount of blowing debris and to reduce any public access to his property.
- Commissioner Hartung cautioned the board from discussing Public Comments which would be a violation of the Nevada Open Meeting Law.
- Richard Morse, a Spanish Springs resident stated concern that the tumbleweeds are creating a potential for wildfire along his and other neighbor's wood fencing. Mr. Morse asked that Mr. Haw be advised of the concerns and asked to clear up the debris. Mr. Morse provided photographs of the tumbleweeds that are piled up next to his neighbor's yard. Mr. Morse stated that most of his neighbors do not have vehicles that they could use to haul off the debris. Mr. Morse also stated that he feels that it is Mr. Haw's responsibility to keep the debris controlled.
- John Bradbury stated that he knows Jesse Haw personally and that he would contact Mr. Haw regarding the current tumbleweed issue and concerns. Mr. Bradbury stated that there are plans to build 465 dwellings on this property later this year that should mitigate the dry vegetation issue in the future.
- Commissioner Hartung encouraged the SSCAB to invite Jesse Haw to address the issue of blowing tumbleweeds that originate from Mr. Haw's property during the next SSCAB meeting.
- David Espinosa asked for further public comment and hearing none, closed this agenda item.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 14, 2014. – **MOTION:** James Scivally moved to approve the May 14, 2014 agenda as posted. Catherine Gustavson seconded the motion. Commissioner Hartung stated as a point of order that a change in the order of items listed on the agenda should be noted in the motion. At the request of Betsy Hambleton, Item 8 A will be heard prior to item 6. **MOTION:** James Scivally amended his motion to reflect that item 8. A. would be heard prior to item 6. Catherine Gustavson seconded the amended motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MARCH 12, 2014 MEETING. – **MOTION:** James Scivally moved to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2014 meeting as submitted. Dawn Costa-Guyon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. *COMMISSIONER UPDATE

A.* Washoe County Commissioner Vaughn Hartung provided updated information on items being heard by the Board of County Commissioners and of interest to local citizens. Commissioner Hartung reported that the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) will be looking at Washoe Code pertaining to controls of vicious dogs. Following his presentation, Commissioner Hartung provided informal training on facilitating meetings and meeting protocols for the CAB members and members of the audience. Commissioner Hartung can be reached at (775) 328-2007 or via email at vhartung@washoecounty.us. (This item was for information only and no action was taken by the CAB).

Comments and Concerns

- In response to questions raised, Commissioner Hartung stated that Washoe County will take public opinion on any issues concerning domestic animals and particularly vicious and dangerous dogs, but not breed specific. Commissioner Hartung stated that domestic animal owners have a responsibility to keep their animals under control.
- Questions were raised whether there is a mutual response agreement with the TMFPD station in Spanish Springs and the Fire Department in Hungry Valley.

7. *PUBLIC SAFETY AND COMMUNITY REPORTS/UPDATES

A. Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) – Lt. Scott Bloom, Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) introduced himself and reported on the operations at the Sheriff's Office and addressed questions and concerns including speeding and reckless use of recreational vehicles. Lt. Bloom recommended that citizens contact the Sheriff's Office to request targeted enforcement of speeding and reckless use of recreational vehicles. Lt. Bloom reported that the Sheriff's Office is aware of illegal access and use of recreational vehicles on private property. Lt. Bloom reported that there has been an increase in vehicle burglary of vehicles that have been left unlocked and he urged citizens to keep their vehicles locked and valuables out of sight. Lt. Bloom reported that the recent incident on Kinglet Court was an armed robbery and seemed to be an isolated incident. Citizens are urged to report any suspicious or illegal activity to the Sheriff's Department. Pamphlets are available regarding shooting of firearms and congested areas are available at the Sheriff's Office. (This item was for information only and no action was taken by the CAB.)

Comments and Concerns

- Commissioner Vaughn Hartung commented that Public Works may be able to address emergency vehicles access to private property.
- Amy Ray, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) stated that the Fire Department has been in contact with Jesse Haw regarding the potential for wildfire as well as vehicle trespass across his property. Ms. Ray stated that it is local citizens that are complaining about the conditions, not Mr. Haw. Mr. Haw is working with the TMFPD to address the issues.
- Concerns were raised regarding a steady increase in graffiti in the area of the Eagle Canyon Housing Association. Lt. Bloom recommended taking photographs of the vandalism and to contact the Graffiti Hot Line with the location and other information. Lt. Bloom reported that there has not been an increase in criminal activity in this area.
- In response to concerns raised, Lt. Bloom recommended that citizen's request targeted speed enforcement on specific roadways.
- In response to concerns raised, Lt. Bloom urged citizens to keep their garage doors closed and locked and keep your homes well lit during nighttime hours.
- In response to concerns raised, Lt. Bloom urged citizens to contact the Sheriff's non-emergency phone line immediately when there is suspicious or illegal activity observed.
- Commissioner Hartung asked that congested area signage be installed as soon as possible.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A.*Emergency Response and Disaster Preparedness - Betsy Hambleton, CERT Coordinator was in attendance for a portion of the meeting but left prior to her presentation of information on how the Washoe County Sheriff's Office Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) trains and prepares volunteers to assist during emergencies. Ms. Hambleton will also provide a brief presentation on the CERT Program's free training and how it benefits local communities. Contact Ms. Hambleton at bhambleton@washoecounty.us and at 775-325-6927 or 775-233-9025 (This item was for information only and no action was taken by the CAB.)

B.* Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) – Amy Ray, Fire Marshall, TMFPD was available to address fire safety issues and concerns including the upcoming wildfire season and clearing defensible space in compliance with the Wildland Urban Interface Program. Fire Marshall Ray urged citizens to clear thirty feet of defensible space around their homes and other structures. Citizens are encouraged to remove dead vegetation and encourage native vegetation to help dust controls and deter cheat grass growth. The TMFPD will allow thirty days for property owners to remedy violations found during an inspection of property. The TMFPD has a chipping program that chips cleared vegetation which is then left on the owner's property. The TMFPD is considering a modification to the open burn season which will be introduced prior to the fall burn season. Any time you have vegetation that adjoins structures it is considered urban interface. (This item was for information only and no action was taken by the CAB.)

Comments and Concerns

- In response to questions raised, Ms. Ray stated that she can facilitate any community that wants to look into education and forming a Fire Adaptive Community program. Once a program is formed, the community can apply for grant funding.
- In response to questions raised, Ms. Ray stated that the TMFPD will inspect property at the request of the property owners. Ms. Ray stated that an inspection will not necessarily stop blowing of tumbleweeds.

- In response to questions raised, Ms. Ray reported that the TMFPD does not have regulations for fire pits that are purchased at local hardware stores. Citizens are urged to put screens over outdoor wood burning pits.

C. Election of Officers – Elections were held to elect a Chair and Vice Chair to serve for the 2014 – 2015 term of office from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. **MOTION:** Catherine Gustavson moved to re-elect David Espinosa as Chair for the 2014 – 2015 term of office commencing on July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. James Scivally seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. **MOTION:** James Scivally moved to re-elect Ken Theiss as Vice Chair for the 2014 – 2015 term of office commencing on July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. Dawn Costa-Guyon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

9.* CHAIRMAN/BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

- James Scivally asked that the wind blown dry vegetation (tumbleweed) issue be scheduled on the July 9, 2014 SSCAB agenda.
- David Espinosa will be an excused absence for the July SSCAB meeting.
- Dawn Costa-Guyon asked that the CAB acknowledge Bruce (last name not stated) who volunteers to do cleanup along Pyramid Hwy to be introduced to the community during the next SSCAB meeting.
- Catherine Gustavson stated her appreciation for the response by the Sheriff’s Department to the request for targeted enforcement on Eagle Canyon.
- **Next Agenda Items:** Tumbleweed abatement on property owned by HAWCO particularly in the vicinity of Dromedary and Rosetta Stone, Paving and other improvements to Dolores Drive between Sun Valley and Spanish Springs, Andrea Tavener, Commissioner Support Report, CERT reschedule

10.*PUBLIC COMMENT

- Dan Flannigan stated that there is an increase in vehicle traffic between Spanish Springs and Sun Valley and asked for an agenda item.
- John Bradbury commended the members of the SSCAB for their service to the community.
- David Espinosa asked for further public comment and hearing none, closed this item.

11. ADJOURNMENT – Dawn Costa-Guyon moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by several members of the CAB. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by: Allayne Donnelly-Everett, Administrative Recorder Services

Those in Attendance: Commissioner Vaughn Hartung, Andrea Tavener, CAB Program Assistant, five CAB members, One representative of the Sheriff’s Department, One representative of the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, Thirteen members of the audience, and Two Administrative recorder personnel.