



Spanish Springs Citizen 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 March 11, 2015 at the Spanish Springs Library at (7100A Pyramid Lake Highway).

1. *CALL TO ORDER/ DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

CALL TO ORDER/ DETERMINATION OF QUORUM - The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Ken Theiss, Vice Chair. A quorum was present. David Schneck, At-Large Alternate, filled in for David Espinosa.

MEMBERS PRESENT – Dawn Costa-Guyon, Catherine (Cathy) Gustavson, Charity Rosasco, David Schneck, James (Jim) Scivally and Ken Theiss.

MEMBERS ABSENT: David Espinosa (excused)

2. *PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. *PUBLIC COMMENT – No one gave public comment.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 11, 2015** - James Scivally moved to approve the agenda for the meeting of March 11, 2015; Cathy Gustavson seconded the motion to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

5. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF JANUARY 14, 2015** – James Scivally moved to approve the meeting minutes of January 14, 2015; Dawn Costa-Guyon seconded the motion to approve the meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

6. *PUBLIC OFFICIAL REPORTS

A. ***Washoe County Commissioner** – Commissioner Vaughn Hartung can be reached at (775) 328-2007 or via email at vhartung@washoecounty.us.

7. *PUBLIC SAFETY AND COMMUNITY REPORTS/UPDATES

A. ***Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO)** – For more information call (775) 328-3001 or online at www.washoesherriff.com (This item is for information only and no action will be taken by the CAB.)

Lt. Stacy Hill gave an update:

- No significant trends in crime
- Reminder: With warmer weather, there is more night time activity; keep your vehicles and property locked up. There will be an increase in vehicle burglaries with the warm weather.
- Please call the patrol division if you see suspicious activity.
- Increase in shooting in congested area.
- Posting signs in congested areas for no shooting. Working on Peavine on posting signs.
- Log onto the Sherriff's website for a map of safe places to shoot.
- Sherriff's are currently recruiting deputy sheriffs – encourage family and friends to volunteer.
- Call (775) 328-3002 and ask to get on the 'watch' list when you are out of town.
- Please call and report any suspicious activity.

8. ***WASHOE COUNTY SIGN CODE ORDINANCE** – A staff representatives from Washoe County Community Services Department, Planning and Development Division will provide an overview of the Washoe County Sign Code Ordinance update and process. Staff will be available to address questions from the Board and audience. Additional information on the sign code is available online at www.washoecounty.us/comdev/hot_topics/signs.htm or email planning@washoecounty.us, or call (775) 328 -3600. (This item is for information only and no action will be taken by the CAB.)

Roger Pelham, Washoe county planning and development, gave an update:

- Washoe County is currently in the process of Re-writing sign code ordinance
- Roger passed out the proposed code draft

- He said the goals of the new draft were to simplify and make it more understandable for citizens and staff. The current draft is cumbersome and incomplete. Ease for operation.
 - Content neutrality is the goal. He said they don't need to know what the sign says to know it should go on a specific location.
 - Depending on the type of use, you get a certain square footage of a sign.
 - The new sign code draft is 1/3 the length of the current code ordinance.
 - Table on 505-9 addresses the different signs for different uses of property. For example, a school, library, post office – civic use, that would have a certain set of signage.
 - The maximum square footage depends on the frontage of the business.
 - The biggest disagreement with the new draft has been the electronic message displays (EMD).
 - Washoe County has hosted several public meetings to get feedback from the public.
 - Washoe County is primarily suburban and rural.
 - EMD- electronic message displays have certain criteria and restrictions.
 - Under the current code, you can get a special use permit with no restrictions on the size.
 - With the new code draft, the electronic message displays have restrictions.
 - If it's more than 3/10 of a candle measure of brightness, it's too bright.
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- David Schneck asked what the problems that started the new draft. Mr. Pelham said the applications are too difficult. Mr. Schneck asked if they are focusing on bigger signs/billboards.
 - There is a lot of advertising on vacant land.
 - Roger said new billboards are not allowed in unincorporated Washoe County. There are approximately a total of 40 billboards. A lot of the ones you see are City of Sparks.
 - Roger spoke about the regional recreation/tourism signs, large electronic displays have very tight criteria.
 - Roger said they are addressing what the Board of County Commissioners directed them to review.
 - The size and type of sign is based on use of land. Big signs require special use permit that goes to the Board of County Commissioners.
 - Allayne Donnelly asked Roger about dark skies code. Roger item said item 4-14 in the sign code ordinance draft addresses noise and lighting. He said the code doesn't allow the light spill over the property line. If there were a complaint, the code enforcement officer would go to the complaint with a light meter. If there is more than 0.0 at the property line, then they would be in violation. He said you can still see the light, but doesn't mean there is spill over.
 - Ken Theiss asked about Walmart. Roger said it's City of Sparks. Roger said many of the complaints happen outside of their jurisdiction.
 - Dawn asked about code restrictions on bright lights, motion sensors on personal properties. Roger said there should be a zero candle measurement at the property line. He recommended that she call the code enforcement and someone will come out to inspect it.
 - John Bilka asked about the sale signs along the road. Roger said temporary signage can be placed for a long time with little restriction and can be a distraction to traffic. Temporary signs are allowed to stay for 100 days. John Bilka said Super Cuts have the A frame signs up and down McCarren. Roger said those are prohibited under the current code. Please call to report these.
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- Ken Priest asked about signs on the State highway easement; Ken Theiss said they cannot place them there. Ken Theiss said if the signs are behind the fence line then that's private property. Ken Priest said they are always by the 7-11.
 - Roger gave the code enforcement number: 775-328-6106.
 - Ken Priest asked about the Walmart light that spills into Washoe County. Roger said it's far away from County jurisdiction. He said they would probably work collaboratively with City of Sparks if there were any issues near Washoe County property line.
 - Ken Theiss asked about nighttime lighting. Roger said if there is a complaint, they will measure light from the property line. It's not written well in the current code. The light has to be shining downward, not out. Roger gave an example of Eagle landing – the lights use to shine sideways, and they had to install new light fixtures with shades.
 - Roger said if there is a complaint, we will look at it.
 - Allayne asked about no visible light source. The light has to be shielded, shining down and not out.
 - John Bilka asked about County park lighting. Roger said the County is held to the same standards with down shielding on lighting. The height is higher in parks, particularly ball fields. He encouraged John to call code enforcement. Dawn said she can hear the high school games; Roger said they are in violation because it's only a short amount of time with the noise. They take the average over 24 hours.

- Roger encouraged everyone to look over the new draft ordinance. He said he feels it's a good draft to move forward. It's not perfect. He said they are continuously reviewing the code and making adjustments. This is a public process, please provide feedback.

9. *CHAIRMAN/BOARD MEMBER ITEMS - This item is limited to announcements by CAB members and topics/issues posed for future workshops/agendas.

John Bilka said the link to the agenda was broken. Andrea Tavener said the website is currently under construction and we are working out the bugs. She apologized and handed out her business cards for everyone to contact her for any information.

10. *PUBLIC COMMENT – Limited to no more than three (3) minutes. Anyone may speak pertaining to any matter either on or off the agenda. The public are requested to submit a “Request to Speak” form to the Board chairman. Comments are to be addressed to the Board as a whole.

Andrea Tavener, Washoe County Manager’s Office, Constituents Services Department, gave an update:
County Updates:

- The County launched a new website; working out the bugs.
- Next meeting is May 13
- April 1 – CAB member recruitment
- April 14 – Manager, John Slaughter will give a state of the county – watch them live on Charter 193 or streamed via the website, or watch video on demand the next day.

Greg Prough, Washoe County Planning Commissioner for District 4

- Commended the CAB for their work
- Update on project on Calle De La Plata. It was denied at CAB and Planning Commissioner. It was approved at the Board of County Commissioners, 5 to 1. Commissioner Hartung was the one vote against it. The Regional Planning shot it down. Now, it goes back to Board of County Commissioners at the moment. It's not completely dead.
- Please call him directly; he lives out here and it's very important to him.

Ralph Theiss commented on ditch clean up. Washoe County was out here to talk about paying more for flood retention clean up. He said he had mentioned at the past meeting they needed to clean up those ditches or the money would be wasted. Washoe County showed up and spent a week and back hoed the ditches clean. He doesn't know how far they went up Calle De La Plata. They spent several days hauling trash out. The weed control tanker truck went up the south/north of Calle De La Plata. It finally took 3-4 months to get results. They missed a few weeds. They finally cleaned it up.

Ann Swayder said in November she called Washoe County about the street cleaning, and they came down Cordova and Hercules; they need to pump out the storm drains. John said all of Hercules needs to be pumped out. Andrea said she will let them know.

11. ADJOURNMENT – Dave Schneck/Dawn second. Motion: Dave Schneck moved to adjourn the meeting; Dawn Costa-Guyon seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:52pm.

Number of CAB members present: 6
Number of Public Present: 9
Presence of Elected Officials: 1
Number of staff present: 3

Submitted By: Misty Moga