

Notes from Mono Basin RPAC on November 18, 2020.

In attendance: Duncan King, Bartshe Miller, Ilene Mandelbaum, Chris Lizza, Bob Gardner, Bentley Regehr, Wendy Sugimura, Santiago Escruceria, Paul Ashby, Lisa Cutting

Call to order: 6:34pm

Public comment from Santiago Escruceria regarding FPPC letter and the fact that there is no conflict of interest regarding comment and interaction on Tioga Inn issue.

Review and approve minutes from Oct 14, 2020. Chris Lizza moves to approve, Ilene Mandelbaum seconds. All approve except that Lisa Cutting abstains.

Supervisor Bob Gardner: Acknowledged Walker Fire and difficult circumstances in Mono County due to wind and fire. 80 structures destroyed, evacuations, and one fatality. Tough times. Question raised regarding patrol of campgrounds during last mtg. Mono County does patrol campgrounds. We could have a town hall mtg once in a while in order to provide an informal opportunity for the community to interact with County and be responsive to community. Let me know if that makes sense for people.

Chair Duncan King: Re PSPC, lack of good communication from SCE, shoutout to home hardening seminar, sorry to see Kristie Nelson and Joel Ellis depart Mono Basin.

Ilene M.: Thanks to Kristie's participation and contribution to RPAC and Mono Basin, South Tufa closure issue to bring up with USFS, overwhelming visitation to other areas as tourists spill over. I will not reapply to be a part of RPAC in 2021 due to health reasons and concerns regarding effectiveness and relevance of RPAC. Thanks to everyone for hanging in there with the RPAC over time.

Chris Lizza: Agree with much of what Ilene says. I'm sorry to see Joel and Kristie leave the community. Historical Society wrapping up new toughshed annex. Planning Commission updates. My service on Planning Commission does not create a nexus or issue between Planning Commission or RPAC. The two are completely unrelated.

Bartshe Miller: DWP MND, DPonds work, LV SCE Hydro Relicensing update

Lisa Cutting: Thanks to Kristie for contributions over time and particularly Kristie's work with SCE power poles. Mention of swaying pole in Mono City and SCE activity in Mono City. Dumpster removed in Mono City at Fire Station. Thanks to Ilene for your service on the RPAC, and we need to find the best way to keep moving forward with the RPAC.

No Inyo National Forest Update, Gordon Martin unable to attend.

8- Fire Safe Council and house hardening presentation was very effective, great job Robbie DiPaulo. Dave Swisher reports people keep locking gate, and we may have to open it up b/c people keep locking it. Banner blown off fire truck at Tioga Green.

9- Elin Ljung had asked about partials for existing sites. Ilene provided them and Mono County had them scanned in. No other updates.

10- Mono Basin Community Plan discussion and role of RPAC, and suggestion that Mono County staff could compile an action item list update from Community Plan. Expectation that things will take time with holidays and fire emergency up north, so County Planning staff will bring this back eventually.

11- Covid 19 update. Cases increased at Mt Warfare Training Center significantly, but cases also breaking out in other parts of the County. Mono County could attain a Purple Tier status with more restrictions. Wear your masks.

12- Information items: SCE unable to come to RPAC due to travel and answer field questions/field trip, perhaps getting SCE on future agenda item. Tioga Inn looking to be followed up on December 15, but this is tentative.

December meeting? We may have one if we can get Ray Polk from SCE. Next meeting either Dec. 9 or in 2021. Thanks Ilene for your many years of service to RPAC and community!