

CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of the May 6, 1998 Meeting
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A regular meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee was held on Wednesday, May 6, 1998 in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairperson Mark Kimbrough
Vice Chairperson Marian Battaglia
David Johnson
Bill Piccolo
Barbara Wright
Charles Zimmerman

STAFF: Steve Kastens, Parks and Recreation Director
Juan Guzman, Senior Planner
Vern Krahn, Park Planner
Fran Smith, Recording Secretary
(CRAC 5/6/98 1-0000.5)

NOTE - Unless otherwise indicated each item was introduced by Chairperson Kimbrough. Individuals speaking are identified following the heading of each item. A tape recording of these proceedings is on file in the Clerk-Recorder's office. This tape is available for review and inspection during normal business hours.

A. CALL TO ORDER - Chairperson Kimbrough called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. A roll call was taken and a quorum was present although Member Clift was absent.

B. COMMITTEE ACTION

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes - April 1, 1998 - Member Piccolo referred to Page 5 and said the word "inconsistent" was used incorrectly in reference to the plan for the river and actually meant the proposals that had been presented were inconsistent with the anticipated use of the Silver Saddle Ranch. Vice Chairperson Battaglia noted on Page 4 it should read on the east side "of Mexican Ditch".... The tapes were to be researched and amended Minutes presented at the next meeting.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS - (1-0119.5) Larry Taylor said he wanted to call attention to the problem with white top weeds along the river and in other places in Carson City. He said he had videos on the subject which he offered to the Committee for their review and hoped for some type of a solution. Chairperson Kimbrough said he would put this on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting and Mr. Kastens said he would ask the Cooperative Extension to send a representative.

D. MODIFICATION TO THE AGENDA - None.

E. DISCLOSURES - None.

F. PUBLIC HEARING

F-1 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE APPROVAL FOR THE PURCHASE OF WATER (NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000) FOR IRRIGATION OF THE SILVER SADDLE RANCH FROM THE QUALITY OF LIFE FUND ACCOUNT - (1-0405.5) Mr. Krahn said the planning effort on the ranch is continuing. Tom Abbott of BLM was retiring and would be replaced by a Chris Miller who is transferring from Red Rock Visitor Center in Las Vegas. He then said the task force had not met since Mr. Abbott had made a presentation to CRAC at the previous meeting. Chairperson Kimbrough commented that BLM is encouraging public education by having teachers and children visit the ranch and said he is also planning to bring people from a class he teaches. He also commented that Mr. Abbott will work with Ms. Miller on alternatives before he retires. He expressed the hope this could be on the next agenda.

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Member Piccolo left the meeting at 6:41 p.m. and returned at 6:43 p.m. A quorum was present while he was absent.

(1-0483.5) Mr. Krahn then talked about a news release BLM has put out regarding two special activities. He added this related to having people come on the site in supervised situations. He said those activities are Catch the Migration Sensation which is International Migratory Bird Day on May 9 and May 10 is Celebrate Archaeological Awareness and Historic Preservation Day. No formal action was taken.

F-2 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A REQUEST FROM TOM QUIGLEY CONCERNING A PIECE OF PUBLIC PROPERTY ALONG MORGAN MILL ROAD WHICH COULD BE DEVELOPED INTO A PORTAGE AREA FOR RAFTING - (1-0543.5) Mr. Quigley provided the Committee with copies of a map of the area. (The clerk did not get a copy.) He visually pointed out the location on the map. He also expressed his hope that the junked cars could be removed, the trash and weeds cleaned up, and the fence repaired. He suggested providing a trash bin, designating a parking area, providing a picnic table, and installing a sign with historic data. Vice Chairperson Battaglia asked if there is currently a plan for that property and Mr. Kastens said there is none. Member Johnson commented that the usual pullout site is blocked and perhaps it would be appropriate to provide some other access. Member Piccolo asked if the area is under the jurisdiction of the Parks Department. Mr. Kastens said yes but he has no development money for the site. However, he mentioned perhaps he could coordinate something with the Juvenile Department to get the trash cleaned out but said he does not have the equipment to get the cars out. He then asked for direction from the Committee as to whether this is an appropriate use of their Master Plan. He also commented he was not sure the blockage at the bridge would prevent anybody from getting their raft into the river but it would not let them drive their cars down to the river. Mr. Quigley said he could get a group of people together to clean the area, repair the fence, get a trash can, and put up signs if the Committee decided this would be an appropriate place to take care of portage

activity. Member Zimmerman said he supported the idea Mr. Quigley was proposing and felt it is in the Master Plan. He added it would allow portage for rafting but would also be a good place for the public to enjoy. He asked if there would be any wildlife implications and also asked if the City allows private sector volunteers to make improvements as suggested by Mr. Quigley. Mr. Kastens said if the Committee gave Mr. Quigley approval to take care of the problem he would need some kind of a plan prior to cleaning it up. Vice Chairperson Battaglia said it is a nice area and it would be good for the public to have something such as picnic tables, etc. for their use. Member Johnson felt if the area was improved it would deter the illicit camping and explained. Mr. Kastens cited a section of the Master Plan where it talks about put in and take out areas and that portage rights should be obtained on the eastern shore of rock area located just below Camp Carson and Carson River Bridge. He added it also says areas should be established at the Deer Run and Brunswick Canyon Bridges. Member Wright said her concern is that the same thing could happen as happened with the trail at Empire Ranch. It was suggested that the Committee could meet with Mr. Quigley and look at the area before the next meeting and it was agreed to meet there at 5:30 p.m. on May 21 and that Mr. Kastens or Mr. Krahn would also be there. Member Johnson moved that the Committee meet with Mr. Quigley to review his recommendations for the use of the parcel and consider it in more detail at the next meeting. Vice Chairperson Battaglia seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0-1-0.

F-3 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT PINE NUT MOUNTAIN PROPOSED PLAN AMENDMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT - (1-1001.5) Chairperson Kimbrough said BLM had extended the period for comment on the plan because of an effort by the people who enjoy the Pine Nuts. He explained the intent was to restrict certain areas to roadways. He said the Committee's plan was that the power line road become a cutoff point for resource issues and that the OHV people would not be restricted from the mountains but rather from the power line down. He had a map and visually pointed out the area he was talking about and explained the reasons. He said once this is explained to the OHV people they understood the situation. He expressed the hope that the Committee could send a letter to BLM again supporting the restriction issue. Mr. Guzman commented that the Committee somehow needs to convince BLM to map the portion of the river that is involved so that the issue would be clear. He felt that the Committee should authorize Chairperson Kimbrough to send the letter explaining their position. An extensive discussion ensued on the issue and Member Johnson moved to send a letter to BLM over Chairperson

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Kimbrough's signature restating and clarifying the Committee's position on the off road vehicle use areas. Vice Chairperson Battaglia seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0-1-0.

F-1 CONT'D - (1-343.5) Amy Mason - She had a film on the operation in Colorado discussed earlier and offered it to the Committee for their review. No formal action was taken.

F-4 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING CARSON RIVER PARK MASTER PLAN AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO - (1-1375.5) Chairperson Kimbrough commented that this is the Committee's highest priority but nothing has been done. He said this had been delayed pending action on the Silver Saddle but that has now been delayed. He added he was seeking some discussion because some things had come out of the Silver Saddle project which concern the park. Member Johnson noted that some of the Members are new and did not believe they knew enough about it. Member Piccolo mentioned possibly requesting an easement from the park to the ranch and suggested reviewing the map. Member Zimmerman felt that they would like to know what the alternatives for Silver Saddle Ranch may have in terms of their interaction with the park. Vice Chairperson Battaglia suggested talking about a plan in terms of phases. She felt they could do the first phase and then when the Silver Saddle plan is available they could proceed with the next phase. Chairperson Kimbrough felt that was a good idea and said this would be on the agenda for the next meeting. It was also noted that funds have been set aside to proceed with this. No formal action was taken.

F-5 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A COMMITTEE RAFT TRIP ON THE CARSON RIVER AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO - (1-1473.5) Chairperson Kimbrough said this idea had also come from other than the Committee. He added that BLM and the Forest Service had rafts which the Committee could use. Discussion ensued and it was agreed to set a date at the next meeting.

F-6 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON BRIDGE FEASIBILITY STUDY - (1-1531.5) Chairperson Kimbrough noted this had been discussed for a long time and that Mr. Kastens had been requested to research this. Mr. Kastens talked about the 1998-99 budget and said the Committee needed \$5,000 for the study. However, he did not feel it was feasible to ask for it from the budget. He added that Question #18 funding for bicycle paths and trails was an alternative source. He said he had discussed this with Chairperson Kimbrough who felt it was a prudent idea. Member Johnson moved that the Committee support Mr. Kastens' in his effort to use the Question #18 funding for the study under Parks Capital for bike paths and trails. Member Zimmerman seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0-1-0.

F-7 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACITON REGARDING BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT TRAILS GRANT AND DRAFT TRAILHEAD PLAN - (1-1617.5) Chairperson Kimbrough said he had talked to Mr. Abbott who had made a commitment to help the Committee move ahead on the plan before he retires. He explained this has become an accounting problem which requires expenditure of money and then being reimbursed. Mr. Abbott was not present and Chairperson Kimbrough said the Committee could not discuss this with him or do anything until BLM gives the go ahead.

G. Internal Communications and Administrative Matters (Non-Action)

G-1 Committee Member Comments

1. Discussion of Carson River Conference Held on April 6 and Carson River Workshop

Held April 27, 1998 at the Ormsby House - (1-1719.5) Member Piccolo said he had been at the April 6 meeting and talked about the subjects which had been discussed. He added that the participants felt the river is in good shape although they were against levees and holding the water back because if that is done people could build there. He also talked about the workshops which had related to irrigation. He also noted there had a speaker from UNR who had talked about the mercury problem. He explained that the gentleman had said most of the mercury was in the banks of the river and if there was an attempt to levee them the water would wash the mercury into the river. He commented that the conference had reflected a positive attitude. Member Zimmerman had also attended and agreed. He felt that there were some good presentations and that there should not be an effort to try and

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control the river. He said the second meeting focused on the upstream and downstream groups working together and felt that was important. Member Wright said they had also emphasized the need that efforts should not be duplicated. Vice Chairperson Battaglia asked if there had been any suggestions on protecting the river. Member Zimmerman said the part of the river that runs through Carson City has good water quality. He added there are some erosion problems but they are not as bad as other areas.

2. Discussion of Committee Priorities - (1-1875.5) Chairperson Kimbrough had provided the Members with a list and reminded them that they should think about the priorities and provide their input. (The clerk did not get a copy.) Member Zimmerman said Chairperson Kimbrough had been doing most of the work and felt the Members should select some projects and put in extra time helping him get something done. Member Johnson asked what kind of support they could give him in his efforts. Chairperson Kimbrough said he would like to see something on the public river data be scheduled for the fall. He also felt there could be a river celebration like that which was done for the Truckee River.

(1-2051.5) He mentioned the security issue and the possibility of extra ranger time. Mr. Kastens said at the Board budget hearing on May 5 he had presented a request for additional funding for a seasonal park ranger position. He said he now has a full time ranger and a relief ranger who covers when the other ranger is off. He explained what he had asked for at the budget meeting was a seasonal ranger position where he could use the money already allocated for the relief ranger and add it to the funding he was requesting. He said with the seasonal ranger during the months of April through November there would be 16 hour coverage per day four days per week and that they would not take their days off simultaneously. He suggested that the Members call their Supervisors and ask them to support the funding of that position. He said part of the explanation for the request was because there are additional areas such as the Empire Ranch subdivision property, working on the Silver Saddle with BLM, and the property on the east side of the river which the Parks Department has recently acquired as part of their responsibility. He also said the Sheriff had said it was difficult for his department to handle some of these areas and had asked for help from other departments, i.e., the park ranger so that there would be coverage in areas where his deputies are not always able to patrol. At this point Mr. Quigley expressed his chagrin with how the park ranger had reacted to a problem at the river. He cited an example of where he had called about illegal activity and, although the park ranger had gotten rid of the people, had made light of the situation. Mr. Kastens said he was not aware of it and said he would look into it. Chairperson Kimbrough felt that Mr. Kastens could assure Mr. Quigley that kind of attitude would not be repeated.

3. Discussion Regarding Erick Massa's Property - (1-2347.5) Chairperson Kimbrough said he had referred Mr. Massa to the stewardship people at NDF. He added that NDF requires the applicant to develop a plan before they allocate money. He felt this would help Mr. Massa get a resolution to the problems he was concerned with.

4. Discussion on State Prison Properties - (1-2369.5) Chairperson Kimbrough said a map had been made but the Committee has not gone out on the property. He added he would like to set a date for that at this meeting. It was agreed that he and Members Clift and Zimmerman would visit the area and Member Piccolo said he was interested. They will plan to visit the area in a couple of weeks.

5. Discussion on Membership of Carson River Advisory Committee - (1-2451.5) Vice Chairperson Battaglia said she had given Chairperson Kimbrough a letter for the Board on her resignation from the Committee. She explained the reason was that she would be moving to Boulder City. She said this was her last meeting and commented on how pleased she had been to be involved with a group that was trying to get some good work accomplished. Chairperson Kimbrough said he knows of a couple of people who would be interested but did not know the process and Mr. Kastens explained how they could apply for the position.

6. Discussion on the Restriction of Vessels with Motors on the Carson River - (1-2623.5) Member Piccolo said he had spoken to Fred Messman of NDOW who had said there are waterways in the state where motorized vessels are restricted. He explained that pictures of wildlife being disturbed or written statements of disruptive events are required. Mr. Quigley said he had a picture of someone chasing geese while jet skiing on

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the river and that he would provide it to the Committee. Member Piccolo liked that and said it could be taken to NDOW to show them.

G-2 Staff Comments

1. Status Report Regarding the Empire Ranch Trail - (1-2757.5) Mr. Kastens had nothing new on this but said Parks Superintendent Scott Fahrenbruch contacted the prison to get some work crews out to the river although he did not know if they had already been there or when they are scheduled to go.

2. Status Report on the Open Space Advisory Committee Activities - (1-2785.5) Mr. Krahn said OSAC is working on approval of the public opinion survey. He felt it would probably be a couple of weeks after approval before they could be printed and sent out. He added that they would be sent to 1,600 people whose names would be randomly selected. He said the results would be tabulated by the Cooperative Extension and would then be sent to Jeff Winston and Associates who are the consultants for OSAC. They could then start to prepare the OSAC Master Plan. Mr. Guzman talked about a meeting that was held with NDOT regarding an opportunity to assure that potential trails could cross the freeway and not just stop at it. He also talked about other opportunities such as the potential purchase of excess land by OSAC. He added that NDOT had been asked to keep OSAC advised when they are deciding issues relating to the bypass. He also said OSAC has a concern about how the gateways to the City will affect its image. He then talked about the schedule OSAC members have for meeting with local civic clubs to make a presentation on Question #18, what OSAC is trying to do, and the video and television work filmmaker Dave Morgan is doing. Chairperson Kimbrough then suggested that Mr. Morgan make a video presentation at a meeting. Mr. Krahn said it is seven minutes long and Mr. Kastens commented that the presentation is about 15 minutes. Member Johnson expressed his belief that the Committee is starting to overbook the June meeting and asked if there is an appetite to have two meetings. Chairperson Kimbrough said some of the items on the June agenda depend on whether information is available and that a space for the OSAC presentation would depend on that.

G-3 Status Report Regarding Irrigation for the Silver Saddle Ranch - (1-3157.5) Mr. Kastens said the Board had approved the recommendation by the Committee on the \$5,000 allocation for the purpose of getting the water and permit and that he had signed the document. However, he did not know if BLM has started the actual irrigation yet.

G-4 Status Report Regarding Activities Along the Upper and Lower Carson River - (1-3181.5) Mr. Kaffer was not at the meeting. Therefore, there was no update.

G-5 Future Agenda Items for the Next CRAC Meeting on June 3, 1998 - Discussed earlier.

H. ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business Vice Chairperson Battaglia moved to adjourn. Member Zimmerman seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0-1-0. Chairperson Kimbrough adjourned the meeting at 9:01 p.m.

The Minutes of the May 6, 1998 meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee

ARE SO APPROVED 6/3, 1998

/s/
Mark Kimbrough, Chairperson