

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee
Monday, June 16, 2014 ● 6:00 PM
Community Center Sierra Room
851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada

Board Members:

Chair – Bruce Scott **Vice Chair – Howard Riedl**
Member – Margie Evans **Member – Laura Fitzsimmons**
Member – Donna Inversin **Member – Tricia Lincoln**
Member – Toby Welborn

Staff:

Roger Moellendorf, Parks and Recreation Department Director
Juan Guzman, Open Space Manager
Ann Bollinger, Natural Resources Specialist
Tina Russom, Deputy District Attorney
Cheryl Eggert, Recording Secretary
Transcribed by: Tamar Warren, Deputy Clerk / Recording Secretary

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

The time stamps reflect time codes on the meeting’s video recording, available on http://www.breweryarts.org/?page_id=2605.

CALL TO ORDER

(3:35) – The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (3:44) – A quorum was present.

Attendee Name	Status	Left
Bruce Scott	Present	
Howard Riedl	Present	
Margie Evans	Present	
Laura Fitzsimmons	Present	
Donna Inversin	Present	8:11 p.m.
Tricia Lincoln	Present	
Toby Welborn	Present	

PUBLIC COMMENTS

(4:09) – None.

1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(4:38) – MOTION: To approve the minutes of the April 21, 2013 meeting as corrected.

RESULT:	APPROVED (7-0-0)
MOVER:	Lincoln
SECONDER:	Inversin
AYES:	Scott, Riedl, Evans, Fitzsimmons, Inversin, Lincoln, Welborn
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	None

2. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

(5:01) – It was agreed to postpone agenda item 3A until the arrival of presenter Nancy Santos.

3. MEETING ITEMS

A. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE FRIENDS OF SILVER SADDLE RANCH.

(21:40) – Ms. Bollinger gave background and Introduced Nancy Santos, President of the Friends of Silver Saddle Ranch.

(23:17) – Ms. Santos delivered a PowerPoint presentation outlining the Mission Statement, the Board, and the Trustees of the organization. She also discussed their activities including bird and duck box installations. Ms. Santos noted that the Ranch is now a conservation easement and discussed some of the structures that are in great need of repair.

(33:28) – Mr. Guzman noted that BLM Staff was “making an effort” to work closely with Open Space Staff regarding motorized vehicles on Prison Hill.

(35:44) – Member Inversin was informed that a letter was sent from the Board of Supervisors, and co-signed by Chairperson Scott, to BLM regarding the land transfer.

(36:15) – Member Lincoln requested a list from the Friends of Silver Saddle Ranch regarding needed repairs.

(37:17) – Member Evans suggested asking BLM to treat the Hoary Cress plant at the Ranch.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

(37:55) – Robyn Orloff considered a meeting she had with Mr. Guzman and BLM representatives “encouraging”; adding that no action was taken yet.

B. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PLAN.

(5:29) – Mr. Guzman introduced Lynn Zonge with Resource Concepts, Inc. (RCI). Ms. Zonge reviewed the agenda materials, incorporated into the record, and presented a draft of the “Source Water Protection Plan”.

(12:11) – Mr. Guzman noted that one of the water sources was in Washoe County.

(13:02) – Member Lincoln was informed that the major components of the program were educational outreach and signage.

(15:40) – Member Inversin received clarification that the plan could be used as a planning tool for industries and new developments.

(17:45) – Member Fitzsimmons was informed that the retention basins above Western Nevada College are capture zones for “aquifer recharge”.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

(21:06) – None.

C. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: TO REVIEW AND APPROVE CHAPTER 3 “OPEN SPACE” OF THE DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR CARSON CITY OPEN SPACE AND PARKS IN THE CARSON RIVER AREA.

(40:37) – Ms. Zonge presented the agenda materials, incorporated into the record, along with a slide presentation. She also reminded the viewing public that this item, along with chapters one and two, are available on www.carson.org.

(41:50) – Mr. Guzman clarified that the restrictions on the properties are based on the type of property, adding that the most restrictive are the conservation easements.

(54:21) – Chairperson Scott noted that these properties are not part of the land transfer from BLM, and that they are acquisitions by the City.

(54:42) – Member Evans inquired about the status of Golden Eagle Lane during the 1997 flood. She also inquired about flood plain restoration in the Morgan Mill area.

(56:36) – Vice Chairperson Riedl requested clarification regarding parking area amenities, and Ms. Bollinger noted that these issues would be discussed at a later time.

(57:20) – Member Fitzsimmons asked for a table of contents and Ms. Bollinger noted that one was available online. She was also informed that the management plans were derived from the existing Master Plans.

(100:01) – Based upon a question from Chairperson Scott, Ms. Bollinger explained that Management Plans were based on resources and what is required for improvements – with input from the community.

(1:03:44) – Mr. Guzman reviewed the process for each management plan, stating that public input would be requested after the Commission’s comments, then present it to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

(1:07:06) – Member Fitzsimmons noted that because of changes in Open Space uses, public input via workshops should be solicited from individuals or groups of users of the properties.

(1:10:01) – Mr. Moellendorf explained that this was a public meeting and public comments were welcome.

(1:11:10) – Member Evans noted that this document was being created based on the foundations of existing documents. Discussion ensued regarding the processes of seeking public input prior to the creation of ordinances.

(1:14:12) – Member Lincoln wished to see the interested groups at the Committee meetings to provide input. She also inquired about maintenance plans for mercury. Mr. Guzman explained that the EPA findings and a ruling may occur in 2015 regarding mills and related mercury-polluted areas. He also noted that they had to provide soil samples to the organizations providing the grants. Discussion ensued regarding signage about the mercury.

(1:20:25) – Member Inversin questioned the proposed bench at Golden Eagle Open Space as she believed it would be in a motorized vehicle area. Mr. Guzman noted that several pedestrian trails access the area, and showed which areas would be closed to motorized use. Ms. Bollinger stated that these were the types of comments she was looking for. Mr. Guzman also clarified that the Mexican Dam and Canal maintenance was being discussed by the Mexican Dam Association, and that the City was represented by Scott Fahrenbruch, Director of Parks and Recreation Operations.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

(1:30:40) – Robyn Orloff advised not having a parking lot in the remote areas of Golden Eagle Open Space and near residential areas. She recommended access from Silver Saddle Ranch as most property owners had moved to the area because it was “wild”.

(1:32:10) – Maurice White encouraged interaction with users of the motorized areas and stressed his opposition on the closure of some of the motorized trails. He recommended engaging the general public early, and was concerned that the draft might be interpreted as a final proposal. Chairperson Scott entertained suggestions from Mr. White on how to engage the OHV community. Mr. Guzman stated that he had received suggestions from Member Fitzsimmons regarding advertising and other communication.

(1:37:19) – Member Welborn suggested using e-mail to communicate with the groups. Discussion ensued regarding communication with the public.

(1:42:15) – Chairperson Scott indicated that he would abstain from voting on this item as his firm was involved in creating the draft.

(1:42:63) – MOTION: I move to approve Chapter 3 “Open Space” of the Draft Management Plan for Carson City Open Space and Parks in the Carson River Area.

RESULT:	APPROVED (6-0-1)
MOVER:	Evans
SECONDER:	Inversin
AYES:	Riedl, Evans, Fitzsimmons, Inversin, Lincoln, Welborn
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	Scott
ABSENT:	None

D. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AMENDMENTS TO CARSON CITY MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 13.06 IN ORDER TO INCORPORATE CERTAIN PROVISIONS AND REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO THE OPEN SPACE PROGRAM AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

(1:43:48) – Ms. Russom presented the agenda materials.

(1:45:08) – Member Inversin suggested adding a trail-building exception to Section 13.06.180.

(1:46:50) – Member Lincoln advised adding that rattlesnakes or other wildlife may be killed in life-threatening situations. Mr. Moellendorf suggested adding a provision to the entire document that addresses threats by wildlife or management of resources by the City.

(1:54:30) – Chairperson Scott received clarification that Section 13.06.160 complied with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

(1:56:13) – Member Fitzsimmons inquired about the process moving forward. Member Evans suggested voting on the item based on the recommended changes.

(1:66:50) – Ms. Bollinger suggested incorporated hunting clauses as well, noting that it was allowable to hunt statewide according to State law, unless prohibited. Discussion ensued regarding the Carson City Ordinance on hunting. Ms. Russom offered to look into the details of firearm use within City limits.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

(1:68:10) – Robyn Orloff inquired about firearms in the Prison Hill Area.

(20:06:50) – Member Inversin noted that with the added uses of trails she has witnessed fired shots.

(2:07:30) – Maurice White noted that he was resistant to the elimination of duck hunting in the Carson River Canyon but understood the safety issues. He recommended allowing the deer and goose hunts during hunting season in certain areas. Mr. White received clarification that fishing would not be disallowed in the Carson River per State regulations. Discussion also ensued regarding the definition of Open Space.

(2:15:55) – Member Welborn suggested clear definition of fishing and hunting, especially regarding the seasons.

(2:16:59) – MOTION: I move to recommend to the Board of Supervisors amendments to the Carson City Municipal Code Chapter 13.06, with the changes that we have discussed here tonight, in order to incorporate certain provisions and regulations applicable to the Open Space Program and other matters related thereto.

(2:17:30) – Ms. Russom received clarification that the intent of the motion was for her to work with Member Fitzsimmons and incorporate the changes discussed in this meeting. Member Fitzsimmons expressed concern about the timeline, and noted the importance of community input prior to further regulations, suggesting certain areas for certain activities.

(2:22:50) – Mr. White suggested engaging the Carson City Wildlife Advisory Board.

(2:23:20) – Mr. Moellendorf stated that should the Committee wish, additional public meetings could be scheduled with invited stakeholders. Member Fitzsimmons noted that the proposed timeline was short and expected the item to go before the Board of Supervisors within six months, instead of two. Discussion ensued regarding the ordinance timelines and process.

RESULT:	APPROVED (7-0-0)
MOVER:	Evans
SECONDER:	Riedl
AYES:	Scott, Riedl, Evans, Fitzsimmons, Lincoln, Welborn
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Inversin

E. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT FROM THE RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM, ADMINISTERED BY THE NEVADA STATE PARKS, FOR \$34,500 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NON-MOTORIZED BRIDGE CROSSING ASH CANYON CREEK AND THE INSTALLATION OF A KIOSK AT ASH CANYON ROAD.

(2:37:11) – Mr. Guzman presented the agenda materials, incorporated into the record. Chairperson Scott acknowledged the work done by Lumos and Associates and Muscle Powered.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

(2:39:40) – **MOTION: I move to recommend to the Board of Supervisors acceptance of a grant from the Recreational Trails Program, administered by Nevada State Parks, for \$34,500 match for the construction of a non-motorized bridge crossing Ash Canyon Creek and the installation of a kiosk at Ash Canyon.**

RESULT:	APPROVED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Riedl
SECONDER:	Welborn
AYES:	Scott, Riedl, Evans, Fitzsimmons, Lincoln, Welborn
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Inversin

F. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING ACTIVITIES, PROJECTS, AND GRANTS LOCATED WITHIN THE CARSON RIVER CORRIDOR.

(2:40:31) – Mr. Guzman presented the agenda materials, which are incorporated into the record.

PUBLIC COMMENT: - None.

G. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING ACTIVITIES, PROJECTS, AND GRANTS THROUGHOUT OTHER AREAS OF THE OPEN SPACE PROGRAM.

(2:44:38) – Mr. Guzman and Ms. Bollinger presented the agenda materials, which are incorporated into the record.

(2:45:32) – Member Welborn announced the trail building schedule for the week.

PUBLIC COMMENT: - None.

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS

A. REPORTS ONLY:

STATUS REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM STAFF

(5:52:47) – Mr. Guzman referred to several FYI items in the agenda packets and incorporated into the record. He also announced his resignation and retirement and expressed his gratitude to the Committee for their trust and support. In turn, the Committee thanked Mr. Guzman for his dedication to Open Space.

(2:55:30) – Mr. Guzman indicated that they were “under fire restriction for the whole summer”.

MEMBERS’ ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

(2:55:57) – Chairperson Scott announced that he had given Member Inversin a brochure on OHV use in Idaho and suggested looking into grants.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – None.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

7. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (2:58:16) – **Member Welborn moved to adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

The Minutes of the June 16, 2014 Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee meeting are so approved this 18th day of August, 2014.

BRUCE SCOTT, Chair