

CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the March 21, 2011 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Monday, March 21, 2011, in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Randy Pahl
Vice Chairperson Paul Pugsley
Member Dan Greytak
Member Mark McCubbin
Member Bradley Kosch
Member Lacey Sheck

STAFF: Roger Moellendorf, Parks and Recreation Director
Juan Guzman, Open Space Manager
Vern Krahn, Park Planner
Ann Bollinger, Natural Resource Specialist
Tamar Warren, 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.

ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (5:32:40) – Chairperson Pahl called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present. Member Greytak arrived at 5:35 p.m. Member Rink was absent. Member Sheck left at 7:52 p.m.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (5:33:27) – None.

1. **ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES** (5:33:06) - **Member McCubbin moved to approve the January 24, 2011 meeting minutes. Member Kosch seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

2. **MODIFICATION TO THE AGENDA** (5:34:14) – Chairperson Pahl suggested combining agenda items 3B and 4A.

3. **AGENDA ITEMS:**

3. **AGENDA ITEMS:**

A. **ACTION TO ELECT A CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON OF THE CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR 2011.** (5:34:25) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Mr. Krahn elaborated on the responsibilities of the Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson and recommended taking nominations and then voting on them. Chairperson Pahl stated that he would be willing to continue serving as Chairperson. **Member Greytak moved to nominate Chairperson Pahl for another term. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairperson Pugsley. Motion carried 6-0. Member Sheck moved to nominate Member Greytak for Vice Chair. The motion was seconded by Member Kosch. Member Greytak moved to nominate Vice Chairperson Pugsley for another term. The motion was seconded by Member McCubbin.** Chairperson Pahl called for a vote on the nomination of Vice Chairperson Pugsley for another term. **Motion carried 6-0.**

B. **ACTION REGARDING THE CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTING TWO COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO ASSIST THE CARSON RIVER COALITION'S EDUCATION WORKING GROUP AND CITY STAFF IN DEVELOPING EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE AND/OR PAMPHLETS REGARDING INAPPROPRIATE MOTORIZED USES IN THE CARSON RIVER.** (5:39:20) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Mr. Krahn explained that the Committee had previously expressed interest in enforcement and educational issues relating to inappropriate motorized vehicle use within the River corridor. He then invited Genie Azad, representing the Carson River Coalition and the Carson Water Subconservancy District, to elaborate. Ms. Azad outlined

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the damage ATVs cause to the rivering system, and suggested community outreach and education to “help folks understand why this is not a good idea”. She suggested a brainstorming session with the Education Working Group and designated Committee members to address the issue. Beth Scott, member of the Board of Directors, Friends of Silver Saddle Ranch, stated that she was representing Nancy Santos, President, who wanted to know about the Carson River Coalition Education Working Group and asked why they “were not part of it”. Ms. Azad stated that the Group was open to anyone and existed “as a format to exchange ideas”. She suggested putting Ms. Scott on the e-mail list to be invited to the next meeting. She also extended the same invitation to everyone else. Mary Kay Wagner, with Nevada Environmental Protection and a member of the Carson River Coalition Education Working Group, invited members of the Friends of Silver Saddle to join their “Snapshot Day” annual event, a citizen monitoring event, to monitor 10 or 11 sites throughout the watershed. Mr. Krahn advised that the meetings occurred on a monthly basis and Ms. Azad suggested designating this issue as a “priority track” because of the approaching summer months. She proposed placing the item on the April 5, 2011 meeting agenda. **Vice Chairperson Pugsley moved to appoint members McCubbin and Sheck as Committee representatives on the Carson River Coalition Education Working Group. The motion was seconded by member Kosch. Motion carried 6-0.**

C. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING A STUDY ON WATER FLOW PATTERN CHANGES ON THE CARSON RIVER. (5:51:39) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Mr. Krahn gave background and invited Edwin James, General Manager of the Carson Water Subconservancy District, to present the preliminary findings of a study conducted along with the Desert Research Institute. Mr. James explained that they were doing a comprehensive regional water management plan for municipalities and future water supplies in the area. He added that they were looking at “impact to the river” and “impacts to the habitat and agriculture”. Mr. James gave a PowerPoint presentation, prepared by Dr. Alexandra Lutz of the Desert Research Institute, incorporated into the record, on Runoff Pattern Changes on the Carson River. Member Greytak inquired about “the relationship between the pumping of the River and the drawing of the water out of the River for irrigation”. Mr. James explained that there was a time delay for ground water pumping. He added that he could not find any correlation between “high pumpage” and the impact it had on the Carson River, and that there was a recharge from irrigation. Mr. James also stated that USGS was developing a ground water model for the Carson Valley which would be completed soon, in addition to studies in the Eagle Valley and Lyon County areas. Chairperson Pahl solicited public comments, however, none were forthcoming.

D. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE DRAFT WORK PLAN AND MANAGEMENT OF THE SILVER SADDLE RANCH AND THE SURROUNDING PUBLIC LANDS IN THE CARSON RIVER AREA. (6:16:13) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Mr. Guzman gave background on the Lands Bill and introduced Mr. Moellendorf, Ms. Bollinger, and Mark Kimbrough of Washo Zephyr Consulting. He explained that a conservation easement had been developed with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and discussed the land transfer taking place from BLM to Carson City. Mr. Guzman stated that their main goal was to ensure that land uses took place without degrading the resources, and that they would focus their efforts on the management of people, using the resources. He stated that since Mr. Kimbrough had extensive experience as a park ranger, was a current member of the Carson City Planning Commission, a former member of the Carson River Advisory Committee, and was on board as a consultant, it was ideal to have him “start working on the management plan”. Mr. Kimbrough stated that the activities relating to the river were well-defined and that the River was well-protected already. Chairperson Pahl thanked Mr. Kimbrough and asked about the level of detail that the plan would incorporate. Mr. Kimbrough explained that there would be “specifics to each site”. He added that the plan would have a one to five-year part and a ten to fifteen-year part. In response to Vice Chairperson Pugsley’s question, Mr. Kimbrough said that they were working on an agricultural component that had not been finalized. Mr. Guzman gave several examples of adjacent areas that needed attention and would be included in the plan. Ms. Scott stated that there was a great deal of devastation produced by off-road vehicles. Member Greytak stated that he would like to see sustainable agriculture, assessed irrigation, and wetlands management prioritized before asking for funds. He added that resource protection must be the primary goal. Ms. Bollinger stated that she was pleased with the evening’s discussions and informed that she, along with the operator of the Silver Saddle and Buzzy’s Ranches, would meet with NRCS in April to discuss a conservation plan. She encouraged additional recommendations via e-mail, to pass on to the consultant. It was suggested to post the plan for comments on a private web site. Mr. Kimbrough explained that the plan was due to the Board of Supervisors in December. Chairperson Pahl thanked everyone for their participation and said he looked forward to seeing the document in June.

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E. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE SOUTHERN NEVADA PUBLIC LANDS MANAGEMENT ACT; PARK AND TRAIL CATEGORY, GRANT REQUIREMENTS AND RELATED CITY STEPS NECESSARY FOR THE FEE TITLE ACQUISITION OF THE BENTLY PROPERTY (APN'S 10-011-24 AND 10-011-25) IN THE CARSON RIVER CANYON CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 470 ACRES.

(7:36:15) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Mr. Guzman explained that they were relying on the above-mentioned grant, in order to purchase the Bently property. He added that they were in the process of submitting paperwork towards it. Mr. Guzman gave background on the mercury contamination in the area and cited several documents that they had shared with BLM.

F. ACTION TO PLAN AND ORGANIZE A CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORKDAY PROJECT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE KIWANIS CLUB OF CARSON CITY'S RIVER CLEANUP. (7:44:07) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Mr. Krahn reminded the Committee that, during the previous meeting, they had voted to combine the Workday Project with the Kiwanis Club's River Cleanup event. He then asked the Committee to decide on a project, and state their support requirements. Member Greytak wondered if they could wrap trees near the Morgan Mill Trail, or mulch and reseed the trails. Mr. Krahn suggested picking up heavy trash from the River. Margie Evans, representing the Carson City Weed Coalition, explained that they were out of funds to seed the suggested area, and stated there would be more opportunities for seeding soon. Discussion ensued on property locations. Chairperson Pahl suggested a coordinator with the Kiwanis Club and Member Greytak volunteered to be "the point man". Mr. Krahn offered to arrange a meeting with the Kiwanis Club and Mr. Moellendorf suggested canvassing the area for recommendations.

G. PRESENTATION ONLY ON THE MORGAN MILL ROAD RIVER ACCESS AREA PROJECT RECEIVING AN ELMER H. ANDERSON PARK EXCELLENCE AWARD. (8:02:21) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Mr. Krahn gave background on an award received by the Parks and Recreation Department, incorporated into the record. He announced that the Elmer H. Anderson Park Excellence Award for the Trails and Natural Areas category, was received for the Morgan Mill Road River Access project. Mr. Krahn also thanked the Commission for their support and received congratulatory comments from the Members.

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS

STATUS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM STAFF

A. CARSON RIVER WATERSHED FORUM, "GROWING A HEALTHY WATERSHED," TO BE HELD ON MARCH 22, 2011. (5:49:13) – Mr. Krahn referred to a brochure, incorporated into the record, and highlighted the Carson River Coalition Watershed Forum, on March 22, 2011. Ms. Azad stated that "over 130 people signed up", and that the theme was "growing a healthy watershed". She invited any interested persons to "show up", however, she stated that the lunch portion was already closed and the food had been ordered.

B. CARSON RIVER RAFTING TRIPS TO BE HELD ON MAY 20 (CLASS I) AND MAY 21. (8:06:21) – Mr. Krahn reminded the Commission of an upcoming Carson River rafting trip organized by the Carson River Regional Recreational Steering Committee, to be held on May 20 and 21, 2011. Several Commissioners had not received their invitations, and Mr. Krahn offered to look into that. He stated that a fee was involved and that family members were welcome. Member Greytak suggested stopping at a few places and Mr. Krahn said he would look into that.

C. EARTH DAY CLEANUP EVENT TO BE HELD ON APRIL 23, 2011. (8:10:01) – Mr. Krahn announced that the Earth Day Cleanup Event would be held on Saturday, April 23, 2011, from 8:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. He stated that there were three focus areas for the cleanup, and the event was mainly designated as a trash pick up project.

(8:11:15) – Mr. Krahn communicated to the viewing public that Commissioners were receiving their agenda packets electronically, and that moving forward the entire packet would be posted on the City's web site. He also reminded the Commissioners to look at some of the FYI material included in their packets.

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MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUEST FOR INFORMATION. (8:12:38) – None.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS. (8:12:47) – Mr. Krahn referred to a list of future agenda items he had compiled, incorporated into the record, upon the Committee's suggestions. He then asked the Commissioners for input.

6. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (8:13:48) – Member McCubbin moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Member Greytak. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

The Minutes of the March 21, 2011 Carson River Advisory Committee meeting are so approved this 16th day of May, 2011.

RANDY PAHL, Chair