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EMIGRATION CANYON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes for August 18, 2019
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom due to COVID-19 State of Emergency

Members Present: Bill Tobey, Chair; Dan Anderson, Vice Chair; Paul Brown, Treasurer; Kate Miyagi, Secretary; Claire Clark; Michael Jimenez; Steve Borst; Stephanie Harpst; Matt Velinder; Tyler Tippetts

Members Excused/Absent: none

Also present: Michael Conn, UFA; Jake Elsasser, UPD; Joe Smolka, mayor; Tim Harpst; Bryan Johansen; Joe Smolka; other community members

7:00 PM MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Bill Tobey, chair. A quorum was present. July's minutes were approved as distributed.

Treasurer's Report

Bill Tobey read the written treasurer's report.

Detective Jake Elsasser, UPD

Detective Elsasser gave the UPD report. There were 51 calls for service and 21 initial reports written in July. There was a report of a fraud case involving check fraud by someone responding to an ad in KSL Classifieds. UPD has been warning bicyclists coming through the construction zone; one citation was given. The speed trailer is out. There was a watershed violation for camping, a house fire, a larceny from mail was determined to have been delivered to a neighbor, and a stolen vehicle along EC Rd was later recovered by Murray PD.

Captain Michael Conn, UFA

Captain Conn gave the UFA report. The abandoned house at Emigration Canyon Rd burned a day before it was scheduled for demolition. No injuries reported; the fire is under investigation. UFA is in the process of hiring new recruits. Captain Conn reported on the loss of a UFA team member. Riverton City is in the process of leaving the UFA Service Area to become a direct member of the UFA.

Road Speed and Noise Discussion

Bill Tobey opened a discussion of road speed and noise. ECCC members discussed this at our July meeting and have received feedback from many canyon residents over the last month.

DRAFT

Township plans to manage / enforce road speeds – Mayor Joe Smolka

Mayor Smolka reported on current efforts to manage speeds in the canyon. UPD is collecting speed data with the speed trailer. Mayor Smolka said no change in the speed limit is likely until the speed data can be analyzed. Mayor Smolka said a reduction of the speed limit will reduce noise. Mayor Smolka also said UPD has been stopping motorcycles for illegal modified exhausts. Also looking into other types of laws e.g public nuisance laws that we can ticket for. The Mayor said he suspects the speeds will go up with the new surface.

Detective Jake Elsasser discussed the noise ordinance and since the noise ordinance has been difficult to enforce in the canyon environment with UPD's decibel meter equipment. Illegal exhaust is a primary offense that he can ticket for. Noise is more problematic on the weekend. There was a question about how the fines compare for a primary vs. secondary offense; Detective Elsasser said the judge determines fines.

Public comment and questions on road speeds and noise issues

- Patrick Hogle asked if we can post signage to the effect of "This is a residential neighborhood. Please, no excessive speeds or noise."
- Bob MacFarlane thanked Jake for his enforcement efforts. Bob also asked for a sign, perhaps stating "EPA legal exhausts required" and asked for increased enforcement on the weekends. He noted that riders share information with each other on social media. He expressed that the 80 db limit is adequate.
- Jean Resetarits said she and other canyon residents are changing their behavior because of the noise from motorcycles. Mark Resetarits asked what it would take to write an enforceable noise ordinance.
- Fred Swanson commented in the chat: "Hi, we live in Acorn Hills, just above the canyon. We get a lot of noise from the canyon road. All weekend and late into the night, many weekdays too. We appreciate Officer Elsasser's efforts on tailpipe enforcement. Is there any chance of getting an additional officer working on this? Also are there options to inform riders that this is a residential area and to direct riders to Parley's."
- Tim Harpst commented that many communities are seeing increased speeds due to decreased traffic due to COVID. He encouraged the continuing collection of speed data and offered to review the data with the MSD and the Metro Township. He also asked about issues with the striping on the new road surface which does not appear to be consistent with the plan.

DRAFT

Mayor Smolka said they are aware of deviations from the plan with the striping that has been done, and they are working with the contractor on that. They are intending to do the rest of the striping in one shot, from the fire station to the stop sign.

Is there an opportunity - resources available - to increase enforcement at peak periods? Mayor Smolka said they are looking into whether we can get a part-time officer or additional coverage from UPD.

Better communication with the motorcycle community has come up a couple of times. Signage at the bottom of the canyon. Bob recommended reaching out to motorcycle dealers.

Michael said the motorcycle riders in the canyon have an opportunity to educate other riders. Mayor Smolka stated he likes the idea of a sign that says this is a residential neighborhood.

Matt Velinder asked what the timeline is for collecting data and when we'll have an answer about speeds.

Chipping Update – Bill Tobey

Bill stated there are still piles that need to be chipped in Emigration and several side neighborhoods off EC Rd. He is working with UPD on a plan to finish the chipping.

November Election Planning

Bill asked current council members to let either Kate or himself know whether they are going to stand for another term.

Other Business

Tyler moved to appoint Bryan Johansen to the open seat expiring at the end of 2022. Kate seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Mayor Smolka said Salt Lake County's mask order has been extended to January 5th. There is money available for small businesses. There is a phone # to call for help applying.

Mayor Smolka - West Nile Virus has been identified in the county.

Michael Jimenez asked if the fire danger signs have been updated. Captain Conn said the fire crews on duty are supposed to adjust it weekly based on the NUIFC and is valid for the northern part of the state.

He also said there is a new ad-hoc archery range along SR-65 and asks about the legality of this. Officer Elsasser said he will look into it.

DRAFT

Claire asked about voting this fall. The fire station will not be open as a polling place for this election as currently, all fire stations are on lockdown. Gary said the county clerk's office would have ballot drop boxes for mail-in ballots.

Joe will look into getting the list of registered voters from the county clerk. Michael Conn will ask if we can use the parking lot at the fire station as a drop box.

Motion to adjourn at 8:34 PM. Next meeting September 8th.