



Sun Valley Citizen Advisory Board

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Sun Valley Citizen Advisory Board held on November 18, 2023, at 10:00 A.M. at Hobey's Casino, 5195 Sun Valley Boulevard, Sun Valley, NV 89433.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM** - Carmen Ortiz (Chair), Amy Owens, Michael Rider, Mary Esposito, Heidi Soper, Charles (Mark) Neumann

A quorum was established and the meeting was brought to order.

- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

- 3. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT** – Comment heard under this item will be limited to three (3) minutes per person and may pertain to matters both on and off the agenda. The Citizen Advisory Board will also hear public comment during individual action items, with comment limited to three minutes per person. Comments are to be made to the CAB as a whole. [Non-Action Item]

Mark Neumann - He spoke about the services provided by the Washoe County Senior Services Citizens Advisory Board. He provides handouts for elderly services.

Patty Elise Weatherly - She expressed her concerns about harassment charges against her HOA and discussed her book about cults. The disbanding of HOA would be wonderful. She was hit with a 9,000 dollar fine for her behavior. Cultville USA is a book she is writing. She expresses her concerns about the similarity of HOAs and cults. She sings, "I am calling you."

- 4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETINGS** of July 8, 2023; August 5, 2023; October 7, 2023 (For Possible Action)

There are corrections for the minutes, and they have been moved down the agenda for later discussion.

July 8th CAB minutes - Nadine Kennedy's last name needs to be added to the minutes. The commissioner's contact information also will need to be added to the minutes.

The minutes were approved with these amendments.

- 5. PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATES** – General community updates from public safety representatives; including but not limited to Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, Washoe County Sheriff's Office, and others [Non-Action Item]

Washoe County Sheriff's Office

Sergeant Robert Markin provided statistics on the big five offenses in Sun Valley, including commercial burglaries, grand theft auto, residential burglary, robbery, and vehicle burglary. These are all trending downward. The discussion also touched on the issue of illegal dumping of vehicles and the efforts to address it. They will have to readdress the abandoned vehicles periodically.

Mark Neumann – Is there a chance that we can have cameras out to help catch people dumping vehicles?

Sheriff's office - The discussion starts with the mention of surveillance cameras with flashing lights. It is clarified that customers do not have to pay for these cameras. The cameras at Rainbow Market have license plate reader cameras and are hardwired and installed. The hardwire-installed cameras do have to be paid for. On the other hand, the Sheriff's office owns a mobile trailer with high-resolution cameras that are used to catch vehicles coming and going. It is mentioned that these cameras are not put up in remote areas as they might get destroyed. The idea of game cameras will be investigated.

Mark Neumann - A concern is raised about the installation of a speed check device that was funded by Commissioner Garcia but hasn't been seen in Sun Valley in over a year.

Sheriff's office – I do not have any current information on that. Those trailers are run out of our motor division and they are moved around the county periodically. It is decided to bring up the issue of the speed check device to the motor sergeant.

Abandoned Vehicles

Citizen – Do you know if there is a decrease in burglaries due to systems like ADT or a security system?

Sheriff's Office – I do not have statistics to back that up, but from experience, I would say that yes, the security systems do help.

Citizen - The discussion starts with the mention of an abandoned vehicle near Pyramid. The process of reporting abandoned vehicles and the jurisdiction responsible for handling them is discussed. It is mentioned that calling the non-emergency dispatch is the appropriate action to take. What is the process for reporting these vehicles?

Sheriff's Office – You can contact the nonemergency number. They may forward you to the correct city department.

Nova Carpenter - A concern is raised about the absence of police presence on the streets during early morning hours and the issue of speeding vehicles. The discussion includes examples of reckless driving and the potential danger it poses. She expresses concerns about the heavy traffic congestion during the morning commute and suggests changing the time of police presence to 5 am.

Citizen - Participants discuss the recent incidents of car break-ins and suspicious activities in the neighborhood during early morning hours. They express concerns about the lack of police presence and request increased patrols. She discussed incidents of car break-ins and suspicious activities in the neighborhood during early morning hours. They share personal experiences and suggest taking precautions such as not leaving valuables in cars and installing security cameras. They also mention the need for increased police presence and reporting incidents to the Sheriff's office. People know that there are no cops here early in the morning.

Nadine Kennedy – She caught people on camera trying different handles on cars to try and find unlocked vehicles. Can we have more patrols early in the morning?

Staff – Teenagers are yelling at ring cameras and banging on garage doors.

Sheriff's Office – The way we get more patrols out there is to have more people reporting these incidents. So be sure to report each of these incidents. Be sure to lock your doors.

George Lee – When you have contact from a citizen, it needs to be followed up upon. This is the reason we have dispatching.

Nancy Leuenhagen, Communications Director at Washoe County - She provides information about the role of 311 as a non-emergency line service center and emphasizes the importance of reporting crimes.

Alex Alto - The participant provides information about the high number of vacancies in law enforcement agencies, such as Nevada Highway Patrol and Washoe County, and emphasizes the need for advocacy.

Sheriff's Office – We have trained more police officers and 8 more will be patrolling the area soon.

Citizen - A participant informs others about the use of drones for casing homes and highlights the need to be aware of potential security risks. The participant explains the reasons why drones are used at night for surveillance and advises caution if a drone is spotted after dark.

Patty Elise Weatherly – How do HOAs give me a violation for a shed that has been there for 25 years? Are they using drones? I made a report about a week ago and I have not heard anything.

Sheriff's Office – You will be contacted within one to two weeks. Somebody will be reaching out. The process of making a report with the sheriff's office online is explained, including the involvement of front desk specialists and deputies for follow-up.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District

James Solaro - The number of incidents in the month of October is mentioned, including EMS and MVA incidents.

Safety tips are provided, including changing batteries in smoke detectors. The discussion mentions a requirement of a one-acre parcel for burning in Washoe County. Completion of green waste programs is mentioned. They were successful and they have completed.

Additional safety tips for using turkey fryers are mentioned. Be sure to dry your turkey and cook it outside.

Mark Neumann - A new fire department station 6 is being planned in Sparks, with the location mentioned. Is there a timeframe for that?

James Solaro – I believe they are still about a year out. They have not broken ground yet.

6. **HOW PREPARED ARE YOU?** – Kelly Echeverria, Emergency Management Administrator for Washoe County, will provide information about personal emergency preparedness. [Non-Action Item]

Kelly Echeverria -

The goal of casting a wide net and reaching the public through multiple communication methods is mentioned. The discussion emphasizes the importance of signing up for Code Red and explains the communication methods used, including phone, text, email, and social media. The ability to receive Code Red alerts even when not in the area is highlighted.

The first part of preparedness is staying informed, which is facilitated by the alerting system and the emergency information website called www.emergencywashoe.com. The Perimeter mapping software can be accessed at www.PerimeterMap.com and provides information on threats, evacuation areas, road closures, and shelter locations.

George Lee – There was a lightning strike associated with a fire. It knocked the power and internet out. How do you deal with that?

Kelly Echeverria - The concern was raised that relying solely on digital communication methods during emergencies may not be effective if power and internet services are disrupted. The mapping software Perimeter was introduced to improve communication during emergencies. It allows first responders to draw threats, evacuation areas, and other details on a map.

Citizen – We only focus on preparedness when things go wrong. She thanks Kelly for what she does.

Mark Neumann – When Sun Valley evacuates all at the same time, people would burn in their cars in a traffic jam.

Kelly Echeverria – We can note that Sun Valley is much different than places like Paradise. She discusses the need for staggered evacuations, traffic management, and contraflow measures to ensure efficient and effective evacuations. She suggests essential items to include in an evacuation kit, such as important documents, radio, clothes, copies of prescriptions, and provisions for pets. She highlights the importance of individual evacuation plans, including considerations for people with access and functional needs, knowing evacuation routes, and making homes resilient to potential disasters.

Kelly addresses the issue of emergency alerts overriding sleep features on phones and suggests turning off the phone or taking necessary steps to ensure safety. She mentions the CERT team out of the Sheriff's office, which is a community emergency response team. She talks about the usefulness of having flashlights in case of power outages during emergencies. Kelly recommends using social media, specifically Twitter, as a low-bandwidth communication tool during emergencies.

Citizen - Do you know your family's phone numbers?

Kelly Echeverria – It is important to remember some key phone numbers. This is a good point. Sometimes local lines will be down, while long distances will work fine.

Citizen – I have a lot of little flashlights scattered around the house for emergencies.

Michael Rider - He highlights the need to support neighbors during emergencies and ensure that nobody is left behind.

7. NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT HUB – Staff to display the online HUB for review by the CAB

members and/or attendees to determine if there are new or existing projects. [Non-Action Item]

There was no discussion of the neighborhood development hub.

8. BOARD MEMBER/COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS/DISCUSSION — This item is limited to announcements and/or requests for future agenda items by CAB members and/or Commissioners Mariluz Garcia and Jeanne Herman. [Non-Action Item]

Commissioner Mariluz Garcia - The speaker mentions National Adoption Awareness Month, their experience as an adoptive mother, and the number of children in the foster care system.

The speaker mentions the recent KTMB cleanup and a future cleanup project in collaboration with the GID. We will be doing a pretty expensive cleanup in the spring.

Regarding the homeless issue. The speaker talks about the HOPE team, their outreach efforts, and the construction of supportive housing units. They do an incredible job. The groundbreaking at Cares Campus was shocking and incredible.

The speaker mentions the Sun Valley Corridor Study and ongoing conversations with NDOT and RTC regarding traffic and pedestrian safety. Traffic and pedestrian safety are very important out here in Sun Valley.

The speaker mentions the community outreach effort involving Sun Valley students and the positive impact it had on park usage. We had 513 Sun Valley students participate in the outreach effort. 85 percent of the students had never been to the park. 69 percent had never been on a hike.

Commissioner Jeanne Herman –

Takes a poll on how many people approve of the lands bill. She is very concerned about it and she believes there will be no benefit to the people in the room. We need lots of phone calls to Rosen and Amodei's Office.

Citizen – What exactly is it?

Commissioner Herman – In order for developers to get land to build on, they must get it from the federal government. The developers will have land to develop. She expressed concerns about the land bill, stating that it would not benefit the people in the room and would result in the loss of public lands, negative impacts on ranching, agriculture, recreation, and tourism, and limited access for older people and individuals with disabilities. She mentioned the website www.landsbill.org as a resource for more information about the land bill. She mentioned that the land bill has been proposed for several years and aims to provide land for developers, but they believe there are other ways to obtain land and that the bill lacks benefits for the people.

CAB member – When I bought my home, I was told that no homes would be built behind my house. They are proposing homes that will be able to look into my back window. Thank you for bringing this to our attention. If you do not have access to the Internet, you can come over to my home and we can look at it together.

CAB Member - We are nearing the end of the year. Most of the other CABs meet at the libraries in their community. There is no library in Sun Valley. There is an awesome new kiosk at the community center.

Monday night meetings are not suitable for some board members and community members who don't drive at night. Karate classes are held at the community center on Saturday mornings, making it unavailable for meetings. We need to think about this and talk about a meeting place for next year. That should be on the agenda for next month. Is there anybody who would prefer to stay home and zoom in? Agencies usually prefer to use Zoom instead of attending in person. One person in the audience would have preferred to attend the meeting via Zoom, but it is not available.

She also discusses the need to report all incidents including kids and ring cameras, vehicle abandonment, and other crimes. The website for reporting crimes is [https://www.washoesherriff.com/general-information/general-information/begin-report.php#:~:text=AS%20OF%20SEPTEMBER%2012%2C2023,\(775\)%20785%20DWCSO](https://www.washoesherriff.com/general-information/general-information/begin-report.php#:~:text=AS%20OF%20SEPTEMBER%2012%2C2023,(775)%20785%20DWCSO). The non-emergency number is (775) 785-WCSO.

She discusses the need for more CAB alternates and that if interested, an application should be filled out.

Michael Rider – He would like a presentation on the Lands Bill on what the bill is and what it does.

My daughter ran away again and we were able to get her back within a day and a half. Last time she was trafficked into California. Within an hour and a half, we had a missing person's report filed. He mentions that they were more prepared this time and had flyers printed in advance to find the missing person quickly. He expresses gratitude for positive stories about the community and mentions specific individuals who have shared such stories. The speaker commends the Sheriff's Department for their fast response and praises the community for their vigilance in helping find the missing person.

He highlights the importance of discussing opposing points of view and making informed decisions in a democracy.

- 9. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT** – Comment heard under this item will be limited to three (3) minutes per person and may pertain to matters both on and off the agenda. The public is encouraged to submit a "Request to Speak" form to the Board chair. Comments are to be addressed to the Board as a whole. [Non-Action Item]

Patty Elise Weatherly - The speaker emphasizes the importance of reporting problems, filing complaints, and seeking resolution for various issues. The speaker suggests implementing term limits for the HOA president and raises concerns about their actions and associations. The speaker expresses frustration with HOA violations, the lack of response from board members, and the need for open meetings to increase transparency. The president of the HOA should have a term limit.

Citizen - The speaker expresses concerns about the Lands Bill and its potential impact on mining. They argue that limiting mining would lead to dependence on China for battery materials. How many people here have the money to go to an electric car? Anything that limits mining is going to hurt our economy. I am a mining proponent.

Mark Neumann - The speaker mentions the distribution of turkeys to seniors by Ray at Hobie's Casino. He discusses the free swimming program for seniors at the swimming pool during the summer. He talks about the plans to renovate the BMX track and the Frisbee Golf Course at the Sun Valley Regional Park.

Heidi Soper – She wanted to thank the Sheriff for making the police more prevalent in the area. She expresses concerns about traffic safety at the intersection of 4th Street and Sidehill, particularly in the school zone. She shares a personal strategy of stopping in the middle of the intersection to make other drivers stop.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:27 am.