



Searchlight Town Advisory Board

May 12, 2021

MINUTES

Board Members: John Leone– Chair
 Patricia Mayne – Vice Chair
 Kyle Myers
 Nancy Whitney

Secretary: Tammy Harris (702) 298-0828, tammy.harris@clarkcountynv.gov

- I. Call to Order by Chair John Leone at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance led by Kyle Myers.
- II. Public Comment: Three comments emailed. The first read by Chair Leone.

I will be unable to attend the meeting but wanted to voice my personal opinion on the Avi Kwa Monument. I am totally opposed to this project. The complaint regarding windmills visible from Nevada/California/Arizona is stupid. We are 20-25 miles in direction within these 3 states and the windmills will be at a higher elevation.

*Sent by Donna Moore
Searchlight, NV*

Second comment read by Kyle Myers:

As a resident of Searchlight I am opposed to the formation of the Avi Kwa Ame National Monument. Searchlight has a rich history of mining and mineral wealth derived from exploration and hard work. Current and future generations of Americans should be able to utilize this area for their economic benefit. There is already enough preserved land in the surrounding area such as Lake Mead NRA and the Mojave Preserve. Adding the area around Searchlight to existing preserved areas would ensure no job growth or future economic development for this area and ensure Searchlight stays in its current state which is a shadow of what it once was.

Sincerely

*Dean Koutras
Searchlight*

Third letter read by Patricia Mayne:

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I reside at 9860 south Hwy 95 in Calnevari, NV 89039 and probably am the closest living being to the Spirit Mountain itself and of course Christmas Tree Pass. Hearing about the effort to create another government effort to honor the Spirit Mountain I naturally became interested and curious. The Spirit Mountain is already honored by being within the Lake Mead National Recreation Area and has its own designation of Spirit Mountain Wilderness and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The thought of another title seemed to me to be a bit much until I read the Honor Spirit Mountain proposal document.

After reviewing the proposal, it seems apparent that the sponsors of the Honor Spirit Mountain project appear to not only be interested in Spirit Mountain but also all of the free land space with in Clark County south of the Las Vegas, Henderson and Boulder City area.

While I am in total support of keeping the Spirit Mountain area free and open to the public, I am not in support of using the name Spirit Mountain in what appears to be a very large land grab. Nearly 600 square miles of land.

Via the Honor Spirit Mountain web site I sent an email asking several questions regarding the proposal and received an answer from Allen O'Neil response. The response came from the Conservation Lands Foundations main office in Durango, Colorado. As noted in the Conservation Lands Foundation 2019 financial statement one of their visions is to "create an organization dedicated solely to protecting the premier lands and waters managed by the Bureau of Land Management."

It is my belief that we need to be very clear just what it is that these folks from Durango, Colorado, Washington D.C. and other cities see here in Piute valley indicating that they need to protect the people of here from.

The good citizens here have been successful at standing down many attempts to exploit the surrounding land in the past.

I think a few more questions need to be answered before the citizens can sign up for this proposal.

Why is it that this proposal is so important now.

Why over 600 acres?

Why establish more control over the water and other resources within the area?

Who are the managers of the proposed new Honor Spirit Mountain monument?

Jim Beneda

9860 S. HWY 95

Calnevari, NV 89039

Benedition2@gmail.com

- III. Approval of Minutes for April 14, 2021. (For possible action)
- Approval of Minutes for April 28, 2021. (For possible action)

Moved by: Kyle Myers

Action: Approved as written

Vote: 4-0

- IV. Approval of the Agenda for May 12, 2021, and hold, combine or delete any items. (For possible action)

Moved by: Kyle Myers

Action: Approved

Vote: 4-0

- V. Informational Items

- 1. Receive a report from Metro Police regarding activity and statistics during the past month and other area crime concerns. (For discussion only)

Kyle Myers read the Metro report.

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Officer Jeter arrived later and addressed some concerns with the residents. He said calls are up for Searchlight.

Vice Chair Mayne inquired about the traffic citations and if this included the speeding on US 95, and asked why the number is so low? Officer Jeter said actually that's fairly high, and explained why.

Ms. Mayne asked about a count strip put across the highway and Officer Jeter said that the County would need to do that type of study and not Metro. Ms. Mayne said she has two reasons for a car count, the main reason is to find out if there is enough traffic to warrant a grocery store or similar type store in Searchlight.

Officer Jeter stated in comparison between Laughlin and Searchlight, Searchlight should be happy that the number is not larger.

Kyle Myers asked about placing a dummy car with a mannequin in town to slow down the traffic passing through.

Officer Jeter commented on the officers working in Searchlight and they all care what happens here. If you see something call 911 immediately, don't wait, it's faster and it's documented. It's important that the residents do that, because the numbers will reflect how many officers should be here. Residents can also call the sub-station and request a service request, such as an officer is needed during specific times.

Jim Beneda, Cal-Nev-Ari commented that NDOT website has a record of all the traffic studies they have done.

Brad Longtin, Searchlight. Inquired about the numbers and if it includes NHP. The answer is no.

Officer Jeter said please voice your opinion, whatever it is he is willing to talk to you.

Judy Bundorf was asked about the theft on Grandpas Road and said make sure Metro is called and a report is made.

Leland Means commented to Officer Jeter regarding a list of people and contacts who live on Grandpas Road, and provided him with a copy.

April 2021 Statistics:

Calls for Service: 30

Traffic Citations: 51

DUI: 0

Battery Domestic Violence Arrests: 0

Bookings: 1

Juvenile Citations: 0

2. Receive a report from Searchlight Volunteer Fire District regarding calls for service during the past month and other fire prevention issues. (For discussion only)

Vice Chair Mayne requested the local fire department attend the TAB meetings to address

questions and concerns.

3. Receive a report from Kathy Flanagan with Las Vegas Valley Water District regarding the status of the water system. (For discussion only)

Derek Jackson provided the report.

Searchlight used more water this month due to construction projects.

Kyle Myers asked if the rest of the pipes in searchlight will be assessed. Mr. Jackson said the next project will be on East Gaviland and said about 80% of the pipes have been replaced in Searchlight over the past few years.

4. Receive a report from Will Smith with Clark County Water Reclamation District regarding the status of the wastewater system and water usage. (For discussion only)

Kyle Myers read the April report.

April 2021 Statistics:

April 2021: Treated an average of 27,000 gallons per day

April 2020: Treated an average of 26,000 gallons per day

Flow increased by 1,000 gallons per day from last year at this time.

Sewer service complaints: 0

Call Before You Dig Tickets: 2 tickets received for April 2021.

5. Receive a report from Parks & Recreation regarding the status of programs and upcoming activities. (For discussion only)

Shelly Gulotta provided the April report.

Statistics: April 2021 – 3 programs – 12 visits

Building visits: Museum – 11, Food Bank – 58

Upcoming Events:

Covid vaccinations are schedule May 21st at the Searchlight Community Center from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm.

Movie in the Park, scheduled for Thursday, May 27th, Movie and time will be determined at a later date.

Updates:

Culinary Academy of Las Vegas pop up pantry had 65 participants.

Seniors no longer need to show proof of vaccinations when participating in programs. Mask and temperature checks are still mandatory.

Vice Chair Mayne asked about her question from last month regarding if the adult programming was open to all ages and not just for seniors.

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Ms. Gulotta said yes the programs are open to everyone.

Contact information:

Shelly Gulotta, Supervisor

A'Lonn Bilbray, Recreation Specialist

Michele Brown, Recreation Assistant

Searchlight Office: (702) 297-1682

Office hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:30 am to 12:00 pm.

Laughlin Office: (702) 298-3413

6. Receive a report from Kelli Carlson with Searchlight Library regarding current and upcoming programs. (For discussion only)

Kelli Carlson provided the April report.

- The library is currently open for all library services, and will continue to have curbside services for patrons who request it. Masks or other appropriate face coverings is required for entry into the library and social distancing is practiced. The library is operating at 80% capacity.
- Wi-Fi is available 24 hours a day in the parking lot.

Children's activities:

- Snacks are being provided by Three Square and are being distributed after school at the gate and not in the library.
- Take and Make, which is a Craft along with the snack, to be given out twice a week for additional at-home enrichment. Approximately 20 crafts are distributed daily.
- The library will resume the Thursday after school programs beginning the first week in May and continue through the end of the school year.
- The library district has booked summer performers for the upcoming Summer Learning Challenge. In Searchlight the Fratello Marionettes will be here, Thursday July 8th at 2:00 pm.
- The Summer Learning Challenge will officially begin on May 15th for 0- 12th grade. Full details are on the district website or contact this library if you have questions.

Adult activities:

- The Book Club continues with a mix of in-person and call-in attendance. The Book Club will be held once a month, on the first Wednesday of each month, at 11:30 am.
- Painting with Ali will be held Wednesday, June 2rd at 11:30 am. This month's painting is an Australian turtle scene. The library will provide all supplies needed. Attendance is limited and reservations are required. Call or visit to make your reservation.

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- May is the start of an adult Take and Make craft program to take home. This will continue through the summer.

General News:

- Fax prices have been lowered to .50 cents per page. Scan / copy / print copies are available too.
- Tax forms and instruction books in Library.
- The partnership with Golden Knights has been renewed and book marks are available.
- Additional information can be found on Facebook “Searchlight Library News” or call the Library for information. Monthly calendar of events and upcoming event flyers are posted on the door.

7. Receive a report and updates from Clark County Public Works regarding the status of current and upcoming projects. (For discussion only)

Louise Steep, P.E. with Clark County Public Works provided current information for Searchlight West, which is west of US 95. Ms. Steeps provided a map of the area and said the master plan amendment has been submitted to the Regional Flood Control district for review and approval and is currently under review.

Kyle Myers commented about the project and that it’s in two parts. Ms. Steeps said the project on the east side will be pushed out and not sure when the project will be approved for bid and will take a look at it.

8. Receive information from Sunrise Home Health. (For discussion only)

Hilda Escoboza Provided swag bags and information for home health to the public. Assistance from this program includes:

Preparation of meals

Bathing and dressing

Personal care

Laundry and light housekeeping

Shopping and errands

Companionship and medication reminder.

Medicaid is accepted, waiver for persons with physical disabilities, frail elderly. For more information contact Sunrise Home Health at (702) 798-0553.

9. Receive a report from Janis Kostecky with Searchlight Senior Center regarding current and upcoming activities. (For discussion only)

Audrey Morrison provided the report in Janis Kostecky’s absence. Ms. Morrison said the senior center is open now and on the first and third Wednesday Three Square will distribute food. Exercise is from 9:00 -10:00 am or 11:00 am depending on the type of exercise.

Pool is on Monday mornings from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm and Friday nights from 5:00 – 8:00

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pm. Bingo is on Thursday at 6:00 pm. Mask is required along with a temperature check. Food is not being served yet and everyone is welcome.

Patricia Mayne commented on how comfortable the center is and Ms. Morrison said the center was recently remodeled including the bathrooms.

10. Receive a report from Kyle Myers regarding current road conditions and Public Works concerns. (For discussion only)

Kyle Myers asked if anyone had any concerns that needed to be addressed. Chair Leone said there are several large pothole located on Main Street.

Judy Bundorf commented about Grandpas Road and that it needs to be graded again.

Dean, Searchlight resident commented about the new pipes on Orlando but the area floods has ruined the road and needs to be repaved.

Patricia Mayne commented that East Hobson has large cracks into the road.

11. Announcements of upcoming neighborhood meetings and County or community meetings and events. (For discussion only)

Judy Bundorf announced the Friends of Walking Box Ranch is having a Star Gazing Event. Information on the website and reservations will be required due to the limited parking.

Kyle Myers stated Terribles Roadhouse will be having their first live band since before COVID on Saturday May 15th.

Chair Leone called a 10 minute recess.

12. Discuss the Avi Kwa Ame proposed Monument and a letter of support from the Searchlight Town Advisory Board. (For discussion only)

Kim Means opened the discussion regarding the Monument and how it can help the land from future commercial development. There are currently pockets of unprotected land and this can tie it all together.

Some of the concerns raised was if there would be any changes to the existing amenities such has off road trails, hunting, camping, existing mine claims.

The BLM would oversee the proposed monument once approved without any changes to the existing land use and recreation uses.

Ellen Ross commented on her support of the proposed monument and keeping the land available to public use.

Joe Beneda and Kyle Myers commented about their concerns of the land use limitations.

Judy Bundorf provided some additional history regarding wind farms and is in support of the proposed National Monument.

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Cara Garcia, Mikayla Whitmore, Cindy Buckley commented on their support of the proposed monument.

Chair Leone commented about the complexity of the project.

Two public meetings are scheduled for the community to be able to address their concerns and have questions answered by the Conservation Group.

The STAB members will decide after the public meeting if they will go forward with a support letter to be sent to Commissioner Naft.

VI. Planning & Zoning: None

VII. General Business: None

VIII. Public Comment:

Gabriel di Chiara made additional comments regarding the National Monument and the advantages of job growth and the 30-30 initiative.

Thomas Casey, Searchlight, commented on the National Monument and the Vista's.

IX. Next Meeting Date: June 9, 2021

X. Adjournment: 8:40 pm

These minutes are in draft form and will be formally approved at the June 9, 2021 meeting. Any corrections to these minutes will be reflected in the meeting minutes of the July 14, 2021.

To listen to the audio recording of the Searchlight Town Advisory Board go to:
<http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/administrative-services/town-liaison/Pages/Searchlight%20Town%20Advisory%20Board.aspx>