



Incline Village/Crystal Bay Citizen Advisory Board

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Incline Village/Crystal Bay Citizen Advisory Board held on January 22, 2024, 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, Diane Becker, Carla Werner, Chris Wood (Absent)

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

Carolyn Usinger notes that she has been picking up trash along roads such as 28, 431, and 50 for years. She expresses frustration with being stopped by the Sheriff's department and restricted in her cleanup efforts. Despite attempting to work with the Sheriff's office, she feels she has failed. Carolyn shares an incident where she refrained from picking up trash due to fear of receiving a ticket for parking violations. She emphasizes the need for regulations to support volunteers like herself in picking up trash without being penalized. She highlights the significant amount of trash she has collected, totaling over 200,000 pieces, and the absence of adequate government agency efforts in addressing the issue. Carolyn seeks collaboration with government entities to establish regulations facilitating her trash cleanup activities.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM COMMISSIONER HILL

Commissioner Hill outlines key initiatives, including plans to hire a new mental health care coordinator to support various services in Washoe County. Additionally, she discusses proposals for a new courthouse in downtown Reno and a mental health care campus at the old West Hills facility.

The discussion transitions to addressing community concerns, based on questions from CAB Member Kevin Lyons, such as snow removal on trails. Commissioner Hill acknowledges inquiries about snow removal and ongoing discussions with stakeholders, emphasizing the importance of finding collaborative solutions.

Commissioner Hill answers a question from Denise Davis regarding the TRPA – APC opening currently held by Judith Simon and notes having her own questions about term limits and potential candidates.

5. PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATES

Washoe County Sheriff's Office Lt. Colacurcio noted that all crimes appear to be down (from larceny to sex offenses, stolen property, offenses, trespass, real property, drug offenses and DUIs), except assaults, based on 3-year average. DUIs will be enforced more strictly in the future to keep roadways safe.

North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District (NLTFPD) Chief Sommers noted that due to lack of snow their call volume is down but gives them the advantage to start pile burning which occurred along HWY 28 on the east shore and finishing up NV Energy project. Pile burning will continue as weather permits.

6. WASHOE COUNTY MANAGER UPDATE

County Manager Eric Brown discussed various accomplishments and initiatives in Washoe County. He mentioned the regionalization of dispatch for EMS and fire services, as well as improvements in elections administration. He highlighted the implementation of the Perimeter mapping tool for evacuation planning and the significant investment in broadband infrastructure. Manager Brown also mentioned the completion of the master plan update and the launch of the Climate Resilience Initiative. He discussed housing and homeless services, including the provision of over 486 adult and 35 family shelter beds. Other topics discussed included financial management, leadership changes, community surveys, and the reimagining of the CABS (Citizen Advisory Boards) to improve communication and engagement with the community.

Chair Diane Becker stated that she attended the reimagining of the CAB and noted that many expressed frustrations that the development portion had been taken away from the CAB and recommended that those types of items would come back for some sort of input. Diane gave an example of the possibility of a batch plant coming to Incline, where she asked for that County staff come to CAB, but they have not. She also noted the need to expand broadband along HWY 431 and reliable internet.

Manager Brown agreed that having staff available earlier on in the process to receive input. This is not our current process, as Planners often get too busy to follow up with every person that has questions re: emerging development projects. Washoe County is currently working on solutions. Eric also mentioned that Washoe County is cognizant of broadband regarding emergency preparedness aspect and are continuing to work on it.

CAB member Roxanna Dunn asked what the "regionalization" area is referring to.

Manager Brown replied that the regionalization is focused on the urban core (Reno/Sparks) due to the majority of fire & EMS calls generated from that area, but that Incline is well represented by including Chief Sommers in the conversations and as the program is implemented Washoe County would have the opportunity to reach out further to unincorporated areas.

CAB Member Denise Davis thanked the County for providing a way for residents that do not live near the County Chambers to participate in the County Commission meetings. Between the weather and many residents not living in the area full-time, it's appreciated.

CAB Member Kevin Lyons commented that many CAB meetings don't seem to follow the logical process. For example - #1) What are the actual problems, #2) Now that we know this, what are the causes and solutions. #3) Then we're receiving an update. It should all fit into a plan and be very clearly outlined or have a framework, which would be helpful. Feels that this will eliminate the feeling that the "County does stuff TO us, instead of FOR us." Understands that the County does want to do stuff for the residents, but the lack of information makes it challenging.

Kathy Julian noted being on the Board of Adjustment where many community members feel that their views/complaints at neighborhood development meetings are not conveyed in the developer summaries or reflected on staff reports. Kathie suggested that staff reports are more detailed, capturing the feeling of the community and that there be more guidelines for developers on what the summaries should contain.

Carole Black stated in the comments from Manager Brown that there was not much regarding dealing with concerns with the community up at the lake. Although a small corner of Washoe County, they are an important part and contribute significantly to the tax rolls. Carole notes the issue of overtourism that is not getting addressed and destroying the community. She is worried about the County not giving enough attention to Incline residents and feels that they have the least input to the Board of County Commissioners compared to other public bodies. Carole stated that she was disappointed that although the County has many projects, there needed to be more attention dedicated to their issues and challenges.

Manager Brown stated that this would be considered but pointed out that \$2 million dollars in projects were on the list for this area to include transportation, the Incline Justice Court needs, and \$250k to IVGID for recreation needs. However, the feedback was appreciated, and we could always do better.

CAB member Roxanna Dunn proposed the idea that Pamela Tsigdinos suggested which was that every so often the Board of County Commissioners meeting be held in Incline Village.

Manager Brown acknowledged the suggestion and would pass it along but warned that there may be resistance simply from a security and broadcasting standpoint.

7. TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY (TRPA)

TRPA Planner Rachel Shaw provided information on the ongoing efforts in the Tahoe region focusing on sustainability and reducing injuries resulting from accidents. The strategic plan emphasizes the refurbishment of roadways to enhance safety for all users, including pedestrians, cyclists, drivers, and public transit riders. The plan also aims to provide better access to expert resources for snow removal challenges, ensuring the economy thrives while addressing safety concerns on the roadways. The governing boards are actively involved in approving safety measures and seeking public comments to address climate-related issues and prevent over-tourism. TRPA noted that enforcement laws are crucial in managing speed and ensuring safety around Lake Tahoe. The Vision Zero initiative aims to secure funds for regional safety projects and improve reporting mechanisms to track progress effectively. It was further discussed that collaboration with various agencies, including law enforcement, is essential to ensure the success of safety initiatives and that data analysis plans a key role in identifying high-risk zones and implementing appropriate countermeasures. Public participation is encouraged to gather feedback on safety concerns and prioritize short-term safety improvements in high-traffic areas. Efforts are also directed towards creating pedestrian-friendly streets and promoting walking as a sustainable mode of transportation. The engagement of the community in safety discussions is vital to address road-related issues effectively. The focus is on creating a safe environment for all residents and visitors, aligning with the regional goal of zero fatalities and serious injuries by 2050.

Kevin Lyons asked the presenter to define what is a “non-collision crash”. The presenter explained that it was a vehicle that did not come into contact with another vehicle, such as it being overturned or hitting a foreign object.

Kevin also asked if a “crash” only includes vehicle crashes. The presenter noted that the data includes pedestrians and bicycle crashes which only constitutes a small amount (maybe 5 incidents).

Kevin Lyons inquiring about the approach to safety measures in transit systems, questioning the logic behind prioritizing improvements in already safe areas relative to more dangerous aspects. Kevin further wanted clarification on whether the current strategies align more with a safety plan or a complete streets plan, emphasizing the need to address all modes of transportation for overall street safety.

TRPA PIO Jeff Cowen replied that the Vision Zero strategy is integrated into the regional transportation plan and that there is no need to separate or create divisions among existing plans. Cowen mentions that the projects within the Vision Zero strategy are likely to be included in other plans and projects as well, indicating alignment across various initiatives. Ultimately, he expresses agreement and suggests that they are likely discussing the same objectives.

Kevin Lyons disagreed and noted that an equity plan would achieve equitable goals, while a safety plan would achieve safety goals, but would just like clarification on what the plan goal is.

Roxanna Dunn expressed gratitude for Vision Zero and the Complete Street plans. However, noting that her biggest grievance being the 40 driveways that enter directly onto Hwy 28. Until this is addressed, residents will never have safe pedestrian or bicycle safety. She understands that this is bigger than the proposed plans, but that it is within TRPA's scope when redeveloping the areas.

Diane Becker agreed with Roxanna on driveway consolidation and asked that the feedback be reported to the governing board. She also highlighted the danger of the intersection where the mobility HUB is proposed. She urged the board to prioritize safety over the TTD's initiative and that residents are worried about the safety of residents, especially children, in congested areas. Diane also had concerns about allocation of funding, giving the example on the funds invested into studying a bike lane instead of in other areas of opportunity. Diane urges that safety should be the primary consideration when allocating limited funds and gaining input from the public.

TRPA answered that they would look into the crash data at the intersection mentioned and assured that public input is being sought for the regional transportation plan that brings in all the projects for consideration.

Diane Becker is concerned that in bringing in so many perspectives from across the entire lake that may not be the perspective of the Incline residents, it would not address some specific safety concerns and urges them to look strictly at safety first.

Kevin Lyons agrees that seeking public input on safety-related matters is important but suggests that public input should be sought on topics where the public has expertise, by first accurately identifying the problem/issues before seeking public opinion. Kevin gave the analogy of not having a vote on vaccines during a pandemic and inadvertently vaccinating the wrong group which underscores the importance of focusing on safety measures without losing sight of the primary goal.

Carolyn Usinger comments on the safety concerns surrounding Route 28, noting the lack of turnaround spots leading to safety hazards of cars doing dangerous maneuvers. She also points out the narrowing road near Ponderosa which increases accidents, especially for those making left turns. Carolyn emphasizes the need for a thorough road assessment to address safety issues effectively. Lastly, she mentions the prevalence of trash and alcohol containers on the roads to indicate a broader concern about safety and cleanliness in the area.

Helen Neff supports the Vision Zero initiatives, citing successful implementations in Sweden, Norway, and Jersey City, New Jersey. She emphasizes the role of street design and features like ADA-compliant bus stops in enhancing safety. The resident also notes the importance of addressing issues related to speed, distracted driving, and impaired driving, particularly in the context of cannabis use. Additionally, Helen advocates for reducing speed limits and incorporating safety measures into development projects to improve transportation safety.

Kathy Julian agreed with Helen Neff's remarks that the County should encourage TRPA to look at the speed limit in the town center, which is the primary cause of problems, especially the crosswalk in

front of Raley's. Kathy noted that the data was from 2020 and asked if there was more recent data, to include real-time reporting and allow TRPA, State police, and local patrol to input information – suggested that TRPA work on this collaboration.

TRPA Planner Rachel Shaw responded to Kathie's comment on the data noting that there is lag of about one to two years in receiving crash data from the states. The process involves local and state law enforcement agencies responding to crashes, providing reports, and submitting them to the statewide database system. This system then compiles all reports for the entire state, requiring significant processing to ensure accuracy. TRPA acknowledged the challenge of the lag and expressed a desire to receive crash data faster to identify locations for improvements. TRPA also noted Meetings have been held with various law enforcement agencies to address this issue and explore the feasibility of obtaining data directly from local jurisdictions.

Beth Davidson commented that TRPA could assist in two areas, one being the "Meadow" where the signs are often not operational including a sign to slow down. The other is a sign near the summit that is not working. Beth would find it helpful if TRPA could make sure these signs are operational.

8. PRESENTATION FROM CAB TO WASHOE COUNTY COMMISSION

Chair Diane Becker introduced the item, noting that the presentation before the board is the finalized version that CAB member Roxanna Dunn has been leading, which will be shown to each of the County Commissioners re: issues and concerns of Incline Village and Crystal Bay residents. Diane noted that a majority of the CAB members agree with the content, sans one CAB member who does not agree on the portion that addresses workforce housing. Diane asked the remaining board members if they wanted to review the presentation again, but they did not. Chair Becker clarified that there may be some minor changes based on getting more accurate, updated information. Diane asked that each CAB member share if they approve it or not.

Carla Werner stated that she agreed with the STRs portion and that the subject is very passionate with a lot of different views, so she proposed that STR laws be added to the PowerPoint slide. Roxanna Dunn asked for clarification on "STR law", to which Carla defined as current laws/regulations/codes that need to be reviewed and adjusted. Roxanna noted that the PowerPoint includes bullet points of suggestions that will be discussed with the BCC members. Diane chimed in that Carla wanted to add a bullet point to ask the County to have a referendum.

Denise Davis commented back to Carla that Commissioner Alexis Hill did bring up amendments to regulations that were voted down by other members and so they cannot bring back the item for another year. Diane Becker believed that cannabis lounges were brought back within a year, to which Kevin Lyons stated that it would need to be the entire board to revote, not a single person to bring back the item. This bullet point was added to the PowerPoint.

Vice-Chair Kevin Lyons advised cutting it down to make it more impactful and suggested working with Roxanna to do so. Kevin gave the example of the County STR presentation that started out perfectly

but deviated from addressing actual public problems to becoming more of a one-sided position piece and failed to tackle essential community issues like noise problems, public nuisances, and other practical concerns related to STRs. Roxanna Dunn and Kevin talked back and forth regarding what the data was conveying and not conveying, but ultimately suggested talking offline regarding specific details. Chief Diane Becker remarked that this presentation has been discussed since February 2023 and asked that Kevin discuss with Roxanna after the meeting, but still be able to vote on approving the presentation. Roxanna and Kevin continued to discuss the details of the PowerPoint, including highlighting “selected problems”, focusing on what issues have been raised, and narrowed down to top three concerns.

Kevin Lyons asked how long the meetings were with BCC members, to which Diane initially stated 30 mins but then remarked that it was originally 10-15 mins. Diane clarified that the presentation is meant for individual meetings with commissioners. Based on that information, Kevin affirmed that he could help with the 10 mins version. Roxanna remarked that they may only be able to review each section, and the third as an optional item so they can pick and choose.

County staff suggested that we move to public comment and vote to be mindful of time.

Denise Davis remarked that she is not comfortable with wording on Slide #22, but they could work on it. Denise commended Roxanna on the amount of data reviewed to get to this point. Kevin agreed with the kudos. Denise noted not being clear on who would be speaking with the commissioners vs. entire BCC. Diane responded that this will be decided in two parts as the board still needs to discuss this. County staff member Alexandra Wilson interjected that this would only be for individual meetings with the commissioners, not a presentation to the BCC. Ms. Wilson recommended allowing only two members of the CAB and does not need to be voted on. Chair Becker acknowledged the information and called for a vote.

Diane proposed the motion to present the PowerPoint to each commissioner, with the caveat that the position is taken by a majority of the CAB members, not all. Kevin modified the motion to remove the last portion noting that these are the issues in Incline Village/Crystal Bay and does not see it necessary to mention. Diane, Kevin, and Roxanna continued to discuss the motion and the intent of the presentation to the Commission. Diane rephrased the motion.

Motion was approved (5-0).

Diane Becker posed a second notion on having two changing CAB members to present the PowerPoint during each individual meeting. County staff member Alexandra Wilson advised the CAB that who provides the presentation does not need to be voted on.

Denise Davis asked for clarification, as she has seen where the County has put out notices where two or more commissioners may attend an event. Alexandra explained that because the CAB members are meeting to discuss issues with the commissioners the two situations differ, in that commissioners may

be invited to an event, but are not discussing County policy or concerns. Events are exempt from NRS, as they are not to be used to conduct "County business".

Diane Becker asked for comments on the changing CAB members on the presentations, to which Denise Davis had some concerns about the presentation being different with each presenter. Diane agreed there is a benefit to having one person provide the presentation with another rotating, depending on if there is an existing relationship with the particular commission member. Denise noted feeling more comfortable with that option. Diane noted that she would be speaking with each CAB member to determine who would want to present.

9. NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT HUB

There was no update from staff on this item.

10. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING(S) OF July 5, 2023, August 7, 2023, November 2, 2023, and December 4, 2023

Multiple CAB members expressed dissatisfaction with the format of the minutes, leading to the need for a more detailed transcription version for clarity, as provided in the past. Diane Becker noted additional difficulty in accessing the minutes on the agenda.

A majority of the CAB members emphasized the importance of thorough review and discussion of the minutes to ensure accuracy and transparency in decision-making processes. Additionally, CAB members highlighted the time-consuming process of reviewing video transcripts and the value of detailed transcriptions for effective communication, record-keeping, and to facilitate efficient decision-making in future meetings.

Due to the inability to access the minutes online and time needed to review the minutes, the CAB members voted to continue the item to the next meeting.

Motion passed (5-0).

11. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS/DISCUSSION

Diane Becker announced that tomorrow the TRPA oversight committee will be meeting, and the public can provide comments.

12. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Kathie Julian relayed comments by Pamela Tsigdinos, who raised a query about the county's planning involving the sheriff's office and fire department. Pamela inquired about the potential for a thorough evacuation test during the summer months to assess the effectiveness of evacuation procedures in all neighborhoods. Pamela is seeking clarity on whether such a comprehensive evacuation trial is being considered for the future.

Diane Becker responded that she would follow up with the Sheriff's Office on Pamela's suggestion and concern.

Denise Davis confirmed that the minutes link online works, but the link on the agenda does not.

Helen Neff asked if she would be able to call in for the TRPA committee meeting tomorrow. Diane stated that she would provide a copy of the agenda to see if that was possible.

ADJOURNMENT - Adjourned at 7:47 p.m.