

CARSON CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the August 19, 1997 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson City Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Tuesday, August 19, 1997 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William St., Carson City, NV at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairperson Ken Elverum
Vice Chairperson Robert Kennedy
George Chapman
Larry Osborne
Jon Plank
Susan Scholley
John Simms
Charles Wright

STAFF: Steve Kastens, Parks and Recreation Superintendent
Fran Smith, Recording Secretary
(PR 8/19/97 1-0000.5)

NOTE - Unless otherwise indicated each item was introduced by Chairperson Elverum. 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 Elverum called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A roll call was taken and a quorum was present although Commissioner DeMar was absent and Commissioner Scholley had not yet arrived. (Arrived at 6:37 p.m.)

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTE - Commissioner Kennedy moved to approve the Minutes of the June 3, 1997 meeting. Commissioner Plank seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT - (1-0025.5) William Sears - Louie Sears - Wyman Sears - Tanya Sharpstein - Shannon Millard - Claudia Matthews - All but Ms. Matthews were related or friends of the child involved in the recent near drowning at Ross Gold Park. They all indicated a desire to have an agenda item to discuss the possibility of putting up a fence at the pond. Ms. Millard also suggested changing the slope of the edge of the water so that it would not be such a sharp drop. Ms. Matthews opposed having a fence as it would detract from the beauty of the park. It would not prohibit the children from accessing the water as they would merely climb over it. Parents must be cognizant of where and what their children are doing at all times. Her own personal experience with the near drowning of her son was explained to illustrate her concern and understanding of the situation. Mr. W. Sears responded by indicating that his granddaughter would not have been able to climb the fence due to her age. It would also take a child longer to reach the water, giving parents time to locate him/her. Chairperson Elverum said this could not be discussed further at this meeting because of the Open Meeting Law and asked Mr. Kastens to put this on the agenda for the September 2 meeting.

(1-0163.5) Virginia Orcutt expressed her belief that the skateboard park is the most popular place in the City. She added that people are coming from other communities to participate. She then commented on the need for benches and shade for the skaters and their families. Commissioner Plank said that Parks Superintendent Scott Fahrenbruch had indicated he could situate some benches there. Mr. Kastens commented on the irrigation pattern and said they could change it to sprinkle only on the grass and not on the benches. Commissioner Osborne expressed his feeling that a discussion on this should be agendized for the next meeting and Chairperson Elverum agreed.

AGENDA ITEMS

I. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON REQUEST TO CONSTRUCT A RADIO CONTROLLED CAR TRACK IN CENTENNIAL PARK NEAR THE TENNIS COURTS AND UPPER SOFTBALL COMPLEX - (1-0309.5) Mr. Kastens noted that the Commission had asked that the car group contact the Carson Tennis Club and the Carson City Softball Association to discuss the possible impact the new facility could have on the areas used by those groups. He stated they had met and agreed there should be no problems and had also

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agreed to work together. Commissioner Chapman had a question about parking and Mr. Kastens explained that the entry gates could be moved so that the parking area for each group would not conflict with the others. Bob Brogan, a Member of the High Sierra Radio Control Club, said they currently have a track adjacent to the model airplane field. He noted in the future they may want to set aside the area for the radio controlled cars. However, he added it is not bothering anyone at the present. Mr. Kastens said it was his understanding that the car group is planning to abandon the existing site in lieu of this proposed location. He added that when the new site is developed they do not plan to use the old one. Commissioner Kennedy asked if the expense to build the new facility would be borne by the City and it was noted it would not. Commissioner Kennedy moved that the Commission accept staff's recommendation to approve the request from the Silver State Radio Control Club to construct a car track in Centennial Park near the tennis courts and upper softball complex as shown in the site plan. Commissioner Osborne seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

2. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON PRIORITIZATION OF QUESTION #18 PARKS CAPITAL PROJECTS - (1-0439.5) Chairperson Elverum asked for an update. Mr. Kastens referred to his staff report where he had extensively reviewed and commented on staff's position and that of Finance Director Mary Walker in her memo to him in response to Commissioner Chapman's suggested alternatives. He then provided a history of how Question #18 had evolved and a timetable for projects on the priority list. He cautioned that at this point cost figures are estimates and could be changed. Commissioner Simms, noting he was new on the Commission, asked why it had been suggested that the priorities be changed. Commissioner Osborne felt there will always be requests for changes. However, he felt the Commission had done the best job they could on the prioritization given the information they had. He added he still did not see a need to change the list, especially after reviewing the memo from Mary Walker. He then moved that the Carson City Parks and Recreation Commission accept and adopt staff's recommendation establishing the priority of the Question #18 Parks Capital Projects as listed in the recommendation with the understanding that as future developments occur those priorities can and may be changed by the Commission. Commissioner Kennedy seconded the motion. At this point Commissioner Chapman noted as a point of order that the Commission should allow public comment.

Commissioner Scholley arrived at 6:37 p.m.

(1-0671.5) Tom Quigley expressed his belief that the Carson River projects need to be moved up considerably on the list. He provided details on the items he felt should be installed in the area. Mr. Kastens referred to the projections and said funding will be available in fiscal year 98-99. He also stated that the Carson River Advisory Committee is working on a Master Plan for Camp Carson which is their top priority. He felt it will be a couple of months more before there are estimates. He said the other area Mr. Quigley had alluded to was the BLM/City access area. He added there is a grant which he was currently pursuing with BLM to make the improvements. Commissioner Plank said he and Mr. Quigley had walked the area from Morgan Mill Road south to the end of the golf course and back to Empire Ranch Road. He added it was his understanding that if the trails are put together soon there would be a trail system that goes to that area and this makes it a little higher on the priority list than would be indicated under 9) Carson River.

(1-0779.5) Jim Crompton felt that Question #18 was passed basically as an instrument for acquisition of open space. He felt that the traditional projects were proceeding but the non-traditional activities were being set back. He felt that the public should be advised of what is going on and that they would want the open space projects higher on the list. Commissioner Plank said paths and trails were lower on the list at the beginning but the Commission had brought them up considerably. Mr. Quigley stated that two people had come forward to ask that the Carson River projects be put forward but no one else had asked that any other projects be changed. He asked that the Commission keep this in mind when they make a decision. Commissioner Wright felt it was premature for the Commission to be making decisions when they had not yet heard from the Carson River Advisory Committee as to what they recommend. Commissioner Osborne said this is not the first time this was out for public comment and that people had indeed come to previous meetings to express their desires and that decisions have been made based on the comments received. At this point Chairperson Elverum referred to the letter received from Donna Kuester of the Steering Committee in which she supported the priorities as they are currently listed. Commissioner Simms said he had attended Steering Committee meetings and felt that Carson City is very fortunate to have such an initiative. He commented that Douglas County had tried and failed and are losing a lot of funding for their

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parks. He felt this is a big piece of pie and that there is enough for everybody. He added his belief that patience is a key and that the integrity of the initiative needs to be protected. Commissioner Scholley said she really did not know what the dispute is because they have adjusted trails and paths upward. However, she felt the bigger issue with the trails was to get the Park Planner started on his work. At this point Commissioner Kennedy called for a vote on the motion. Commissioner Chapman expounded on why he felt alternatives should be sought. Chairperson Elverum then asked for a roll call vote. The result was: Wright - aye; Osborne - aye; Scholley - aye; Chapman - naye noting he opposed the priorities; Plank - aye; Kennedy - aye; Elverum - aye; Motion carried 6-1.

Chairperson Elverum declared a recess at 7:10 p.m. When he reconvened the meeting at 7:20 p.m. a quorum was present although Commissioner Chapman left the meeting during the recess.

3. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON REQUEST TO INSTALL LIGHTS AT THE BMX TRACK AT THE EDMONDS SPORTS COMPLEX - (1-1153.5) Jack Michaels of the Carson City BMX group said he helps to manage the group and Mary Leming is the director. He explained that BMX is bicycle motocross. Mr. Kastens said this group is growing and the request was for lighting to accommodate their Wednesday evening practice sessions. He added that in the fall and spring the Wednesday evening daylight hours are too short for the number of participants. He said they would also like to offer races on Friday evenings instead of having to do it on Sundays in the heat of the day. He noted they were not asking for funding but rather permission to pursue the lighting. He also explained that the positioning of the lights would be such that it would not bother nearby residents. He commented that they have some potential funding sources; however, he noted they have submitted a request for some RCT funding. Chairperson Elverum asked about paying for the electric. Mr. Kastens said it is set up so that YSA pays for the electric and all the other user groups pay YSA \$1.50 per participant to defray the cost and this would probably be the case with BMX. Chairperson Elverum asked if the soccer people would now want night games. Mr. Kastens said if they went to that it would be more than one game each night and the soccer people are aware of what that could do to the turf so they are willing to forego the night activity. Commissioner Osborne asked if a special use permit would be needed and Mr. Kastens said the Planning Commission would require it. Commissioner Wright asked if there are any conflicting events on Friday evenings such as at Silver State Raceway. Mr. Michaels commented that cars at Silver State run on Saturdays and the motorcycles practice on Fridays and occasionally on Saturday. Commissioner Plank asked about the number of participants. Mr. Michaels explained the moto races and Ms. Leming said there are approximately 100 on weekends and a total of about 200 in the area that are in the program. Mr. Michaels then stated there will be an American Bicycle Association national next year and there should be approximately 1,800 riders for a three day event. Commissioner Scholley then moved that the Commission adopt staff's recommendation to approve BMX and to go forward and put lights at the BMX track at Edmonds. Commissioner Kennedy asked for clarification as to what the motion covered relating to a Master Plan amendment. Mr. Kastens agreed it should state that the Commission approved the Master Plan amendment for the installation of lights at the BMX track at the Edmonds Sports Complex. He said he could then pass that on to the Board of Supervisors for their approval. Commissioner Scholley amended her motion to reflect this. Commissioner Plank seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

4. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON CITY WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FOR A BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN PATH AT THAT FACILITY - (1-1509.5) Mr. Kastens had a map of the area and visually pointed out a proposed location for the lane. He explained the change from the original plan because there was a concern for having the lane on 5th Street because of the vehicular traffic. Chairperson Elverum agreed and commented on the number of cars at the stop sign noting it would be difficult for students to negotiate. He also explained that, although Eagle Valley does not get a lot of students from the west, it is a good idea for those who do traverse Edmonds. Discussion ensued on how to get the lane across Edmonds. Mr. Crompton cited the path on Highway 50 and expressed his belief that it is more dangerous than a lane on the highway. He explained there are impediments on the path such as broken glass but using a lane would have the riders going the same direction as traffic and everyone would have to stop for lights at the same time. Mr. Kastens said he would meet with RTC and provide them with the suggestions the Commission has come up with and bring a report back. No formal action was taken.

5. STATUS REPORT ON OPEN SPACE ELEMENT OF THE MASTER PLAN - (1-1985.5) Mr. Kastens said the proposals from the three candidates had been received. He added that interviews would be

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conducted August 25 by the Open Space Advisory Committee in the Sierra Room and would be telecast. The consultant would be chosen at that time and would then go to the Board of Supervisors for their approval.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

1. Future Agenda Items from Commission Members - (1-2015.5) Commissioner Scholley asked for an update on the Northridge project on items they were to have taken care of and Mr. Kastens said this related to timeframes and cost estimates.

2. Comments from Commission Members - (1-2035.5) Commissioner Osborne felt that the process to choose the consultant for the Jail Park replacement had gone smoothly and that he was impressed with the number and quality of candidates. Mr. Kastens said Cathexes was the firm the committee had selected and that the City had been able to successfully negotiate a contract with them.

Commissioner Scholley said she wanted to remind the Commissioners of the September 16 BOARDWALK workshop and Chairperson Elverum said this would be the same day and time as a regular meeting.

3. Status Report from Commission Members - (1-2099.5) Commissioner Kennedy said he had the opportunity to participate in the selection of a park planner and felt it was a good choice. Mr. Kastens said the name of the person is Vern Krahn who previously worked for Cathexes and is a landscape architect with experience. He added that Mr. Krahn has previously worked on projects for the City.

4. Comments and Status Reports from Staff - (1-2183.5) Mr. Kastens had provided copies of newsletters from the Carson Tennis Club in the packet. He said he and Parks Superintendent Scott Fahrenbruch had been invited to a Parks and Recreation appreciation day at the Centennial tennis courts. This had included people playing tennis, fund raising, clinics, and samples of equipment. He also commented that the club has experienced an increase in participants.

5. Status Report on Question #18, Residential Construction Tax and Capital Improvement - (1-2243.5) Mr. Kastens said they have applications and the people will be coming to make presentations at the next meeting at which time the Commission can ask questions. He added that the Commission will be making their recommendation on funding at the first meeting in October. He explained there would not be as many as in previous years because most of the applications were generated by staff which a lot had to do with the passage of Question #18.

There being no further business Chairperson Elverum entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Osborne moved to adjourn. Commissioner Wright seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0. Chairperson Elverum adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

The Minutes of the August 19, 1997 meeting of the Carson City Parks and Recreation Commission

ARE SO APPROVED 9/2, 1997

/s/

Ken Elverum, Chairperson