

Incline Village/Crystal Bay Citizen Advisory Board

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Incline Village/Crystal Bay Citizen Advisory Board held on August 7, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. at 845 Alder Ave., Incline Village, Nevada 89451

- 1. CALL TO ORDER/ DETERMINATION OF QUORUM Denise Davis, Roxanna Dunn, Kevin Lyons(absent), Chris Wood, Diane Becker, Carla Werner(absent).
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE The pledge of allegiance was recited.
- 3. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT Limited to no more than three (3) minutes. Anyone may speak pertaining to any matter either on or off the agenda. Please raise your hand on your computer and then you will be called one by one. Comments are to be addressed to the Board as a whole. Additionally, during action items public comment will be heard on that particular item before action is taken.

Hellen Neff – Incline Village Resident. Washoe County Tahoe Area Plan. The proposed 947 Tahoe Development. The application does not address the amendment to the Washoe County Tahoe Area Plan that was adopted by the TRPA governing board on June 28th. This project needs to meet requirements number three and four. The permit now also needs to be amended to consider the requirements. When will the public be informed of how requirements 3 and 4 will be filled? She requests Commissioner Hill to let her know. She has copied John Hester and Jacob Stock to her email. Commissioner Hill requests she be included in the emails.

Beth Davidson – Cal Fire has begun to use drones and lidar to help fight fires. This preventative measure would be very useful here in the basin. Are there efforts to obtain money, perhaps federally, to help secure this technology here in Nevada?

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM COMMISSIONER HILL – (Non-Action Item)

We had the Inclined Village Mobility Hub Committee meeting last week and we were planning to have our community outreach meeting on August 14th. That has been postponed. There is a lot more work that our consultants need to do for community outreach. Additionally, we're looking to retool this community outreach process. The community has made it very clear that they've got a lot of concerns and aren't feeling heard. Having public meetings with three minutes of public comment makes it very difficult for the community to engage. We are trying to find some alternatives.

Additionally, I wanted to remind folks about our evacuation drill on August 16th in Incline Village. This will simulate a wildfire. Residents may begin seeing emergency personnel and vehicles mobilizing as soon as 8 a.m. that morning. The evacuation is for the Second Creek neighborhood. Residents will receive a test emergency alert and may have CERT personnel knocking on their door asking them to evacuate. Every action during this drill will be identified as a test or drill and we're hoping folks will use this as an opportunity to test their family emergency plans. Evacuees will be sent to the Incline Village Recreation Center where there will be a preparedness fair going on and it is open to the public. All folks are invited, and vendors will be on-site with tips, information, and emergency services. Animal services will also be on-site for microchipping of your pets.

Questions: Diane Becker

With respect to the mobility hub, the rating categories did not include several of the concerns that the residents had expressed. Is that something that can be included?

Answer: Commissioner Hill

That's one of the reasons that the committee put a pause on this. We have some concerns about

the ratings. People are worried that the ratings are pointing towards one particular site. This is not the role of the consultant or the hub. Also, not using the Tahoe City Mobility Hub as an example of what a hub could be is another thing that we've asked the consultants to look at.

Question: Diane Becker

Helen Naff had asked about whether the Tahoe, the Tarpa Conditions 3 and 4, would be incorporated into the permit that would be issued by Washoe County. Do you have any information on that or are you able to follow up?

Commissioner Hill asked Helen to forward those emails that she'd had with Courtney.

Question:

What is the purpose of this particular evacuation since it doesn't simulate a real-life situation? If a wildfire were to develop up the hill, we would start driving, not go to the recreation center.

Answer: Commissioner Hill

This gets folks to think about what an evacuation would look like. Think about how they can personally prepare in their own personal lives as well for an evacuation.

5. WASHOE COUNTY DEPARTMENT UPDATES: This item includes the Washoe County Sheriff's Office and the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District. (Non-Action Item)

Washoe County Sheriff's Office

Captain Blaine Beard, Washoe County Sheriff's Office.

We're pleased to announce we have two school resource officers starting. We'll have one ready to begin on August 21st, the first day of school, and the second will be available shortly thereafter. Sergeant Joel Colacurcio was promoted to lieutenant. We will have another sergeant shortly. We're going to keep working on signage in the area to try to make our community safer for pedestrians, bicycles, and vehicles alike.

We have the Washoe County Sheriff's Office Community Picnic coming up. This date is scheduled for Saturday, September 16th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Incline Middle School, Ridgeline Ball Field. You'll get to see all of Washoe County Sheriff's Office Special Units, K-9, Marine 9, Raven, Mounted Horses, Motors, Bomb Squad, and Search and Rescue. The North Lake Title Fire Protection District is going to be a huge asset there as well. There will be free food and drinks for the event.

Incline Village substation update

On March 10th we were flooded at our previous location at 625 Mount Rose Highway. We've been at 855 Alder Avenue since that time. The Incline Justice Court will begin making renovations to the 855 Alder Avenue address beginning September 6th. This is approximately a 42-to-50-day renovation to move the court over there. By September 6th, if all goes according to schedule, the Sheriff's Office will be moving back to the substation at 65 Mount Rose.

Crime Statistics

For the first two quarters of the year, assault offenses have gone up. We have a three-year average during this time frame of 7 and we're at 19. Our narcotic violations are up 2 from our three-year average. Our drug equipment violations are up 2 as well. We have 1 offense for a potential homicide, which we hadn't had during our three-year average, which is an ongoing investigation, so I can't comment on that. We've had a couple of alleged kidnapping or abduction cases that are encompassed into two cases to the county that are again ongoing investigations that I cannot comment on. We have had 1 stolen property offense. We're 1 above our average. For trespass, we are 3 above our average.

Burglaries are down by 1 case. Counterfeiting indoor forgeries is down 1. Curfew and loitering

violations are down 1. Destruction or damage or vandalism of property, we average 13 this time of year, we're down to 5. Our disorderly conduct is down and our DUIs are down. Family offenses, non-violent, are down 50%. Fraud offenses are down 33% from 9 to 6, based on our three-year average. We've been dispatched to fewer calls by about 80 for this time frame. Our self-initiated activity remains constant within 30 or 40 contacts. So total calls for the sheriff's office is at 3,491 versus our average of 3,638.

Questions:

I just noticed we went from one per quarter on a three-year average sex offense to six. What constitutes a sex offense?

Answer:

It's a general category, any kind of sexual deviance, or accusation, all the way up to and including sexual assault. Each particular case isn't necessarily a case drawn, it could be counts within a case. You could have one subject that has three or four different charges. Those accounts are three to four different cases based on the number of victims. What you're referring to is there were two cases and multiple victims and that's why that number stands where it is.

Question:

What is a general assault?

Per the law, an assault is a physical threat or threat of bodily injury, and you have the physical ability to carry that through and the actual touching becomes a battery. But in our stats too, domestic batteries, and co-habitation issues can be included in that as well. It's basically any time you have that threat on someone, and you are physically able to carry it out, and or you do carry it out. That goes into that statistical database.

Question: Roxanne Dunn

How much of this is linked to tourism? The questions I have are mostly about the assaults and the drugs. Maybe in the sex offenses, are there seasonal variances?

There definitely is a correlation between the time of year. Our staffing will go up, and calls for service will go up. All these crimes will go up in the tourism and summer seasons.

Question:

My follow-up question is to what degree are you staffed up during these higher incident time periods?

Answer: We'll have a captain and lieutenant up there during the weekdays, but on the weekends we've got one sergeant, sometimes two. We'll have Sergeant McCaskill who's in the room there on the Marine 9 vessel with at least one other commissioned staff member and a captain. There are at least three people, potentially four, that are on Marine 9 during the weekdays. Sometimes weekends we'll have one to two, if not two at all times. We like to keep three to four deputies up there full-time and during the summer months weekends. We try to get overtime for one to two staff members to increase presence along the high-traffic areas that is from Highway 28 down to the lake where you get all your pedestrians and a great deal of those bicycles.

Question: Diane Decker

With respect to the amount of crime that is related to increases in tourism in the summertime, are you able to prepare some statistics for us that would indicate what impacts the increase in tourism has in particular where you tie it to short-term rental people that are actually coming up and staying here?

Answer:

Yes, do you happen to have my email address by chance?

I do.

Technical Problems interrupt the answer.

Question: Pamala

My question concerns some of the excessive traffic and parking violations that happen along Lakeshore Boulevard through State Route 28 all the way out to Sand Harbor and beyond. How are you managing and coordinating with the Nevada Highway Patrol?

Answer: Jeff McCaskill sergeant at the Washoe Sheriff's Office

The captain is working with local agencies on the traffic congestion on Lakeshore and Highway 28. We are working with our local agencies as best as we can. We do get quite a few complaints on Lakeshore and as long as we have staffing available, we're sending them out there as soon as possible to deal with those parking issues.

Question:

How come we haven't had any wildfires yet?

Answer: We need to look at the fieldwork that we've done around the district. The district does very well compared to other communities around the Western US. Are we having luck or is it just the weather's good or the heavy rain from the weather? A lot of it is the good winter that we had is keeping the ground-level fuel moist.

Question: Denise Davis.

Would you like to remind everyone of the season for the defensive space evaluations?

Answer: Our defensible space evaluations take place around May and then it's going to be weather-dependent. We will end the evaluations in October when the snow starts to fall. We are taking chipping requests to make sure we get the piles completely taken care of before bad weather moves in.

Question: Pamela

In terms of the evacuation drill on the 16th, that's being handled by Washoe County. Who is responsible for evacuation? Should there be an actual fire here on the ground that would affect everybody at peak time?

Answer: It will be our decision on which areas of town to proceed with evacuation notice. At that time, the Washoe County Sheriff takes over with their search and rescue personnel, their search personnel, and patrol personnel. In the other evacuations that I have taken place in Washoe County, mainly down in the Reno-Sparks area, it is the responsibility of Washoe County Sheriffs to start going door to door.

Question:

And it's my understanding, again, that's not the fire department either. Does TARPA have a role in that? Is this all exclusively Washoe County? What is the relationship as to who does the planning in advance?

Answer: The plans themselves all belong to the counties and emergency managers of all the seven counties that touch the lake itself. They are the ones responsible for that plan. That's the plan that they put together and that's the responsibility of the counties. PRPA did make an announcement during one of their board meetings that they would like to see a regional or basin-wide evacuation plan.

6. NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT HUB – Staff to announce any upcoming neighborhood development meetings in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area. For more information click on

HUB. (Non-Action Item)

There are no upcoming neighborhood development meetings for the Inclining Village area.

Question

Is there a way you could check and report back to us what's maybe anticipated coming up?

Answer

I encourage everyone to go to the hub and you can submit your email address and pick a district. You can do one or all five districts and you'll be notified in a timelier manner.

 E-COMMENT – Erick Willrich, Assistant to the County Manager, Washoe County, will deliver a brief presentation on E-Comment, which allows citizens to provide public comment electronically on county issues and Board of County Commissioner meeting agenda items. (Non-Action Item)

Erick shared about what Speak Up is, the constituent experience, how it affects you, what you can take, and how you can take advantage of signing up.

SpeakUp is connected to Granicus, a platform for the Board of County Commission agendas. It offers features like E-comment and the ability to register to speak for constituents. It aims to improve the constituent experience by providing alternatives to in-person public comments, making it more accessible for those who cannot attend meetings due to work or other commitments.

Users can create a profile and provide public comments, which become a part of the permanent record. Comments are not anonymous, and users must identify themselves. SpeakUp also allows users to register to speak in advance, ensuring they are prioritized in the queue for public comments.

Erick encourages constituents to use this platform, emphasizing its real-time nature and the ability for commissioners to see comments as they discuss agenda items. He suggests using SpeakUp as a better alternative to email or voicemail for providing feedback.

Erick has conducted outreach to various groups and presented the platform to the Board of County Commission. The platform is active and can be accessed via the Washoe County website. Eric provided his email for questions and assistance with the platform.

8. PROPOSAL FROM THE CHAIR – Diane Becker, IVCB Chair, will lead a discussion among CAB members regarding how to communicate to various governmental entities, including the Washoe County Board of Commissioners and staff, a summary of input from the IVCB CAB meetings, and from CAB members and the public, on important issues to the IVCB community. CAB members may vote on a procedure following the discussion. (Possible Action Item)

The CAB discussed a proposal to create a list of important topics that can be submitted to the Washoe County Commissioners to alert them as to issues of importance to Incline Village and Crystal Bay.

Roxanna Dunn.

Consideration number one is that Lake Tahoe and the basin are a national treasure and need to be preserved. The second one is, and this is more specific to us, we are landlocked. We don't have any way to spread, to grow by spreading. Consequently, every decision is not only a decision about what's being done but all the opportunity costs associated with what's being done.

I would suggest rephrasing excessive traffic to increase traffic. They are particularly concerned

about the safety of pedestrians and cyclists, who are often forced to share the road with cars. The speaker suggests that the town should consider removing parking from Highway 28, which would make the road safer for everyone.

Chris Wood

The speaker is concerned about the overcrowding and over-tourism in Incline Village. They are particularly concerned about the lack of affordable housing for workers, and the impact of this on the local community. Chris suggests that the community needs to find ways to increase the available workforce, such as providing free transportation and Wi-Fi for workers who commute from outside of Incline Village. The speaker also suggests that the community needs to find ways to develop more affordable housing for workers.

Pamela.

The speaker is concerned about the perception of Incline Village Crystal Bay as a tourist destination, rather than a residential community. The speaker believes that this perception is harmful to the community and that the Washoe County Commissioners need to be made aware of the true nature of Incline Village Crystal Bay. The speaker proposes that the CAB create a list of community priorities to present to the Washoe County Commissioners. The speaker emphasizes that the list should be clear about the fact that it represents the views of the CAB, and not necessarily the views of the entire community.

Rhonda Teyser, presents the results of a recent survey of the Incline Village and Crystal Bay community. The survey asked residents to identify the most important problems to address in the area. Governance competency and accountability. Short-term rentals Development and zoning. Teyser suggests that the CAB members review the survey results and consider using them to inform their priorities.

Alex.

Incline Village and Crystal Bay are significant communities in Nevada. Based on the census population, we're over 9,000. That makes us the same size as Fallon, Nevada, the 25th largest town in Nevada. We're bigger than Winnemucca and we're also, population-wise, larger than three counties. So, we're a significant place in Nevada, although people might just think of it as a little tourist town on the lake.

Jackie.

One is Lake Tahoe has been a destination since 1920. There's no, I moved here thinking this was a community and now it's crowded with people. We're part of Washoe County and Washoe County can't do anything about Tahoe being a destination. What we can do as a community is be better hosts to these tourists as well as support our casinos. The housing market is where it is at, and the government is not going to make your home less valuable so that low-income residents can afford to live there. We're a world-class destination. It's already out there. It's being over-marketed. So it's about the thresholds and if we each do our part in upholding the thresholds and we help visitors understand how they can be a part, we the people, by the people, it's all of our responsibility to try to uphold these thresholds and hold the TRPA and the government responsible for the destination that didn't become a park, that doesn't have enough lodging, and that's why it's in our neighborhood.

Judith Simon

The minutes come out very late. Maybe AI could be used to summarize the minutes.

Chris Wood makes a motion.

We would make something, that Roxanna and I would work on a summary of an outline which I think will take major revisions based upon all of the input received from CAB members and the public with that information to come into us on or before the 21st of August and that we would have a 10-minute bullet point list and a 30-minute bullet point list and we could look at the next meeting to see If we

want to even to do one or the other or both.

Five to zero. Motion passed.

Move that Diane Becker come up with a template for public commenters to fill out their information before commenting.

5-0

Motion Passes

9. CONTINUATION OF AGENDA ITEM 6 FROM FEBRUARY 6, 2023, MEETING – Continued discussion on the topic of the IVCB CAB to prepare a presentation to the Washoe County Commissioners. The August 7, 2023, discussion will gather input on important issues to the IVCB community to communicate to the Washoe County Board of Commissioners, both from a review of the results of the flash vote survey identifying important issues, and from gathering additional input from CAB members and the public at this meeting. This will include a discussion of whether to raise the issue of the decision-making process and reporting of community input in Staff reports on issues of importance to our community. These discussions will take place throughout the next few months during CAB meetings. (Possible Action Item).

Item 9 was discussed during item 8.

10. CAB BOARD MEMBERS ANNOUNCEMENTS – This item is limited for announcements by CAB members. (Non-Action Item)

There were no announcements.

11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING MAY 1, 2023, AND JUNE 5, 2023 (Possible Action Item)

Move to approve June 5 minutes.

5-0

Minutes approved.

12. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT — Limited to no more than three (3) minutes. Anyone may speak pertaining to any matter either on or off the agenda. Please raise your hand on your computer and then you will be called one by one. Comments are to be addressed to the Board as a whole.

Denise Davis as a citizen

Denise proposed the creation of a simple clearinghouse or database where local property owners who want to rent to local workers could provide their contact information. They suggested that the local real estate community might have the infrastructure to oversee such a database. The speaker expressed concern about the time it might take for government initiatives like "landing locals" to address the housing issue and questioned the allocation of government funds for this purpose. They proposed a more straightforward, community-driven approach to connecting property owners and local workers who need housing. The speaker also mentioned the possibility of involving the IVCBA (Incline Village Crystal Bay Association) in this effort, rather than relying on parties with specific financial interests.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 7:35pm.