

CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the May 5, 1999 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee was held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 5, 1999 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Charles Zimmerman
Vice Chairperson Claire Clift
David Johnson
Mark Kimbrough
Paul Pettersen
Barbara Wright

STAFF: Steve Kastens, Parks and Recreation Director
Walter Sullivan, Community Development Director
Ken Arnold, Deputy Health Director
Vern Krahn, Park Planner
Kathleen King, Recording Secretary
(CRAC 05/05/99; Tape 1-0001)

NOTE: Unless indicated otherwise, each item was introduced by Chairperson Zimmerman. A tape recording of these proceedings is on file in the Clerk-Recorder's Office and is available for review and inspection during normal business hours.

A. ROLL CALL, DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM (1-0002) - Chairperson Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present. Member Piccolo was absent.

B. COMMITTEE ACTION

B-1. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES (1-0005) - Member Wright corrected the spelling of John Singlaub's name in item G-1 and changed "Mr. Quigley's property", in item G-2, to "the Empire Ranch Property." Member Kimbrough clarified information regarding the placement of signs in item G-2. Chairperson Zimmerman provided clarification on the length of the irrigation contract in item F-3, i.e., September 30, 2002. Member Kimbrough moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Member Pettersen seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0-1-0.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (1-0062) - None.

D. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (1-0067) - Chairperson Zimmerman modified the agenda to address item F-7 prior to item F-1. Mr. Krahn requested items F-2 and F-5 be deferred to a future meeting. (1-1043) Chairperson Zimmerman further modified the agenda to address item F-4 prior to item F-3.

E. DISCLOSURES - None.

F. PUBLIC HEARING

F-1. DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION BY STANTEC, INC. ON THE CONCEPTUAL PLAN FOR PHASE I DEVELOPMENT AT CARSON RIVER PARK (1-0838) - Rich Shock, of Stantec, Inc., provided background information on the Carson River Park Master Plan and advised that Stantec has been further engaged for phase I improvements to the parking lot. Topographic and boundary surveys have been completed and the parking lot improvements were presented superimposed over the Master Plan. Discussion ensued with regard to the park boundary line, the BLM property line, the number of parking stalls, parking at Silver Saddle Ranch, and the impact of the parking lot on the playground area at the Carson River Park.

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F-2. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING FUNDING SOURCES FOR RESOURCE EVALUATION AND TOXIC WEED MITIGATION, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO - Deferred to a future meeting.

F-3. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING A WORKSHOP SCHEDULED FOR MAY 8, 1999, AT THE CARSON CITY PARKS & RECREATION CONFERENCE ROOM, 3303 BUTTI WAY, ON FUTURE COMMITTEE GOALS, FUTURE PROJECTS, PROPOSED COMMITTEE MEMBER INTEREST, EVALUATION OF RESOURCE ISSUES ALONG THE CARSON RIVER, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO (1-1877) - Chairperson Zimmerman requested input from the Committee members with regard to agenda items and a time table for the workshop. Suggestions included identifying resource issues along the River, identifying future goals, reviewing the Committee's mission statement, discussing Dan Kaffer's involvement as an advisor, and discussing Committee restructuring. Jane Schmidt and Dan Kaffer will be present to participate in discussion of resource issues. Further suggestions for the workshop agenda included discussion regarding representation at the Carson Water Subconservancy District meeting on June 16, and the Carson-Truckee Water Conservation District meeting on July 13, and the role of the Committee members in those meetings. Discussion ensued with regard to the same and Mr. Kastens advised that a Parks Department staff person would also be present at the two meetings. Further discussion ensued with regard to the workshop time table. Supervisor Williamson advised of a two-part Open Space and Agricultural Lands Protection Workshop presented by the Carson Valley Conservation District. The first session begins the afternoon of May 8; the second begins the afternoon of June 5. She distributed, to the Committee members and to the Clerk, an agenda packet for the same.

F-4. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING A PIT TOILET STRUCTURE PROPOSED FOR THE AMBROSE-CARSON RIVER NATURAL AREA, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO (1-1053) - Mr. Krahn provided background information on this project and advised of health department issues and CCMC restrictions. Meg Jensen, of the Bureau of Land Management, discussed the importance of environmental education and plans for development of educational facilities at the Silver Saddle Ranch. She discussed BLM's concern regarding the financial resources needed to assist with an environmental education project at the Ambrose-Carson River Natural Area, and the concern of the Fish and Wildlife Service regarding winter roosting of the Bald Eagle in the Carson River Corridor. The Bald Eagle Recovery Act affects BLM's management of the Silver Saddle Ranch. Discussion ensued with regard to the Ambrose-Carson River Natural Area being designed as an environmental education site, including planning and design for educational facilities at the Ambrose-Carson River Natural Area with planning and design of educational facilities at the Silver Saddle Ranch, management requirements for both areas, and establishing a funding source for temporary restroom facilities. Mr. Sullivan introduced Mr. Arnold, who explained the facility would come under the purview of the State Health Department, and discussed the design, management and regulatory requirements for the project. Mr. Kastens described the design and construction of the restroom facilities at the Radio Controlled Airplane site and discussed the possibility of utilizing the same design at the Ambrose-Carson River Natural Area. He emphasized the condition that someone, other than City staff, would have to be responsible for the maintenance of the facility.

F-5. PRESENTATION BY U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE ON THE BALD EAGLE RECOVERY ACT, AND IMPACTS RELATED TO DEVELOPMENT ALONG THE CARSON RIVER (1-0075) - Mr. Krahn advised that Mr. Jordan was unable to attend this meeting and requested this item be deferred to a future meeting. (1-1463) Member Johnson requested information regarding conflicts which the Bald Eagle Recovery Act may present regarding the Master Plan. Mr. Krahn advised he would discuss the specifics of the Master Plan with Mr. Jordan prior to his appearance at the June meeting. (1-1867) Mr. Krahn invited Meg Jensen and Steve Weiss to the June meeting.

F-6. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING AN AWARDS PROGRAM AND

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NOMINATIONS FORM FOR GROUPS SUPPORTING THE CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CARSON RIVER PROJECTS, SPECIFIC CATEGORIES THEREOF, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO (1-2106) - Member Pettersen reviewed the categories approved at the last meeting: Education, Stewardship and Friend of the River. He proposed utilizing a plaque format with a photograph instead of a certificate. Member Wright displayed proposed photographs and discussion ensued with regard to the format of the award, the life of a photograph, revisions to the nomination form, and the frequency of, and process for, soliciting nominations and selecting recipients. Mr. Kastens advised that Parks and Recreation staff, and possibly Community Development staff, could assist with solicitation of nominations by publishing in the newspaper and/or having forms available in City offices. Chairperson Zimmerman displayed his photograph choice and Member Johnson moved to accept the photograph selected. Member Pettersen seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0-1-0.

F-7. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING A GRANT PROPOSAL FOR BANK STABILIZATION AND EROSION CONTROL PROJECTS ON THE EAST SIDE OF CARSON RIVER PARK, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO (1-0086) - Kevin Piper, of the Dayton Valley Conservation District and Middle Carson River Management Group, provided a slide presentation depicting a similar project done in the Dayton Valley area. He described bank shaping, with installation of rock structures which deflect higher velocity flows away from outside turns in the river and direct the water further out into the middle. The project was composed of a number of different bio-engineering techniques, including various vegetative treatments. He described development of peak stone dikes; installation of willow mattresses, vertical willow bundles, juniper tree rebents, erosion control fabric, and seed mix. A similar project done at Fort Churchill, in conjunction with Carson River Work Day, included bank stabilization and installation of a canoe access. This project involved 125 elementary school and high school biology students who installed approximately half of the vegetation in one day. An extension of the project included work with the Carson River Wranglers, a volunteer organization in Silver Springs which involves elementary school students in water monitoring. Discussion ensued with regard to the status of the willows, maintenance of the projects, and stability of rock rip rap. Mr. Piper reviewed the funding proposal, developed with Mr. Krahn, Mr. Kastens and Mr. Flansberg. Attachment C outlines the project time line and Mr. Piper emphasized the need for adhering to it strictly. Following approval of the proposal by the Committee, City staff, and the Board of Supervisors, Ed James, of the Carson Water Subconservancy District ("CWSD"), will agendize a presentation for the June 16, 1999 CWSD meeting. Mr. Piper suggested the proposal should be presented by a CRAC member. Presentation of the proposal should also be made at the July 13, 1999 Carson-Truckee Water Conservancy District meeting. The CWSD has tentatively set aside funding for this project and, if it is approved, the CRAC can appear before the Carson-Truckee Water Conservancy District with the majority of funding in place. The Natural Resources Conservation Service ("NRCS") has committed to assist with the survey and design of the project once spring runoff is finished. Mr. Piper will assist with permit applications, the time line for which is May/June. Chairperson Zimmerman commended Mr. Piper and Mr. Krahn on the excellent proposal. Mr. Krahn commended Mr. Piper on his expertise and the Streets Department for their cooperation. Discussion ensued with regard to the proposed project. Mr. Krahn discussed proposed plans of the Streets Department for the road and the basin, including installation of culverts under the road, reconfiguration of the "blind corner" at Mexican Dam Road, and removal of dirt to create a storm water detention basin. Discussion ensued with regard to the location of the existing "blind corner," the sedimentation coming from the gravel pit, and recreational attributes which might occur as a side benefit to the stabilization project. Mr. Piper reviewed Project Costs in Attachment B and discussed permits, plant materials, and in-kind contributions from NRCS, Dayton Valley Conservation District, and the CWSD. Member Johnson moved that the Committee approve the package for the grant application as submitted and direct staff to proceed as appropriate. Member Kimbrough seconded the motion. Mr. Piper requested a letter of support from the Committee to the Board of Supervisors. Member Johnson amended his motion to include a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to approve the project as presented. Member Kimbrough seconded the amendment. Motion carried 6-0-1-0. Discussion ensued with regard to a letter of appreciation to the Dayton Valley Conservation District for Mr. Piper's assistance. Mr. Piper invited the Committee to appoint an associate member to the Dayton Valley Conservation District.

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Chairperson Zimmerman suggested agendizing this matter for discussion at the upcoming workshop. Committee consensus was for Chairperson Zimmerman to write a letter to the Board of Supervisors in support of the project.

F-8. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING APPLICATION OF RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION TAX FUNDS FOR PROJECTS LOCATED ALONG THE CARSON RIVER, DEADLINES, COMMITTEE ACTION, IDENTIFICATION OF PROJECTS, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO (1-2476) - Mr. Kastens reviewed the Application for Residential Construction Tax Funds contained in the members' packets. He advised it has been submitted to the Parks and Recreation Department. Member Kimbrough moved that the Committee agree this is a priority application to submit for Residential Construction Tax funding. Vice Chairperson Clift seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0-1-0. Discussion ensued with regard to annual funds available and the process by which the funds are awarded.

F-9. DISCUSSION AND ACTION FOR COMMITTEE SUPPORT TO SEEK FUNDING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION VIDEO FOR USE BY SCHOOL GROUPS TO REVIEW PRIOR TO TRIPS TO THE CARSON RIVER (1-2643) - Member Kimbrough explained the need for funding for this project and discussion ensued with regard to sources for the same. David Morgan urged the Committee to move forward with this project. Vice Chairperson Clift moved to have Member Kimbrough proceed with the educational video project. Member Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0-1-0. Discussion ensued with regard to development of an educational website and Committee consensus was to agendize this matter for a future meeting.

G. INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (NON-ACTION ITEMS)

G-1. GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS (1-2930) - Member Wright reminded the Committee of her offer to sort through and scan Committee materials from the last four years. Member Kimbrough will get the materials to her as soon as possible. Discussion ensued with regard to the Community Service Funding Request hearing on Thursday, May 6, 1999, and the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation letter regarding the Truckee River Operating Agreement included in the members' packets.

G-2. GENERAL STAFF COMMENTS (1-1516) - Ms. Jensen discussed BLM's learning curve on how to manage agricultural lands and introduced Steve Weiss, the Deputy Assistant Field Manager for Renewable Resources at BLM. Mr. Weiss discussed a meeting with Jane Schmidt of the NRCS in which he requested advice with regard to agricultural practices for maintenance of the Silver Saddle Ranch haying operation. He advised of obtaining an agricultural burn permit from the Carson City Fire Department. CCFD requested that any burning coincide with the City's open burn period (through Saturday, May 8), and Mr. Weiss advised that the BLM fire crew is willing and equipped to proceed. Discussion ensued with regard to wildlife habitat concerns, and the method by which the fire will be started. (1-3171) Mr. Kastens reported the two cars along Morgan Mill Road have been removed. Mr. Krahn reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding for Water Supply to the Silver Saddle Ranch included in the members' packets.

G-3. COMMITTEE ITEMS AND DATES (1-3222) - Discussion ensued concerning the agenda for the June meeting, including topics generated during the workshop, the awards program, funding for the educational video, and development of a website. Further discussion ensued with regard to the Carson River Master Plan and the BLM property line.

H. ADJOURNMENT (1-3453) - Member Pettersen moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m. Member Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0-1-0.

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The Minutes of the May 5, 1999 meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee

ARE SO APPROVED _____, 1999.

CHARLES ZIMMERMAN, Chairperson