

CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the September 20, 2010 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Monday, September 20, 2010 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Randy Pahl
Vice Chairperson Paul Pugsley
Member Mark McCubbin
Member Ernie Rink
Member Lacey Sheck

STAFF: Vern Krahn, Park Planner
Kathleen King, Recording Secretary

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

CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (5:32:30) - Chairperson Pahl called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present. Members Greytak and Kosch were absent.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (5:32:52) - None.

1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - July 19, 2010 (5:32:57) - Member McCubbin moved to approve the minutes. Vice Chairperson Pugsley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

2. MODIFICATION TO THE AGENDA (5:33:16) - Chairperson Pahl modified the agenda to address item 3-B prior to item 3-A.

3. AGENDA ITEMS:

3-A. PRESENTATION ONLY REGARDING CARL NELLIS' EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT (5:57:33) - Carl Nellis distributed to the committee members and staff a written narrative of his proposed project, and reviewed the same. He responded to questions regarding the method by which to preserve the willow branches once they are cut on October 9th and before they are planted on October 16th. Vice Chairperson Pugsley responded to questions regarding the method by which the willow branches will be planted, and the area from which they will be cut. Mr. Nellis acknowledged that Member Greytak will assist in determining the location for planting the willows. He further acknowledged that the community cleanup trailer will be needed by 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 9th at the River Park parking area. Discussion took place, and Mr. Krahn offered to schedule a meeting with Mr. Nellis and Vice Chairperson Pugsley to go over the equipment and materials available in the community cleanup trailer.

In response to a question, Mr. Nellis discussed the goal to plant a sufficient number of willows to improve the riverbank and, thereby, prevent additional erosion. Mr. Nellis acknowledged he will have a sufficient number of volunteers to accomplish the project. He further acknowledged that lunch will be provided for his volunteers, and Chairperson Pahl noted that Mr. Nellis' project will be separate from the October 16th River work day / cleanup activities.

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In response to a further question, Vice Chairperson Pugsley proposed an alternative for some of the work day volunteers to assist with the October 16th portion of Mr. Nellis' project. In response to a question, Mr. Nellis advised of having been unsuccessful at finding volunteers to place large boulders. Vice Chairperson Pugsley provided background information on the need to place large boulders to keep people from driving into the River.

Chairperson Pahl entertained additional questions or comments and, when none were forthcoming, expressed anticipation over "seeing the results" of the project. In response to a question, he discussed previous attempts at transplanting willows. Vice Chairperson Pugsley provided additional clarification.

3-B. ACTION TO ORGANIZE AND PLAN FOR THE CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S WORK AND EDUCATION DAY, AKA RIVERFEST 2010, TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2010 (5:33:26) - Chairperson Pahl introduced this item. Vice Chairperson Pugsley provided background information on Mr. Nellis' Eagle Scout project relative to this item. He discussed projects scheduled for the work day, including tree wrapping on the west side "going both ways from ... River Park ..."

Mr. Krahn requested input of the committee members regarding the draft flyer included in the agenda materials. He provided an overview of a recent conversation with Ron Bowman, of the Kiwanis Club, with regard to preparing lunch for the volunteers. Mr. Krahn was uncertain as to whether lunch will be provided at this event. Vice Chairperson Pugsley offered possible funding from the Carson Valley Conservation District to purchase food for the volunteer lunch if the Kiwanis can prepare it. Discussion followed, and Mr. Krahn offered to follow up with Mr. Bowman.

Additional discussion took place regarding possible work day activities, including trash collection, constructing and placing wood duck / bat boxes, and moving large boulders. Following additional discussion relative to item 3-A, Vice Chairperson Pugsley suggested addressing said item and returning to the subject item.

(6:20:46) Chairperson Pahl requested input of the committee members on the draft flyer included in the agenda materials. Discussion took place regarding the possibility of including the "snapshot day" volunteers in the October 16th work day event. In response to a question, Mr. Krahn reviewed the list of anticipated volunteers. No formal action was taken.

3-C. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING RIVER HABITAT DAMAGE DUE TO INAPPROPRIATE MOTORIZED VEHICLE USE ON THE RIVER, ON THE RIVER BANK, AND IN THE RIVER BED OF THE CARSON RIVER (6:27:26) - Chairperson Pahl introduced this item, and Mr. Krahn provided background information on a presentation made by Member McCubbin, as a private citizen, at a recent Carson River Regional Recreational Steering Committee ("CRRRSC") meeting. Mr. Krahn advised of previous discussions with a number of different CRRRSC members relative to motor vehicle access to the River. He advised that, subsequent to Member McCubbin's presentation at the CRRRSC meeting, Nevada Division of State Lands Agent Rick Murray and a number of other agency representatives have been researching applicable statutes to address "these particular issues."

Member McCubbin expressed appreciation for the opportunity to have spoken at the CRRRSC meeting, and discussed his first-hand experience as a resident along the River. He expressed concern over more

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prevalent abuse “as the trails open up down to the River.” He acknowledged understanding for the River’s recreational attraction, “but this River’s too delicate ...” for access by motorized vehicles. He expressed an interest in an ordinance “that would stop that from happening.” He distributed to the committee members and staff photographs of property “in front of my house that’s adjacent to the River,” and narrated the same. In reference to flooding which occurred in the last several years, he advised of having “lost about six feet of bank ...” He discussed the benefits of the willows planted along the bank to prevent erosion, and advised that they serve as wildlife habitat. He narrated an additional photograph depicting cattle “along the prison property,” and expressed an interest in “address[ing] that too, down the road sometime ...” He expressed a preference for a fence to be installed “about 50 feet up from the riverbank ... and do some restoration ... and get some willows growing ...” He noted the dual benefit of the willows to protect the riverbank from erosion and to serve as “a filter for the irrigation water that runs off of that [prison] land.”

In reference to Member McCubbin’s presentation at the CRRRSC meeting, Mr. Krahn advised of having spoken to Mr. Murray earlier in the day, who informed him of having requested Nevada Division of State Lands and Nevada Department of Wildlife legal counsel to research applicable statutes relative to prohibiting motor vehicle access to the River. Mr. Krahn offered to invite Mr. Murray to provide a presentation to the committee. He discussed various possibilities for addressing the issue. Chairperson Pahl expressed an interest in rescheduling the tour adjacent to the Northern Nevada Correctional Center, and suggested this may be an opportunity to present issues to prison officials. He advised that his agency makes funding available for fencing livestock from the River. Member Sheck discussed the importance of education at the elementary school level. Mr. Krahn suggested the possibility of an informational brochure, and discussion followed regarding various methods by which to educate and inform the public. Consensus of the committee was to invite Mr. Murray to provide a presentation.

3-D. UPDATE ONLY ON RESCHEDULING THE TOUR OF THE NORTHERN NEVADA CORRECTIONAL CENTER (6:48:41) - Chairperson Pahl introduced this item. Mr. Krahn provided background information, and reviewed the agenda materials. He discussed the purpose of the tour, as listed in the agenda materials, and requested input of the committee members with regard to rescheduling the tour. Discussion followed, and consensus was to reschedule the tour for 4:30 p.m. on the next regular committee meeting date in November.

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS:

4-A. INSTALLATION OF AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES SIGNS AT VARIOUS CITY RIVER PROPERTIES ALONG THE CARSON RIVER (6:58:24) - Chairperson Pahl introduced this item, and Mr. Krahn circulated a sample sign among the committee members. Mr. Krahn advised that the signs were provided by Carson Water Subconservancy District Watershed Program Manager Genie Azad. The signs will be installed over the next couple months. Vice Chairperson Pugsley commended Supervisor Shelly Aldean’s involvement in raising awareness of the aquatic invasive species issue.

4-B. CARSON RIVER PLANNING CONFERENCE (7:02:04) - Mr. Krahn provided an overview of the e-mail correspondence, included in the agenda materials, from Ms. Azad.

4-C. MEMBERS’ ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION (7:06:19) - Chairperson Pahl advised of a new bridge at the Silver Saddle Ranch and, in response to a question, Mr. Krahn provided background information.

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5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (7:02:46) - A brief discussion took place regarding distribution of committee agenda materials by e-mail, and consensus of the committee was to continue doing so. Member McCubbin suggested making "FYI" materials available for the committee members to view without necessarily having to print. (7:09:26) Chairperson Pahl noted the future agenda items matrix included in the agenda materials, and requested additional input of the committee members. Mr. Krahn acknowledged the likelihood that the prison tour and related topics will dominate the November meeting.

6. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (7:10:22) - Vice Chairperson Pugsley moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Member Sheck seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The Minutes of the September 20, 2010 Carson River Advisory Committee meeting are so approved this 15th day of November, 2010.

RANDY PAHL, Chair