

CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the July 9, 1997 Meeting

Page 1

A regular meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee was held on Wednesday, July 9, 1997 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 E. William St., Carson City, NV at 12:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairperson Pro Tem Mark Kimbrough

Marian Battaglia

Mike Drews

Jack Foerschler

Bill Piccolo

STAFF: Kay Bennett, Liaison - Board of Supervisors

Walter Sullivan, Community Development Director

Steve Kastens, Parks and Recreation Director

Juan Guzman, Senior Planner

Fran Smith, Recording Secretary

(CRAC 7/9/97 1-0000.5)

NOTE - Unless otherwise indicated each item was introduced by the Chairperson. 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 Pro Tem Kimbrough called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. A roll call was taken and a quorum was present although Chairperson Charlene Foerschler and Member Goudswaard were absent.

B. COMMITTEE ACTION - Later.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT - None.

D. PUBLIC HEARING

D-1 REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT TRAILS GRANT AND DRAFT TRAILHEAD PLAN FOR PROPERTY ON EAST SIDE OF CARSON RIVER ALONG DEER RUN ROAD - (1-0023.5) Member Kimbrough provided copies of the draft for discussion. (The secretary did not get a copy.) He explained there had been no changes since it was previously discussed. He added it was his hope to take action on it before sending it to the Parks and Recreation Commission later in the month for any changes they desired before it goes on. Rocky Connor said he has mining claims on the east side of the river where the Committee wants to put the trails. Member Kimbrough stated they had not added anything to the site relating to the trails because the plan uses existing roadways. Mr. Connor asked about the signs such as "No Camping" which he said are on his property. He felt the City should move them to their property. Mr. Kastens said the signs were supposed to have been placed on the fence line running north and south and that was to delineate where the BLM property is and the newly acquired City property which they got from Darling. He added that they were trying to notify people that beyond the point of the signs toward the river is City property and no camping is allowed. Mr. Connor said his mines are considered real property and expressed a concern if someone got hurt on it then he could be sued. He added that he could accept the current situation if the City could sign something that says he would not be responsible. He also commented on problems he has been having with BLM regarding access. Member Jack Foerschler stated that there are trails on both sides of the river but the Committee had tried not to put them at the same spot on each side. Member Drews then moved to support Item D-1 regarding the Bureau of Land Management trails grant and draft trailhead plan for property on the east side of the Carson River along Deer Run Road. Member Jack Foerschler seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

D-2 REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING SUPPORT OF OPEN SPACE FUNDING FOR THE EMPIRE RANCH LAND EXCHANGE - (1-0171.5) Mr. Sullivan had provided copies

CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the July 9, 1997 Meeting

Page 2

of communications to the Open Space Advisory Committee regarding the property being discussed. He noted that the OSAC does not yet have criteria to evaluate the situation. He also referred to the map in the packet that depicted the location of the property. He noted that the biggest concern OSAC was if this Committee had the opportunity to review the project. He added that OSAC would value a recommendation from this Committee relative to whether this plan is within the confines of the CRAC Master Plan and what the Committee thought as a whole on the acquisition of the property. At this point Mr. Sullivan said OSAC would like to have someone from the Committee attend the OSAC meeting on July 14 to make a presentation. Member Battaglia asked where the linear park comes in to the property to be traded and Mr. Kastens visually pointed out the route it takes. Supervisor Bennett provided a history of the effort to accomplish the trade. She had a concern that OSAC now has to get this on their criteria list and there could be more delay in bringing the issue to fruition. She also reported she had spoken to Mr. Millard about the exchange and the \$100,000 involved. She had asked him if he would consider a donation to CRAC in the form of dollars or in kind services to establish a trail along the river on the west side from Morgan Mill Road to the area where there is public access. She added that Mr. Millard had verbally agreed to give it some consideration. Member Drews asked if there is a different funding source for the project other than OSAC. Supervisor Bennett said another source would be the General Fund and that it would probably take a special appropriation by the Board of Supervisors. She commented that when the negotiations with the Army Corps of Engineers were taking place it was not her intent that the City would eventually compensate Empire Ranch. She provided details on some things that should have been done in the process that had not been. Member Jack Foerschler had a concern that OSAC would be coming in after the fact and bailing the City out in a commitment they had already made. He explained that in so doing the money the citizens had voted for would not be going toward new and uncommitted projects but rather purchasing something the City had basically already bought. Supervisor Bennett said the City would be acquiring a piece of very sensitive land that would be held in perpetuity. She felt that it should be looked at to see what they gain in the long term and then justify it in terms of the resources available to the City. She felt the alternative would be to have it be an appropriation out of the City fund but added that the idea might not have political support. Mr. Sullivan said the idea was brought to the City and the City wanted to acquire the land because of open space and park issues and access to the river. He then advised that Member Jack Foerschler's comments are shared by some of the members in OSAC. He added that OSAC would like to get a reaction and recommendation from this Committee as to whether they feel this is in concert with the plan. At this point Mr. Kastens expressed his belief that this Committee was getting into an area where they do not need to be and explained that OSAC has been given the responsibility for determining what the funds are to be used for. He commented that OSAC was asking this Committee to educate them or make a recommendation to them if this land exchange is consistent with the Master Plan. He felt this is some of the interaction that will happen in the future between CRAC, OSAC and the Parks and Recreation Commission. He felt that the issue is if the land exchange fits the CRAC Master Plan. If so, CRAC can tell OSAC that but not how they should allocate the Open Space funding. He commented if OSAC uses funding for this project then it would take away from the money that would be available for possible future open space use. Member Battaglia expressed her belief that this would be an appropriate expenditure. Supervisor Bennett said it was her understanding this has always been a part of the Master Plan and provides the connecting link from Riverview Park and eventually to Deer Run Road. Member Piccolo agreed with Mr. Kastens' position that it is not up to CRAC to say how OSAC should spend the money. He also noted this had been discussed approximately three years ago and felt that whoever brokered the project should be the source of the funding. Mr. Sullivan also concurred with the comments made by Mr. Kastens. Member Kimbrough suggested that a motion by CRAC could say something about the fact that CRAC agrees to support funding of the land exchange. Supervisor Bennett encouraged the Committee to support this action in the context of what had been represented to them by Mr. Kastens, i.e., is this a part of the Master Plan. Mr. Guzman felt that CRAC should understand that OSAC believes CRAC's main priority for this fiscal year is the development of Camp Carson. Member Jack Foerschler asked if there was any possibility that the City would not get the property after so much work has been done. Mr. Sullivan said staff, along with Supervisor Bennett, is committed not to stop at a roadblock and that they would continue to try alternatives because it is an important piece of property to the City and the citizens. Member Drews then moved to approve Item D-2 regarding support of the open space funding for the Empire Ranch land exchange, finding that the lands to be acquired on the Carson River are of great importance to Carson City due to the environmental characteristics of diversity, scenic beauty and recreational use along along the river; the acquisition of the parcel is consistent with and will forward many of the

CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the July 9, 1997 Meeting

Page 3

goals of the Carson River Master Plan particularly in the areas of recreation, trail development and preservation of natural resources along the river. Member Battaglia seconded the motion. Member Jack Foerschler reiterated his concern with the funding. He asked that the motion be changed to reflect that the land acquisition is in compliance with the Master Plan. Member Drews stated he had not used the word funding but rather had said the acquisition was in conformance with the Master Plan. Member Drews then amended the motion to add "approve Item D-2 regarding support of open space acquisition for the Empire Ranch land exchange. Member Battaglia accepted the amended motion. She felt that the acquisition should not interfere with Camp Carson being the first priority of CRAC for development. Member Drews then repeated his motion to read: "I move to approve Item D-2 regarding support of the open space funding for the Empire Ranch land exchange finding that the lands to be acquired on the Carson River are of great great importance to Carson City due to the environmental characteristics of diversity, scenic beauty and recreational use along the river; the acquisition is consistent with and will forward many of the goals of the Carson River Master Plan, particularly in the areas of recreation, establishment of a trail system and preservation of natural resources along the river." Member Battaglia again seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

E. INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (NON-ACTION ITEMS) - None.

F. ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business Chairperson Pro Tem Kimbrough entertained a motion to adjourn. Member Jack Foerschler moved to adjourn. Member Drews seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0. Chairperson Pro Tem Kimbrough adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m.

The Minutes of the July 9, 1997 meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee

ARE SO APPROVED 9/11, 1997

/s/
Mark Kimbrough, Chairperson