

CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
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A regular meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, September 11, 1997 in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 No. Carson St., Carson City, NV at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairperson Pro Tem Mark Kimbrough
Marian Battaglia
Claire Clift
Bill Piccolo
Barbara Wright
Charles Zimmerman

STAFF: Walter Sullivan, Community Development Director
Steve Kastens, Parks and Recreation Director
Juan Guzman, Senior Planner
Fran Smith, Recording Secretary
(CRA 9/11/97 1-0000.5)

NOTE - Unless otherwise indicated each item was introduced by Chairperson Pro Tem 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 Pro Tem Kimbrough called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A roll call was taken and a quorum was present although Member Johnson was absent (excused).

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - March 5, April 2, June 4, July 9, August 13 - Member Battaglia moved to approved the Minutes as noted. Member Kimbrough seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-1. (Member Piccolo abstained as he had not been present and the new Members were not yet on the Committee.)

C. PUBLIC COMMENT - None.

D. MODIFICATION TO THE AGENDA - Chairperson Pro Tem Kimbrough said F-3 would be heard first as Ms. Timian-Palmer had to leave the meeting shortly.

E. DISCLOSURES - None.

F. PUBLIC HEARING

F-3 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING SILVER SADDLE RANCH WATER ISSUES AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO - (1-0060.5) Chairperson Pro Tem Kimbrough said Ms. Timian-Palmer would discuss the water rights on this project. She said when the City began negotiations with BLM to get the open space BLM made it clear to the City that if they were to acquire the land and the water the water would go downstream because of the issues at Lahanton. She added that the City did not want to see the water leave the basin and had asked BLM to split the land and water and it would only be the land purchase with the City doing the water purchase with the Merchant family. She noted the cost and said Public Works had stepped forward because they were interested in seeing it go to open space and keep it in the basin. She said the idea was for the Water Utility to purchase the water and put it back to the ranch after the plan was done and that Mr. Berkich, Mr. Kastens and BLM could meet with this committee to look at an overall plan for the ranch. This was to determine what areas would remain green, which would be wetlands and what would be open ponds. They would then know how much water would be given back to the ranch. She said Utility had then purchased the water and are to be advised how much is desired for the ranch. She said Utility could then handle that and explained the process.

(1-0163.5) Chairperson Pro Tem Kimbrough asked what happens until the water is back on the ranch. Ms. Timian-

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Palmer said the Merchant family will be able to irrigate until October and then the land will be fallow until next spring at which time it is hoped it will have been determined what to do with the ranch. Mr. Kastens said once the agencies decide how they will interact input from this committee or anyone else, including the public, can be generated to develop a plan. Ms. Timian-Palmer said Utilities would work with the groups involved to help put the plan in place. No formal action was taken.

(1-371.5) At this point Chairperson Pro Tem Kimbrough asked that the Members and staff introduce themselves to the new Members and asked that the new people do the same. He started by explaining what he does for the State Parks Department, Member Battaglia said she works for the Legislature and is interested in the river and rafting, Member Zimmerman said he came from Elko where he was employed by a mine and now works as a consultant on ground water and likes what the Committee is attempting to accomplish. Member Piccolo said he lives at the river and wants to keep in touch with what is going on there, Member Wright said she also lives at the river and wants to keep it the way it is. Mr. Kastens described his responsibilities as Parks and Recreation Director and stated that Mr. Sullivan, Mr. Guzman and other staff members have provided support to the Committee. Mr. Guzman described his position with Community Development and noted Rosemary Johnson's help and support in that department as part of staff to the Committee. Citizen Tom Quigley said he is interested in the work the Committee is doing.

E. DISCLOSURES - Mr. Sullivan provided details on the intent of this item for the Members in the event any of them have contact with members of the community who have an interest in the work of the Committee.

F. PUBLIC HEARING

F-1 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON REVISED CARSON PARK MASTER PLAN AND NAME CHANGE AS RECOMMENDED BY THE REVIEW COMMITTEE AND CONSULTANT - (1-0861.5) Mr. Kastens said a consultant had been hired who had met with him, Members Kimbrough, Piccolo, former member Jack Foerschler and some staff. They had come up with alternatives and had put together a plan. He had a drawing of the park and visually pointed out the road leading to the park, the river, and a bridge. He then noted that the City only has a RP&P lease from BLM. He explained the City does not own the property but as long as it is used for recreation and public purposes there is no likelihood of losing the property. He also pointed out on the drawing the opportunities and constraints, e.g. steep slopes, the flood plain, drainage areas, and historic bridge footings that had been found. Member Zimmerman asked about the types of use in the area and Mr. Kastens said people fish, hike, and merely enjoy it but there is no overnight camping. He also talked about a plan to facilitate equestrian use. He emphasized the idea of opening the area to small gatherings but not large groups consisting of hundreds. He then pointed out the Silver Saddle Ranch and said now that BLM has it there is a possibility of venturing beyond the park boundaries. Member Wright asked about maintenance if the City gets the additional space and he said the City would handle that. He also mentioned utilizing an old bridge abutment as a handicapped fishing area. He noted the city-wide trail and bicycle paths and said the park could be a starting or finishing point for someone utilizing them. He also stated water would be available because there is a well. He asked the Members to take the plans home and study them and that the consultant would be at the next meeting to discuss them. Member Zimmerman asked about visiting the site and Mr. Kastens said it is OK but cautioned against a quorum being present. Member Kimbrough expressed a concern that the boundaries be demarcated. Member Battaglia then moved to put any decisions on the design of Camp Carson on hold until the Committee has an opportunity to work with the Open Space group on consistent planning for the area. Member Piccolo seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0. Discussion then ensued on choosing a new name for the park and Mr. Kastens explained the Parks and Recreation policy. They also discussed the timetable for completing the design and implementation of the plans. It was agreed to continue this until the next meeting.

F-2 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A BLM/BERNHARD FAMILY TRUST PROPOSAL TO EXCHANGE LAND ALONG THE CARSON RIVER - (1-1489.5) Mr. Guzman had a map and visually pointed out the areas involved and the details of the exchange. Mr. Kastens then talked about the trailhead that had been developed in conjunction with Hidden Meadows. He explained how it could be used as

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access to other points in the area. Mr. Guzman said the Committee needs to write to BLM to let them know if they feel it is a good or bad idea. He also commented that a letter of concern had been received from a citizen regarding the trade because of the difference in value. Member Battaglia said she had the same concern because people are coming forth with offers to trade land whether it is developable or not. Mr. Kastens said an MAI appraiser would establish values on properties and the City and State can only receive fair market value as set by the appraiser. He then explained the process as it relates to this project. Member Clift then moved to support the trade between BLM and the Al Bernhard Trust. Member Zimmerman seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Chairperson Pro Tem Kimbrough declared a recess at 7:50 p.m. When he reconvened the meeting at 8:00 p.m. a quorum was present.

F-4 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN - (1-1891.5) Mr. Guzman explained the nominating and voting procedure. Member Zimmerman then nominated Member Kimbrough as Chairperson. Member Battaglia seconded the nomination. There being no further nominations for Chairperson nominations were closed. Member Kimbrough commented on his responsibilities with his job and the Tahoe Rim Trail project and said he would serve until elections can be held the first part of next year. He was elected Chairperson 6-0.

Chairperson Kimbrough nominated Member Battaglia as Vice Chairperson. Member Zimmerman seconded the motion. There being no further nominations for Vice Chairperson nominations were closed. Member Battaglia was elected Vice Chairperson 6-0.

F-5 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING REVIEW OF COMMITTEE GOALS AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO - (1-2019.5) Chairperson Kimbrough provided a packet of information for the Members relating to the mission statement, history, and twelve goals of the Committee. An extensive discussion ensued that included the categories and priorities. No formal action was taken.

F-6 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON FORMAT FOR AWARDS PRESENTATION AT OCTOBER COMMITTEE MEETING IN RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO VOLUNTEERED TIME AND SUPPORT FOR THE CARSON RIVER MASTER PLAN - (1-2295.5) Chairperson Kimbrough said he would like to have former Members who had worked on the plan at the October meeting so that the Committee could recognize their efforts and present them some sort of a certificate to express the appreciation of the Committee. Member Battaglia then moved to agendize this for the next meeting. Member Wright seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

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

G-1 Advisory Committee Member Comments - (1-2375.5) Chairperson Kimbrough talked about the three groups working on the Upper, Middle, and Lower Carson River and said they are trying to set up a joint training session on rivers. He noted this could be an agenda item for discussion and suggested that Dan Kaffer could be the lead person on the project.

G-2 Staff Comments - (1-2463.5) Mr. Guzman said he would help the Members in any way he can and invited them to call him if they had any questions, concerns, or suggestions regarding the activities of the Committee.

G-3 Status Report Regarding Activities Along the Upper and Lower Carson River - Previously discussed.

G-4 Status Report Regarding BLM Trails Grant and Draft Trailhead Plan - Mr. Kastens said they have started working on this and provided details.

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G-5 Status Report Regarding the Forest Stewardship Grant - Mr. Kastens explained the process.

G-6 Status Report Regarding Printing of the Master Plan Document - Mr. Guzman provided the cost estimate figure.

G-7 Future Agenda Items for the Next CRAC Meeting on October 1 - Member Battaglia asked for a discussion on the background of the trail system.

H. ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business Chairperson Kimbrough entertained a motion to adjourn. Member Piccolo moved to adjourn. Member Zimmerman seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0. Chairperson Kimbrough adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

The Minutes of the September 11, 1997 meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee

ARE SO APPROVED 12/3, 1997

/s/
Mark Kimbrough, Chairperson