



Sun Valley Citizen Advisory Board

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Sun Valley Citizen Advisory Board held on April 06, 2024, 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, Mary Esposito, Heidi Soper were present. Michael Rider (Vice Chair) and Mark Neumann were 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** – 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]

*There was no recording of this portion of the meeting, and therefore no public comment was captured.

4. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETINGS** of February 3, 2024. (For Possible Action)

A correction to the spelling of a public commenter's name was requested. With that change, a motion and a second were made to approve the minutes. The vote passed unanimously.

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 -

*There was no recording of this portion of the meeting, and therefore no presentation was captured. Lt. O'Brien provided an update.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District –

*There was no recording of this portion of the meeting, and therefore no presentation was captured. Captain James Solaro provided an update.

6. **SUN VALLEY CLEAN-UP** - Community Outreach Coordinator Alexandra Wilson to provide information on the upcoming Sun Valley Drop Off Site, in collaboration with our community partners. [Non-Action Item]

Staff member Alexandra Wilson discussed the upcoming Sun Valley clean-up event that would take place on April 27 at Scolari's market from 8 a.m. until noon, or until full. Ms. Wilson outlined the various types of materials that would be accepted and the County's partnership with Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful, and the Sun Valley GID.

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]

Washoe County staff member Alexandra Wilson pulled up the neighborhood development HUB site. Ms. Wilson showed that there were currently no upcoming meetings for developments in Sun Valley and shared the project list and map and encouraged people to sign up or visit the hub for updates and showed how to sign up for notifications on future public meetings.

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 Garcia mentioned actively pursuing infrastructure funding for Sun Valley, engaging with congressional delegates, and advocating for improvements in lighting, sidewalks, and overall infrastructure to address safety concerns for residents, especially children. She went on to express willingness to advocate for Sun Valley, mentioning securing funding, engaging with the GID for projects, and encouraging ideas for community development. Commissioner Garcia then discussed ongoing efforts to improve bike infrastructure, engage with NDOT for road ownership transfer, and highlighted the importance of community involvement in strategic initiatives for Sun Valley. The idea of centralizing all of the signals into one database is a future technology on the horizon. The Commissioner encouraged attendees to reach out to her directly via text, email, or phone.

A citizen expressed concern for bureaucracy and Sun Valley not being treated equally. Commissioner Garcia has passed along these sentiments to RTC.

Another citizen asked if the CAB meetings may stop occurring. Staff member Alexandra Wilson replied that the Commission Support Team is looking to increase engagement by rethinking what community involvement looks like. By tracking the CAB attendance, the team found that there are more staff than attendance. There is a survey out in the community now about engagement. A citizen asked how communications were being sent about CABs. Ms. Wilson mentioned email blasts and on Nextdoor. When items of significant interest were promoted, there was no problem with achieving high attendance. Postcards were not helpful. Word of mouth is a useful tool, according to those surveyed. The Hobey's sign is also helpful.

Commissioner Garcia said that she has plans to connect with Hug High and engage with the school district to introduce the concept of public comment sessions to students, aiming to involve younger audiences in county government.

CAB Chair Ortiz encourages developers to seek advisory input from the board, urges members to apply for board positions, discusses the Affordable Connectivity Program, requests a phone call for meeting cancellations, and promotes attendance at Sun Valley GID meetings for public input on park-related matters.

Citizen Carol Burns suggests using leftover county budget for advertising on television to promote Citizen Advisory Boards, highlighting the expense of television advertising and the need for financial support.

The discussion highlighted the need for ideas on how to communicate important information to seniors without internet access or cell phones. Suggestions were made to explore options like hosting phone conferences or creating newsletters to reach out to this demographic.

During this segment, various future action items were discussed, including updates from NDOT on State Highway 443 improvements, traffic safety discussions involving multiple agencies, updates from senior services, updates on Chocolate Drive, community surveys accessibility for seniors without digital devices, and a presentation from Washoe County communication resources.

- 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]

Citizen Andrea Pelto mentioned the Better Business Bureau holding senior scam seminars in May. There are also activities taking place at the Senior Center on 9th Street. Older Americans Month booklet will be available shortly.

Citizen Judi Jensen said that AT&T may be extending their affordable connectivity program. Discussed a heater and air conditioning tune-up to help with electricity bills, and to contact NV Energy for an appointment.

CAB member Heidi Soper would like to think of ways that information can get out to people in the community who do not have internet access or smartphones. Suggested getting involved with the Sun Valley GID newsletter.

CAB Chair Carmen Ortiz made public comment that she is running for Assembly District 27. Would like citizens to send her their concerns so she can represent them.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned.