REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – Final
6:00 PM, Thursday, February 7, 2019
Squaw Valley Public Utility District – Community Meeting Room
305 Squaw Valley Road
Olympic Valley, CA

Pursuant to notice given, a meeting of the Squaw Valley Municipal Advisory Council (SVMAC) was held on Thursday February 7, 2019 in the Squaw Valley Public Service District Community Meeting Room in Olympic Valley, California.

1. Call to Order
Stepner called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. A quorum was established.
MEMBERS PRESENT: Adriani, Bazjanac, Calhoun, Johnson, Lange, and Stepner
MEMBERS ABSENT: Georgiu
STAFF PRESENT: Montgomery, Romack, and Friedman
ATTENDANCE: 25

2. MAC Member Introductions

3. Approval of February 7, 2019 Agenda
ADRIANI/BAZJANAC/UNANIMOUS

4. Approval of Minutes of December 6, 2018
CALHOUN/BAZJANAC/Carried with abstention from Adriani

5. Reports
A. Supervisor/Tahoe Field Representative Reports
SUPERVISOR MONTGOMERY reported that at its January meeting, the Board of Supervisors moved forward with items related to the achievable housing proposal on the Nahas property in Tahoe City. The County is working with a development group and looking at financing options for 206 units and 14 single family homes.

MONTGOMERY reported Placer County is again offering tax help to low-income individuals. PREP, the Placer County re-entry program offered through the probation office is now being offered on this side of the County. The program provides offenders with services to transition back into the community.

The new Assistant CEO, Jane Christenson, will be focusing on fiscal management. She will provide oversight for procurement, revenue collection, and IT services. Kurt Uhler was appointed as President of the Board of Supervisors. With the election of Bonnie Gore in District 1 representing Roseville, there are now two women on the Board.
The Board received an update on the Placer County Parks and Trails Master Plan. According to the information received, people are most interested in multi-use trails and open space.

STEPNER heard the County is considering purchasing property at Highway 89 and West River. MONTGOMERY said the County is considering using the property as a trail head, in keeping with the Resort Triangle plan.

B. Community Reports
MIKE GEARY, General Manager of SVPSD, reported Plumpjack has put their project on hold and pulled the EIR. SVPSD will consider options to build the proposed well that was part of the project. SVPSD has received TOT to continue removing snow from the bike trail this winter. GEARY encouraged everyone to attend monthly SVPSD Board meetings.

DAVE HUNT, SVPSD District Engineer, reported a $1.8 million contract has been awarded to replace a portion of sewer pipeline. It has taken about 18 months to design and permit the project, which should begin in June. This is the largest sewer infrastructure project SVPSD has done. It is funded through the SVPSD Sewer Capital Replacement Fund.

6. Public Comment
STEPNER reported statistics from the first month of the Mountaineer Shuttle operations. Between December 1, 2018 and January 31, 2018, there were 31,272 passengers and 16,634 total trips. Using a heat-index map, STEPNER said most people traveled to or from the member’s locker room circle area in Squaw, but people are using it for a variety of reasons. The on-demand, on-call service is available in Squaw Valley and Alpine Meadows this winter as a pilot program. At the end of the season, the service will be evaluated.

ADRIANI said the plowed bike trail is a huge success. It is being used much more than she thought it would be. The tricky part is getting from the side roads to the trail because there are no marked pedestrian crosswalks.

EVAN BENJAMINSON reported on the FEMA process to identify high hazard flood zones. The process was conducted last year, but BENJAMINSON does not believe the community was advised and the changes in mapping could impact insurance costs and loans. Squaw Valley Lodge ended up with over $60,000 in unanticipated expenses. None of his homeowners were notified of the two-year process. MONTGOMERY said the County only provides information; the remapping is done by FEMA, a federal agency. BENJAMINSON said the next issue will be fire line scoring and managing the potential insurance risks.

EMILY SETZER introduced herself. She was a Planner for Placer County and is now working in the Tahoe CEO’s office.
STEPNER said the proposed bus-on-shoulder pilot program has received SB 1 funds. The County is preparing an RFP to study the feasibility of the program to alleviate traffic on SR 89 and Highway 267.

STEPNER reported on a presentation at the Truckee North Tahoe Transportation Management Association (TNT TMA) meeting this morning regarding TRPA Regional Transportation Plan. The Tahoe Transportation District (TTD) is involved with implementing the overall plan and has determined there is a $1.5 billion shortfall between funding available and proposed projects. TTD is working with a consultant to consider options for closing the gap and there will be extensive public outreach. More information is available at onetahoe.org.

Applications for the new round of TOT grants have been released.

7. Council Action to Be Taken
   A. Selection of 2019 Chair and Vice Chair
      At the beginning of each year, MAC members move to select a Chair and Vice Chair to lead monthly MAC discussions.
      Motion to appoint STEPNER as 2019 Chair of SVMAC. ADRIANI/LANGE/UNANIMOUS.
      Motion to appoint GEORGIU at 2019 Vice-Chair of SVMAC. STEPNER/ADRIANI/UNANIMOUS.

8. Information Items
   A. Olympic Meadow Property Acquisition
      The Truckee Donner Land Trust is in contract to acquire the 30-acre Olympic Meadow Property at 325 Squaw Valley Road for public access and conservation in a joint effort with the Squaw Valley Public Service District. Representatives from the two organizations will provide information on fundraising efforts, strategies and next steps to acquire the legendary property.
      Presenters: Perry Norris, Truckee Donner Land Trust, and Mike Geary, Squaw Valley Public Service District
      SVPSD Board Member BILL HUDSON and PERRY NORRIS from the Land Trust presented the plan to purchase the 30-acres for public use. They discussed the goals of the project, advantages of public ownership and the plan for community engagement prior to the acquisition. This purchase provides an opportunity to preserve the Poulsen legacy, insure public use, and restore the meadow and creek. The asking price for the property is $15 million. It is currently in contract as the appraisal is being conducted and funding options are considered. It is expected that property owners will vote on a bond measure on the November 5, 2019 ballot to use a parcel tax to fund the purchase.
      LARRY YOUNG from Ward Young is working with the Land Trust to assess the physical and regulatory constraints and opportunities. He showed the parcels on a map and noted about 15 acres of the property is zoned High Density Residential, 14 acres are Conservation Preserve and 1 acre is
Forest Recreation. It is anticipated SVPSD will take ownership of the 15 acres of high density and the Land Trust will own the balance. YOUNG will do a baseline assessment of the property and consider the issues of transferring it from private to public use.

MIKE GEARY said the District is excited about the prospects of securing the land for the public. Phase 1 of the public process will focus on the ballot measure in November. Assuming the sale goes through, a Master Planning Process will begin in 2020. SVPSD is forming a stakeholder group with local and regional leaders to guide the fundraising and election strategy.

Two public meetings are scheduled: February 23 at 1:00 PM and February 26 at 6:00 PM. Both will be held at SVPSD. To be added to the distribution list, email OMPinfo@svpsd.org.

Discussion followed as the proposed acquisition was clarified, including the bond measure, potential uses of the property and home, and public outreach. The topic was open to public comment.

TROY TURNER asked about funding operations and maintenance after the purchase. PERRY explained the formula the Lake Trust uses to calculate O&M costs.

WAYNE POULSEN thanked all involved in the potential purchase. He said this is an irreplaceable piece of property and the day it goes into the public realm will be a transcendent day for the community. SVPSD does not necessarily need to operate it. There are examples in Banff and Aspen of what a facility can bring to the wealth of the community. A foundation or private entrepreneur could run it or an organization such as Squaw Valley Institute. It is essential that everyone have a voice and visualize the future.

Tonight’s Power Point slides will be available on the SVPSD website.

B. Squaw Valley Fire Department Emergency Preparedness Overview
The Squaw Valley Fire Department will provide a brief overview of emergency preparedness and evacuation plans for Olympic Valley.

Presenter: Chief Allen Riley, Squaw Valley Fire Department

CHIEF RILEY spoke to the group about the emergency preparedness plans in place and the evacuation/shelter in place community approach. SVFD works with other agencies in the region, including CalFire since most of the property in the valley is owned by the state. RILEY discussed the history of the Department and the functions it provides, including mutual aid and the defensible space program.

RILEY noted Safety Zone areas in the Squaw parking lot and discussed sheltering in place during wildfires, which in some scenarios may be the best option.
RILEY answered questions from the Council. BAZJANAC asked how long it would take to evacuate Squaw. RILEY said it depends on the time of year, how long there is to prepare for an evacuation, and what the emergency is.

CALHOUN asked about smoke in the underground parking lots. RILEY said there is ventilation, but again, it depends upon the situation.

ADRIANI asked how residents will know what to do. RILEY said agencies will dispatch staff to provide information, but it is good to be educated on the options ahead of time. ADRIANI asked about Fire Wise Communities. MONTGOMERY said there is such a program available and the County has a coordinator.

STEPNER asked about a drill. RILEY noted the bi-state multi-agency drill last summer at the lake that involved about 700 people. To be effective, a drill should be coordinated through the Placer County Office of Emergency Services.

The topic was open to public comment. CHRISTINA CAMPBELL asked where propane tanks should go in the event of a fire and what the best respirators are. RILEY suggested putting propane tanks in bear boxes. The best respirator for home use is the N95 or P100.

Questions were asked about evacuating through roads with gates and how to prepare for sheltering in place. RILEY said people need to educate themselves as each situation is different. In the event of an emergency, all agencies will be involved to assist the public as much as possible.

RON COHEN with Squaw Valley Alpine Meadows said the ski area will of course partner with the community. They have the land, personnel, equipment, communication systems, and snow making system that pumps water to assist all agencies. He agreed with the idea of a community drill.

Discussion followed as RILEY answered questions about being fire safe, defensible space, and sheltering in place. MONTGOMERY announced dates the Placer County Fire Safe Council is showing the documentary “Wilder Than Wild,” which will be followed by a panel discussion from first responders.

C. Discussion of Potential Change in Name of the following Placer County Committees and Public Facilities:
   1. Squaw Valley Municipal Advisory Council to “Olympic Valley Municipal Advisory Council”
   2. Squaw Valley Design Review Committee to “Olympic Valley Design Review Committee”
   3. Squaw Valley Park to “Olympic Valley Park”
MONTGOMERY reported on the formal request from the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California asking that the name of County assets from “Squaw Valley” to “Olympic Valley” because of the
negative connotation of “squaw.” She noted action can only be taken on what is within the County’s purview and not on street names, peaks, or the creek. Discussion followed as Council members gave their opinions of making the change. There was understanding of the request and both sides of the issue, i.e., being respectful of the request as well as historical names, but no clear consensus.

The topic was open to public comment. KATRINA SMOLLEN said Friends of Squaw Creek has received similar comments from the Tribe and recommended changing the names within control of the County.

ED HENEVELD asked if the rest of the community has been consulted. CALHOUN said he has asked his customers and most people have no objection to making the change.

9. MAC Member/Sub Committee Reports:
   A. Squaw Valley Design Review: David Stepner
   STEPNER said the Committee did not meet today. However, at one time SVDRC asked the Resort at Squaw Creek to reconsider the esthetic elements of the parking gate. That recommendation was not honored, the application was pulled, and the gate has been put into use. STEPNER said there should be recourse for such action and the DRC as a committee should be able to file a complaint.

   MONTGOMERY said individuals can file a complaint. She noted not all recommendations are followed. STACY WYDRA from Placer County Planning reiterated that individuals can file a complaint if they feel something is out of compliance.

   B. Parks and Rec: Shelly Georgiu and David Stepner
   STEPNER reported this Committee has not met. However, there are discussions about the Committee working with SVPSD as the District considers forming a Recreation Department.

10. Future Agenda Items
    • Name change (above)

11. Adjournment at 8:37 PM to next regular meeting on March 7, 2019

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Friedman
Recording Secretary