

CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of the March 19, 2012 Meeting

Page 1

A regular meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Monday, March 19, 2012, in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Randy Pahl
Member Paul Pugsley
Member Dan Greytak
Member McCubbin
Member Ernie Rink
Member Lacey Sheck
Member Daniel Westermeyer

STAFF: Roger Moellendorf, Parks and Recreation Director
Juan Guzman, Open Space Manager
Kathleen King, Recording Secretary
Transcribed by: 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 (5:30:02) – Chairperson Pahl called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present.

CITIZEN COMMENTS (5:30:35) – Chairperson Pahl entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES (5:31:40) – Member Westermeyer moved to approve the November 21, 2011 meeting minutes. Member Rink seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

2. MODIFICATION TO THE AGENDA (5:32:21) – There were no modifications to the agenda.

3. MEETING ITEMS:

A. DISCUSSION ONLY ON THE CARSON HIGH SCHOOL'S EARTH DAY EVENT AT THE CARSON RIVER AMBROSE NATURAL AREA ON MONDAY, APRIL 30, 2012. (5:32:30) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Linda Conlin introduced herself as being "with the River Wranglers", and gave background on the organization, noting that their mission was "to conserve, explore, and celebrate Nevada rivers". Ms. Conlin explained that they were working with "Julie Coop's biology class" that had adopted the Ambrose Natural Area as a working environment and had built trails there. She explained that 60 students from the honors class would survey the area in advance for wrapped trees that required maintenance. Ms. Conlin added that fourth-graders from Empire Elementary School would also attend the field trip to study Nevada history and Carson River ecology and habitat. She also clarified that funding for supplies and T-shirts would be obtained from the Carson Water Subconservancy District. In response to a question by Member Greytak, Ms. Conlin explained that the public could observe, but would not be allowed to participate in the event due to the presence of school groups, adding that the students would arrive after 9 a.m. and leave sometime after lunch. Chairperson Pahl expressed his approval of surveying the wrapped trees and entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming. Ms. Conlin thanked the Committee for their time.

B. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ONLY BY THE FRIENDS OF THE URBAN FOREST REGARDING THEIR ORGANIZATION'S PURPOSE AND POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE TO PLANT COTTONWOOD TREES ON CITY PROPERTIES ALONG THE CARSON RIVER. (5:38:29) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Kyle Horvath, representing Friends of the Urban Forest, gave background on the group. Mr. Moellendorf added that Mr. Horvath was also the newly-elected chairperson of the Carson City Shade Tree Council. Mr. Horvath delivered a PowerPoint presentation, incorporated into the record, outlining the Canopy the Capital Initiative, a

CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of the March 19, 2012 Meeting

Page 2

strictly volunteer group. He provided numerous tree facts, outlining the benefits of trees and their economic advantage. He also gave a list of suggested trees and their benefits, that would “do well” in Carson City. Chairperson Pahl suggested adding a list of trees “not to plant”. Mr. Horvath also detailed their work with Western Nevada College, area schools, and the Greenhouse Project. He also encouraged visiting the web site www.treebenefits.com/calculator to determine the increase of home values by planting trees, and outlined several upcoming projects which included the plans for a tree sculpture. Mr. Horvath noted that funds were raised through grants and donations and offered their team of volunteers to help this Committee. Chairperson Pahl suggested that Mr. Horvath get involved in the next agenda item discussion. In response to Member Sheck’s question, Mr. Horvath noted that a [tree planting] year would constitute the time period of April through October.

C. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO PLAN AND ORGANIZE A CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORKDAY PROJECT IN SEPTEMBER 2012, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE KIWANIS CLUB OF CARSON CITY’S RIVER CLEANUP. (6:04:54) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Rob Scanland introduced himself as a member of the Carson City Noon Kiwanis Club and Ron Bowman identified himself as a member of the Sierra Nevada Kiwanis Club. Mr. Bowman gave background and explained that they wished to establish a date for the Carson River Cleanup, adding that they would also like to plant trees this year. He suggested September 15, 2012 or September 22, 2012 as possible dates for the project, asking Mr. Moellendorf to confirm that these dates did not conflict with other City events. Mr. Scanland received confirmation that the Committee had previously “taken action to join Kiwanis” regarding this project, and suggested a meeting with a sub-committee as the event neared. He also invited Mr. Horvath to present to the Kiwanis Club and discuss tree planting opportunities and possible funding. Mr. Scanland thanked the Committee for their time and reminded them that this project had been going on for 23 years. Chairperson Pahl received confirmation that the BLM office would again be the staging area. He also entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

D. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGARDING A PLANNED OFF-STREET/UNPAVED/SINGLE TRACK TRAIL FROM THE MORGAN MILL ROAD RIVER ACCESS AREA TO THE CITY’S OPEN SPACE PROPERTY COTTONWOOD GALLERY WEST OF THE DEER RUN ROAD BRIDGE. (6:15:11) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Mr. Guzman presented a Staff Report and a PowerPoint presentation, both incorporated into the record, noting that the Kiwanis Noon Club had offered assistance in building a connecting trail from Morgan Mill Trailhead to the Deer Run Bridge. Mr. Guzman then presented two options outlining the benefits and challenges of both alternatives. In response to Chairperson Pahl’s question, Mr. Guzman clarified that this project would be in addition to the Workday Project previously discussed in agenda item 3C. He also outlined the necessary steps required prior to beginning the project, also noting that the Kiwanis Club had offered to act as ambassadors in the area. Vice Chairperson Pugsley received confirmation that the trail would be built with existing soil. Mr. Guzman also assured Member Scheck that they were working on compliance in order not to disturb migratory birds or historic sites. He also believed that the trail would be too narrow to be considered equestrian friendly, but hoped it could be widened in the future. **Member Greytak moved to have the Carson River Advisory Committee recommend to the Open Space Advisory Committee [the building of] a trail, between the Morgan Mill launch site and the Deer Run Bridge, with the most appropriate access and compatible with landscape and property ownership. The motion was seconded by member Rink.** Chairperson Pahl entertained public comments. Margie Evans, with the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension and Carson City Weed Coalition, cautioned that the area had a pepperweed infestation. **Motion Carried 7-0.**

E. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING CARSON CITY’S ACQUISITION OF THE BENTLY PROPERTY IN THE CARSON RIVER CANYON IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE NEVADA COMMISSION FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE V&T RAILWAY. (Juan F. Guzman) (6:29:34) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Mr. Guzman announced that the Bently property now belonged to the residents of Carson City. He explained that a Class 3 Cultural Resources Inventory, and Phase I and Phase II environmental studies, included in the packets, had been done, noting that only one area contained a higher level of lead. He also presented a Staff Report with backup documentation and a PowerPoint presentation which showed recent acquisitions by the City, all of which are incorporated into the record. In response to a question, Mr. Guzman clarified that the motorized access would continue. He also stated that the Board of Supervisors had requested one more public

CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of the March 19, 2012 Meeting

Page 3

hearing to address issues such as “historic shooting”, camping, and off-roading. He also noted that they would like to utilize the existing bridge for pedestrian crossing. Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of camping in the canyon. Mr. Guzman explained that the City could compete for the purchase of land in the Carson River areas, or for the improvement of the area parks and recreation. He also stated that the property was appraised for \$1.8 Million; however, the City acquired it for \$1.6 Million, noting that the \$200,000 difference had been a gift from Mr. Bently. He also clarified that the V&T had provided \$209,304 in the form of easements; the SNPLMA Grant was for \$513,900, and the balance was paid for by Open Space funds. Mr. Guzman showed some of the areas that would be closed in the future. Chairperson Pahl inquired then noted that a management plan was mentioned as a future agenda item. The Committee congratulated Mr. Guzman for a “wonderful acquisition”. Chairperson Pahl entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

F. DISCUSSION ONLY DISCUSSION ONLY ON THE CARSON RIVER WATERSHED FORUM “UPDATE 2011 AND BEYOND” HELD ON FEBRUARY 9, 2012. (07:02:50) – Chairperson Pahl introduced the item. Mr. Moellendorf solicited comments from the Committee regarding the forum. Vice Chairperson Pugsley noted that it was an opportunity to “catch up” with the entities involved with the Carson River. It was agreed that the conference was beneficial and helped “compare notes”. Chairperson Pahl entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS

STATUS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM STAFF. (7:06:30) – Mr. Moellendorf noted the improvements taken place at Carson River Park, adding that a completion celebration was planned in the spring. Mr. Moellendorf explained that the Arbor Day Celebration would also take place there on April 27, 2012.

MEMBERS’ ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUEST FOR INFORMATION. (7:09:56) – Vice Chairperson Pugsley explained that the Conservation District had received \$25,000, available after July 1, 2012, to present a conceptual design of “Lloyd’s Diversion”, a rock formation near Lloyd’s Bridge. Once approved, they would seek funding to complete the project. Mr. Moellendorf was pleased to hear this was in the works, as it presented challenges to novice or unfamiliar rafters. Member Greytak stated that the Clear Creek Watershed Council would hold a public meeting on April 12, 2012, 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. in the Stewart Street Fire Station, to discuss the projects taking place in the Watershed.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS. (7:14:10) – Chairperson Pahl noted that a list of future agenda items were included in the packets. He also wished to add the Kiwanis Club Workday to the next meeting’s agenda. Mr. Guzman suggested discussing the Committee’s participation in the public meetings “regarding the uses of the canyon”. It was suggested to invite the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife to participate.

6. CITIZEN COMMENTS. (7:18:40) – Chairperson Pahl entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

7. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (7:19:50) – Chairperson Pahl entertained a motion for adjournment. **Vice Chairperson Pugsley moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Member Greytak. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.**

The Minutes of the March 19, 2012 Carson River Advisory Committee meeting are so approved this 21st day of May, 2012.

RANDY PAHL, Chair