

CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the November 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, November 21, 2011, in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Randy Pahl
Member Dan Greytak
Member Mark McCubbin
Member Ernie Rink
Member Daniel Westermeyer

STAFF: Roger Moellendorf, Parks and Recreation Director
Vern Krahn, Park Planner
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 (5:32:56) – Chairperson Pahl called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present. Members Kosch and Sheck were absent.

CITIZEN COMMENTS (5:33:23) – Chairperson Pahl entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming. Mr. Krahn clarified that Citizen Comments would also be solicited prior to adjournment, and after each agenda item discussion.

1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES (5:34:46) – Member McCubbin moved to approve the July 18, 2011 meeting minutes. Member Rink seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

2. MODIFICATION TO THE AGENDA (5:34:54) – There were no modifications to the agenda.

3. MEETING ITEMS:

A. INTRODUCTION OF DANIEL WESTERMEYER, NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER FOR RECREATIONAL ISSUES. (5:35:40) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Mr. Krahn introduced Member Westermeyer and thanked him for serving on the Committee. Member Westermeyer noted that he had a degree in Natural Resource Management from Humboldt State University and worked for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). He also cited aquatic recreational activities as his hobbies.

B. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ONLY ON AN EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT TO REVEGETATE AND STABILIZE A RIVER BANK ON CITY PROPERTY UPSTREAM FROM THE DEER RUN ROAD BRIDGE. (5:39:44) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Mr. Krahn introduced Matthew Boggs, an Eagle Scout candidate who said he wished to restore a bank on the Carson River, near the Deer Run Road Bridge. Mr. Boggs presented his re-vegetation project and showed several photos of the location, all of which are incorporated into the record. In response to Chairperson Pahl's question, Mr. Boggs explained that Member Greytak would provide assistance with the hydro-jet. He also explained that the project would encompass a 100 square foot area. Discussion ensued regarding closure of the area. Chairperson Pahl entertained public comment; however, none was forthcoming. The Committee thanked Mr. Boggs for his efforts.

C. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ONLY BY KAREN VARGAS, NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, REGARDING NDOW'S RECENT POSITIVE TEST FINDINGS ON QUAGGA MUSSELS IN THE LAHONTAN AND RYE PATCH RESERVOIRS AND THE POTENTIAL THREAT QUAGGA MUSSELS POSE TO THE CARSON RIVER SYSTEM. (5:49:29) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Mr. Krahn introduced Karen Vargas, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator, Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW). Ms. Vargas explained

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the general definitions of invasive species, and specifically the issues caused by the quagga mussel threat. She referred to the Quagga Mussel information sheet and several articles on the Quagga and Zebra Mussel, and Asian Clams, incorporated into the record. She noted that Lahontan and Rye Patch reservoirs had tested positive for Quagga Mussels, and Lake Mead and the "Lower Colorado System including Lake Mojave" were "completely infested" with them. Ms. Vargas stressed that each adult mussel would produce over a million eggs, and she explained the testing methods used by her department. She also discussed the damage caused to boats and native species, and the environmental and economic impact caused by the mussels. Ms. Vargas also detailed the challenges involved in the removal of the species, noting "we have a lot to do here, in the state". In response to a question, Ms. Vargas clarified that the Asian Clams in the Carson River were "not as prolific as the Quagga or Zebra Mussels". She also noted that there were no natural predators that could "wipe out" the non-native species. In response to another question, Ms. Vargas explained that the mussels would survive in marshes and low calcium areas, even though they needed the calcium for shell growth. Mr. Krahn confirmed that signs were posted in the local boat ramp areas. Chairperson Pahl thanked Ms. Vargas for her presentation.

D. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE KIWANIS CLUB OF CARSON CITY'S CARSON RIVER CLEAN-UP AND BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT'S NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY EVENT HELD ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2011, INCLUDING AN EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT TO INSTALL BAT HABITAT BOXES ALONG THE CARSON RIVER AND THE CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S WORKDAY. (6:29:17) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Mr. Krahn gave background and updated the Committee on the recent Kiwanis Club Carson River clean-up on September 17, 2011. Member Greytak discussed the tree-wrapping and fence construction efforts and noted he was pleased with the volunteer turnout and contributions. Mr. Krahn advised inviting an ROTC platoon to help with tree wrapping in addition to their help with clean-up. Member Greytak stated that the consolidated efforts were more effective than having several groups institute separate clean-up events. Rob Scanland, of the Kiwanis Club, agreed that "this was one of the best years ever in terms of organization and how much work we got done". He added that "there was not much to clean up this year". Mr. Scanland also thanked Nevada Johns, the Department of Parks and Recreation, and Carson Valley Conservation District for their contributions. Mr. Krahn reminded the Committee that Christian Curtis had accomplished the construction and placement of bat boxes for his Eagle Scout project. Mr. Scanland expressed concern over increased landfill fees which could result in the use of public lands as dumping areas.

E. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING A MEETING, HELD ON JULY 20, 2011, BETWEEN THE CARSON RIVER COALITION'S EDUCATION WORKING GROUP, THE CARSON CITY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, AND THE STATE OF NEVADA DIVISION OF STATE LANDS REGARDING REGULATORY JURISDICTION AND ENFORCEMENT ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH INAPPROPRIATE MOTORIZED USES IN THE CARSON RIVER. (6:45:30) – Mr. Krahn acknowledged the efforts of Members Sheck and McCubbin. He added that he had included the meeting minutes, incorporated in to the record, in the members' packets. Mr. Krahn believed that they would receive little assistance from law enforcement because other public safety issues would take precedence. He also stressed the need for education and prevention. It was noted that the gates were left open and should be closed. Member Greytak added that the closure of the gates would be a good trigger for boaters as well, especially when water levels were low. Mr. Krahn believed that would be possible.

F. DISCUSSION ONLY ON CARSON RIVER PARK – PHASE 2 PROJECT'S CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE. (6:57:21) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Mr. Krahn explained that the Board of Supervisors had awarded the project contract to Horizon Construction on October 22, 2011, and construction had begun on November 7, 2011. Mr. Krahn stated that an additional parking area, ADA-accessible sidewalks, and later, a picnic shelter would be constructed. He also noted that the chain link fence had been removed and that new fence ideas were being discussed, adding that, weather permitting, an irrigation system and landscaping would also be added, using an existing well. In response to a question, Mr. Krahn expected the project to be completed by early February, if the weather cooperated. He also explained that the project had three funding sources: Question 1 funds, residential construction taxes, and Carson Water Subconservancy District funds, adding that no City General Funds were being used for the project. In response to another question, Mr. Krahn explained that the park was closed for liability reasons.

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS

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STATUS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM STAFF

A. UPDATE ON THE CANCELLATION OF THE BLACKHAWK TO HEYBOURNE 120 KV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT. (7:05:32) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Mr. Krahn mentioned that NV Energy had withdrawn its application for a right-of-way grant with BLM, citing that the project was “not needed at this time”. Chairperson Pahl entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

B. UPDATE ON THE RIVER WRANGLERS EDUCATION AND WORKDAY AT RIVERVIEW PARK ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2011. (7:07:16) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Mr. Krahn explained that they had been working with the Carson Water Subconservancy District on habitat protection projects along the river. On Friday, November 18, 2011, according to Mr. Krahn, an education and work day was scheduled with the Carson Water Subconservancy District and the River Wranglers; however, due to high winds, the event did not take place.

(7:11:05) – Mr. Krahn read an e-mail, incorporated into the record, from Alan Biddle, a Park Ranger, indicating the successful placement of the bat boxes along the river.

MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUEST FOR INFORMATION.

B. MEMBER NOTIFICATION TO CHAIRMAN AND PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT WHEN MISSING A COMMITTEE MEETING. (7:13:42) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Mr. Krahn reminded the Committee members that advanced notification on absences would be beneficial to ensure a quorum is present.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS. (7:14:42) – Mr. Krahn noted that the future agenda items were included in the packets and incorporated into the record. He also stated that Ed James wished to address the Committee regarding the Carson Water Subconservancy District mapping of flood planes. Member Greytak suggested adding the Regional Water Pipeline to the agenda. Chairperson Pahl requested an update on the Silver Saddle Ranch management plan.

6. CITIZEN COMMENTS. (7:17:01) – Chairperson Pahl entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

7. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (7:17:39) – Member Westermeyer moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Member McCubbin. The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

The Minutes of the November 21, 2011 Carson River Advisory Committee meeting are so approved this 31st day of January, 2012.

RANDY PAHL, Chair