**North Valleys Citizen Advisory Board**

**Minutes of the regular meeting of the North Valleys Citizen Advisory Board held on February 11, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. North Valleys Library (1075 N Hills Blvd. Reno, NV 89506)**

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

PRESENT - Teresa Aquila, Kelly Orr, Roger Edwards all present, ABSENT - Aaron Jennings, Wanida Black, William Robinson.

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

1. **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.

No one signed up for public comment.

1. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING(S) OF** [**December 11, 2023**](https://washoenv.sharepoint.com/%3Aw%3A/r/sites/CommunicationsDivision/_layouts/15/Doc.aspx?sourcedoc=%7B5732D3F3-B11E-4563-9D86-4A8EC8F1957E%7D&file=NV%20CAB%20Minutes_Dec_2023.docx&action=default&mobileredirect=true) **– [FOR POSSIBLE ACTION] Minutes were approved.**
2. **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 as such. [Non-Action Item**]**

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District – Joe Shum, Division Chief, Truckee Meadows Fire and Rescue, mentioned recap for 2023 the North Valleys handed 2600 calls for the year. This is about an average of 200 calls a month. 192 calls for January with 5 fire calls. 114 medical calls which is average and only 4 motor vehicle calls, probably due to less snow this season. 44 false/good intent calls. The fire chief will be publishing the 2023 community report coming in around April. He mentioned the new grant funded position for a Wildland Urban Interface Coordinator came on board last week. In addition, 4 new hires to the academy were brought on to fill 6 openings. The additional 2 are still being filled. The International Association of Fire Chiefs spotlighted TM Fire and Rescue for their hard work which is showcased across the county.

Public Commenter was unable to do open burning and wanted to know why it was closed. TMFPD responded that this was due to air quality, burning and resource management, but it will reopen. Open burning will open in March.

Washoe County Sheriff’s Office – Lt Armando Avina and Sgt Sonya Butler attended this meeting. Lt Avina mentioned a grooming standard being finalized, and their promotions process is complete for the year. So next month there will be new faces as patrol deputies become leadership. He mentioned 1 crash yesterday (Superbowl Sunday) and they did an assist with Nevada State Police, it was not alcohol related and they reported no alcohol related fatalities.

Sgt Butler mentioned a fraud identification program targeting elderly and vulnerable, but it is not limited to those groups. Scammers are targeting people looking for jobs and they pretend to hire people and send fake checks to purchase equipment for working from home. Then they find out the check is fake.

Public Commenter asked about how to report scams they hear. Sgt Butler stated they can be reported on their website. If they don't have access to a computer, they can call the non-emergency line and make the report. Lt Avila stated they can dispatch a deputy for suspicious activity, they will collect the intel to assist in notification to the rest of the community.

1. **Washoe County Bookmobile–** Jeff Scott and Jonnica Bowen introduce the Washoe County Library Bookmobile and explain the history of the bookmobile process and how it came to be.

Public Commenter asked if it will it appear at apartment complexes or senior centers upon request. Jeff responded yes and detailed they will also be testing some routes as well, but also looking for opportunities

 To do appearances at other neighborhood events.

Question – Where can you find this information?

Jonnica responded that the link is on the Washoe County Library webpage.

They discussed the contract and why it took so long to get the bookmobile into fruition. They discussed the size of the van as being drivable with a normal driver license and not requiring special accommodation to park.

1. **NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT HUB** Highlighting North Valleys developments in unincorporated Washoe County. Misty Blue Training Equestrian has filed an application to continue current operations and activities and advised the meeting was February 20th. In addition, there is a code change proposed for zoning that would affect all the areas of Washoe County and that meeting is via Zoom. Info was provided how to access the meetings and agendas. [Non-Action Item]
2. **BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS/DISCUSSION** — This item is limited to announcements, requests for future agenda items, or discussion by CAB members and/or commissioner [Non-Action Item]

There were not board member announcements or discussion items.

1. **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.

Gary Schmidt spoke and made comments about the inability to hear the county representative and mentioned she did not have a nametag.

Alexandra Wilson advised of the options that are available for business permits or other resources available to citizens via the Community Services Department.

No other comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned.

**Date:** Wednesday, 6th March 2024, 15:23- 16:13 GMT-08:00

**Meeting Summary**

The meeting started with a discussion on the attendance of board members, with several members absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and there were no public comments. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved. Updates on fire and rescue incidents were provided, including the number of calls received and specific incidents. The importance of tracking good intent and false calls for compliance purposes was highlighted. The introduction of a new Wildland Urban Interface Coordinator and the training of new hires were mentioned as future action items. The recognition received by Truckee Mountain Aspire from the International Association of Fire Chiefs was discussed. Managing fire incidents and compliance with regulations were emphasized. Updates on fundraisers, promotions, fraud identification and prevention, scam awareness and reporting, and the Washoe County Library System Bookmobile were provided. The cancellation of a vehicle contract and upcoming neighborhood development meetings were mentioned. Meeting logistics, audio issues, and public comments were addressed. Tips and tricks for snow operations and winter travel were discussed, along with business licensing in Washoe County.

**Next steps**

* The speaker informs the participants to keep an eye out for the upcoming 2023 community report, which will highlight the accomplishments of the previous year. This report can serve as a reference for future action items and planning.
* The speaker introduces the new Wildland Urban Interface Coordinator, who will help neighborhoods with wildfire risk assessments and grant applications. This creates future action items for neighborhoods to devise plans and seek grant money.
* The speaker mentions the four new hires starting rookie school and the additional training they will receive before becoming sole firefighters. This highlights the future action items of training and preparing the new hires for their roles.
* The Lieutenant provides updates on the fundraiser for relaxed grooming standards and the announcement of permanent grooming standards. These changes require future action to ensure compliance and implementation.
* The Lieutenant discusses upcoming promotions within the patrol division, indicating the need for future action to manage the transition and introduce new leaders.
* The Sergeant discussed the plan to launch a fraud program with a website portal for reporting suspicious phone calls, emphasizing the importance of community awareness and early detection.
* The participants discussed the challenges faced when contacting the sheriff's office about scam calls and the need for a designated place to report such incidents. The Sergeant explained that calling the front desk during business hours or requesting a call back from a deputy are alternative options for reporting.
* During the discussion, a question is raised about whether apartment complexes and senior centers can reach out to the Bookmobile for services. The speaker confirms that they can email Jonika, who is in charge of outreach, to set up routes and events.
* The library has an outreach page on their website where interested entities can request their services. They have an outreach team that assesses opportunities and ensures they have the resources to attend. They mentioned upcoming events, such as the Head Start program at Desert Heights Elementary School.
* The speaker mentioned the monthly neighborhood development meetings that highlight developments in the unincorporated Washoe County. They specifically discussed two recent developments that would affect the North Valley's area, including the Misty Blue Training horse facility. They provided details about an upcoming meeting for the Misty Blue Training facility on February 20th.
* The speaker informs the participants about the upcoming meeting on February 20th, where they can ask questions and provide feedback. They can also submit feedback at any time or date. The meeting recordings, documents, and a summary of the meeting are available for reference.
* The speaker discusses tips and tricks for snow operations, preparation for winter travel, and best practices. They mention a flyer with contact information for CST and discuss business licensing in Washoe County.

**AI Insights**

Based on the computed KPI values, the meeting had a high Meeting Agenda Adherence rate of 100%. This indicates that the meeting closely followed the planned agenda in terms of timing and topic coverage. There were no deviations or discussions on other topics, suggesting that the meeting was well-organized and efficient.

**Topics & Highlights**

1. **Meeting started** (1:0)
	* **Attendance** | The attendance of board members was discussed. Teresa Sefakila and Jenny Ginnings were absent, William Roberts and Chloe Orr were absent, Roger Edwards was present, and Juanine Black was absent. Kelly Orr was present.
	* **Public Comment** | The meeting opened for general public comment, but there were no comments.
	* **Pledge of Allegiance** | The meeting started with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.
	* **Approval of Minutes** | The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.
2. **Fire and Rescue Updates** (2:30)
	* **Fire and Rescue Updates** | Joe Shum from Truckee Meadows Fire and Rescue provided updates on public safety and fire incidents. He mentioned the number of calls received, the percentage increase in calls, and specific incidents that occurred.
3. **Good Intent Calls and Community Report** (0:56)
	* **Compliance Matters** | The speaker mentions the number of good intent and false calls, which are situations where there was no actual emergency. These calls are important to track for compliance and accuracy purposes.
4. **Recognition by International Association of Fire Chiefs** (0:58)
	* **Strategic Direction** | The speaker highlights the recognition received by Truckee Mountain Aspire from the International Association of Fire Chiefs. This recognition showcases the strategic direction of the organization in terms of urban interface, fuels reduction, community awareness, and risk reduction.
5. **Fire Management** (0:27)
	* **Compliance Matters** | The speaker mentions managing fire incidents and calls related to open burning, indicating the need to comply with regulations and ensure proper resource allocation.
6. **Fraud Identification and Prevention** (2:7)
	* **Compliance Matters** | Sergeant Sonia Butler discusses the need for fraud identification and prevention, targeting vulnerable populations. Various sophisticated scams are highlighted, including employment scams and scams involving representatives posing as law enforcement.
7. **Scam Awareness and Reporting** (5:35)
	* **Compliance Matters** | The participants were advised to call dispatch and request a call back from a deputy or ask for a deputy to be dispatched to their house if they believe they were scammed. The importance of calling 911 in case of emergencies or suspicious activities in progress was highlighted.
	* **Compliance Matters** | The Sergeant mentioned that insurance companies, utility companies, sheriff's office, and law enforcement will not ask for money over the phone, highlighting the need for scam awareness.
8. **Cancellation of Vehicle Contract** (1:20)
	* **Compliance Matters** | The vendor canceled the contract and decided to sell the vehicle to private individuals instead of the county or other government operations. The speaker expressed frustration about contractors and private entities being prioritized over the county due to higher payments.
9. **Audio Issues** (0:49)
	* **Compliance Matters** | A participant raises concerns about the poor audio quality and asks for suggestions to improve it. The speaker suggests moving the speaker closer and increasing the volume. They also recommend using closed captions as an alternative.
10. **Public Comment** (2:2)
	* **Decisions Made** | The board moves to general public comment after no board member announcements or requests. They remind a participant to fill out a form before speaking.
	* **Compliance Matters** | A participant complains about the volume problem and suggests that the county representative should have a microphone and a name tag for better communication. In addition, expressed dissatisfaction with the bureaucracy and incompetence of government officials in Washoe County. They mention that they moved to Story County due to these issues.