

CARSON CITY SHADE TREE COUNCIL

Minutes of the December 2, 2009 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson City Shade Tree Council was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 2, 2009 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Lee-Ann Keever
Vice Chairperson Gianna Shirk
Member Kyle Horvath
Member Terrill Ozawa
Member Jens Peermann
Member Roy Trenoweth

STAFF: Roger Moellendorf, Parks and Recreation Department Director
Jano Barnhurst, Recording Secretary

NOTE: A recording of these proceedings, the council's agenda materials, and any written comments or documentation provided to the recording secretary are public record. These materials are on file in the Clerk-Recorder's Office, and available for review during regular business hours.

CALL TO ORDER ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (5:29:51) - Chairperson Keever called the meeting to Order at 5:29 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Member Brewer was absent and excused.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (5:30:33) - None.

1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - (5:30:41) - Member Ozawa moved to accept the minutes of the October 7, 2009 meeting as written. Member Peermann seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

2. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (5:31:03) - Vice Chairperson Shirk requested that Item 3-F be heard immediately after Item 3-B.

3. AGENDA ITEMS:

3-A. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ABSENCE OF ANY COUNCIL MEMBER FROM THIS MEETING (5:31:37) - Member Brewer was absent and excused.

3-B. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING POTENTIAL REAPPOINTMENTS OF SHADE TREE COUNCIL MEMBERS LEE-ANN KEEVER, KYLE HORVATH, GIANNA SHIRK, AND JENS PEERMANN TO THE SHADE TREE COUNCIL (5:31:47) - In response to a question, Mr. Moellendorf advised that as all members currently serve, an interview process is not necessary, rather a simple motion and vote for action. Member Ozawa moved that Board members, Lee-Ann Keever, Kyle Horvath, Gianna Shirk and Jens Peermann be reappointed to the Carson City Shade Tree Council. Member Trenoweth seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

3-C. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE SHADE TREE COUNCIL'S ANNUAL FALL TREE CARE SEMINAR (5:37:30) - Chairperson Keever advised that 38 people attended although 75 attended the previous year and opined that the drop in attendees was due to some having to pay their

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own registration fees instead of their employer. She suggested that the registration fee be reduced next year to cover just the operational costs which may encourage more participation. Mr. Moellendorf opined that the economy had a big effect on the turnout. In response to a comment, Chairperson Keever advised that the matter can be discussed at the June or July meeting when final arrangements are made. She noted that there was a mix-up on the room and requested they get the reservation confirmation in writing next year. Mr. Moellendorf ensured the STC that it wouldn't happen again.

3-D. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A POSSIBLE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE SHADE TREE COUNCIL AND ONE OR MORE LOCAL ART GROUPS TO PRODUCE AN "ART TREE" (5:40:03) - Chairperson Keever gave background information and advised that invitations were sent to a variety of organizations but the only response was from the Chamber of Commerce (COC). She asked a variety of questions which she read into the record. She added that she researched other projects including a '9/11 tree' and LA's Getty Art Museum art tree project.

Member Horvath gave background information and narrated a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which is incorporated into the record. He discussed the reason for the tree, its make-up, funding and budget. He advised that artist salaries range from \$20,000 to \$70,000 depending on experience. He further discussed similar projects, location, name, maintenance, the timeline and potential project partners. In response to a question, he replied that when he initially brought this item to the STC, he had photos of an urban forest which was somewhat crude. He explained that Nevada weather doesn't allow for anything crude and for safety reasons, it can't have sharp corners or rust. He opined that if someone in the community can do it, it can be open to everyone, but he sees 'getting what you paid for'. In response to another question, he envisioned several artists with several designs and with a five to seven person group brainstorming, certain artists could be approached. He added that the Black Rock Art Foundation has all their plans in grant proposals. Mr. Moellendorf mentioned that it's rare to find artists willing to donate time, energy and art and suggested sponsoring an art contest in which one piece would be purchased. He explained that there would be strict guidelines, the artwork would be publicly displayed and there would be various ways of selecting the art which could involve the community. Member Horvath added that a number of artists in the area would be able to do this kind of project. He noted that some of the hard questions involve safety and the ability to withstand the climate. He recommended making the presentation to other committees and opined that it would carry more weight if it were promoted by multiple committees. Vice Chairperson Shirk commented that she liked the idea of a large canopy tree, and suggested that contributors be allowed to buy a leaf with their name on it which would create shade and interest. Member Horvath expressed approval of the idea.

(6:06:44) Ronni Hannaman of the Carson City Chamber of Commerce advised of the proposed library site and plaza behind the Nugget which should be the priority location for the project and the new area at the Carson Mall should be considered as a second site. She added that she is working with the Capital City Arts Initiative to use the Mall for their art which could open the door for this project. She believes it's a great project and wished the Council good luck on funding. She offered assistance with promoting the project or in locating funding sources and suggested the possibility of a series of trees throughout the City. Mr. Moellendorf commended Ms. Hannaman for her great ideas and agreed that the Mall is a great visible location, but funding is a problem. In conjunction with the Knowledge Center, he suggested that a percentage of the project could be dedicated towards public art but it could be several years away. He added that a benefit in having a project a few years away would allow time for an artist contest which would also help with fundraising. Ms. Hannaman suggested that the Arts and Culture Commission be

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approached with the project. In response to a comment, she suggested contacting Foundations' executive directors to relay information to their members which puts their stamp of approval on the project. She also suggested that they may be able to obtain old slot machines from IGT and rails from the V&T. Member Horvath opined that the project could cost significantly less than other projects because of using recycled materials.

(6:17:53) Robin Hodgkin of the Nevada Arts Council advised that the Cultural Commission is the over-arching body that sets public policy about public art. She explained that public art is big money and could be considered a branding mechanism. She opined that due to the economy, this may be a five to ten year project and urged the STC to view it in the long term through community involvement. She advised that the State Arts Council is willing to assist in research and development or offer technical assistance. She opined that this works with the library because they have asked the Coalition to determine how arts and culture can be integrated into a learning center. She advised that a presentation has been made to the Cultural Commission regarding a public art ordinance. In response to a question, she replied that the topic of money hasn't been approached. Ms. Hannaman opined that it may not be viable to approach because water connection fees have been greatly reduced and there is a strict landscaping ordinance. Ms. Hodgkin explained that artists work for a living and no artist will create a sculpture if they're not going to get paid. Member Horvath thanked Ms. Hodgkin and Ms. Hannaman for their input and noted that Carson City's website states that it is the third best city for artists in America.

Member Ozawa displayed a sketch utilizing the elements discussed. In response to a question, Mr. Moellendorf suggested approaching the Carson City Arts Coalition to get on the Cultural Commission's agenda and offered to connect the STC with the Office of Business Development (OBD) to determine how this would fit in with the Knowledge Center. He agreed that it could be a multi-year project but thinks it is a great vision. In response to a question, Chairperson Keever replied that she and Mr. Moellendorf will take the initial approach and suggested that Member Horvath could be placed on their agenda. She added that they will report back in February.

3-E. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE COUNCIL'S LANDMARK TREE PROGRAM (6:35:46) - Chairperson Keever introduced the item and gave background information. In response to a question, she referred to the exhibit in the agenda materials regarding nominating trees on private property. Vice Chairperson Shirk opined that it looks great, should be implemented and the STC should take action in getting nominations. Chairperson Keever suggested the following as potential landmark trees: the State Christmas Tree; the tree on Washington and Division; the Silver Maple on King Street; and the Hackberry tree on the Capitol grounds. **Vice Chairperson Shirk moved to approve the adoption of the Carson City Landmark Tree Program as outlined as agenda item E. Member Horvath seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0-1.** Member Ozawa was absent for the vote.

3-F. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING CHANGING THE MEETING DAY AND TIME OF THE COUNCIL'S SCHEDULED MEETINGS (5:33:05) - In response to a question, Mr. Moellendorf advised of the importance of staying in the Sierra Room and the only option available is to continue with the first Wednesday of the month. He explained they are currently meeting every other month beginning in February but could change to every other month beginning in January. Member Peermann indicated that he has another meeting scheduled on the first Wednesday of every month and moving from even to odd months would not help his situation. Mr. Moellendorf explained that the Sierra Room is frequently used and the first Wednesday is the only day available. In response to a

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question, he replied that this would be either a no action or action to retain the present schedule. Chairperson Keever saw no need to take action.

3-G. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE COUNCIL'S WEB PAGE ON CARSON CITY'S WEB SITE (6:41:45) - Chairperson Keever noted that the IT Director was not present and rescheduled the item for the February meeting. In response to a question, Mr. Moellendorf replied that he will arrange a meeting between Member Peermann, Chairperson Keever and IT.

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS:

STATUS REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM STAFF (6:42:56) - Mr. Moellendorf congratulated the STC on a successful Fall Tree Care Seminar.

MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION (6:43:26) - Member Ozawa suggested that the lights on the State Christmas Tree be replaced with LED's with more color. She also advised that the dead trees she photographed were cut down and removed. Member Horvath requested that the Arbor Day tree planting celebration incorporate information that broadens what is done on Arbor Day which will get the community more involved.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (6:43:26) - Member Peermann requested an item regarding power lines and tree trimming as well as providing information to the community by way of relocation kits for newcomers.

FINALIZATION OF THE 2009 FALL TREE CARE SEMINAR (6:47:55) - Chairperson Keever advised that the item can be removed as it was finalized on the 20th.

PLANNING FOR ARBOR DAY 2010 (6:47:59) - Chairperson Keever suggested making the State Christmas Tree the focus and suggested purchasing a plaque to memorialize its importance. She also suggested purchasing a new tree for the State that could be planted on the Capitol grounds.

6. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (6:49:20) - Chairperson Keever entertained a motion to adjourn. Member Ozawa moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:49 p.m. Member Horvath seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The Minutes of the December 2, 2009 Carson City Shade Tree Council meeting are so approved this 3rd day of February, 2010.

LEE-ANN KEEVER, Chair