

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee
Monday, October 21, 2019 ● 5:30 PM
Community Center Sierra Room
851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada

Committee Members

Chair – Bruce Scott	Vice Chair – Alan Welch
Member – Margie Evans	Member – Jeremy Hall
Member – Donna Inversin	Member – Gerald Massad
Member – JoAnne Michael	

Staff

Jennifer Budge, Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Director
Lyndsey Boyer, Senior Natural Resource Specialist
Gregg Berggren, Trails Coordinator
Ben Johnson, Deputy District Attorney
Tamar Warren, Deputy Clerk
Minutes by: Danielle Howard, Public Meetings Clerk

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 are available for review during regular business hours.

An audio recording of this meeting is available on www.CarsonCity.org/minutes.

CALL TO ORDER

(5:35:12) – Chairperson Scott called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

(5:35:14) – Roll was called, and a quorum was present.

Attendee Name	Status	Arrived
Bruce Scott	Present	
Alan Welch	Present	
Margie Evans	Absent	
Jeremy Hall	Present	
Donna Inversin	Present	
Gerald Massad	Present	
JoAnne Michael	Present	

PUBLIC COMMENTS

(5:35:31) – Chairperson Scott entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

1. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES (August 19, 2019)

(5:59:32) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item and entertained comments or corrections.

(5:59:54) – MOTION: Member Inversin moved to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2019 meeting. Member Michael seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0-0.

RESULT:	APPROVED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Inversin
SECONDER:	Michael
AYES:	Scott, Welch, Hall, Inversin, Massad, Michael
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Evans

2. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

(5:35:51) – Ms. Budge indicated that there were no modifications to the agenda.

3. MEETING ITEMS**A. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: REVIEW AND DISCUSSION REGARDING RYAN COOLEY’S EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT TO REVEGETATE THE BURNED AREA ALONG SIERRA VISTA LANE AT EAST SILVER SADDLE RANCH.**

(5:35:58) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item. Ms. Boyer introduced Ryan Cooley, who presented a Power Point Slideshow presentation on the project, which is incorporated into the record. Ms. Boyer responded to clarifying questions from the Committee members.

(5:44:25) – Chairperson Scott entertained public questions and comments; however, none were forthcoming.

B. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: REVIEW AND DISCUSSION REGARDING GABE CROSSMAN’S EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT TO RESTORE THE “C” ON C-HILL.

(5:45:15) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item. Gabe Crossman introduced himself and presented a Power Point Slideshow presentation on the completion of the project, which is incorporated into the record, and responded to clarifying questions from the Committee members.

(5:57:08) – Chairperson Scott entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

C. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: REVIEW AND DISCUSSION REGARDING THE CONCEPTUAL DESIGN FOR THE PROPOSED WATERFALL TRAILHEAD PARKING AREA (ALSO KNOWN AS THE KINGS CANYON TRAILHEAD PARKING LOT).

(6:00:21) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item. Mr. Berggren presented an overview of the Staff Report, which is incorporated into the record along with accompanying documents, and introduced Dirk Goering, Senior Transportation Planner for the Carson City Public Works Department. Mr. Goering highlighted the following list of improvements included in the Federal Lands Access Program grant:

- Roadway reconstruction.
- Stormwater improvements.
- Road safety improvements.
- Trailhead parking lot improvements.

Mr. Goering noted that the project team would be looking into realigning the Stokes's driveway to create a "clearer division between ... the private residence and the parking area."

PUBLIC COMMENT

(6:08:05) – Ken Stokes introduced himself and was in favor of moving the location of the trailhead and restroom further away from his residence as well as incorporating a single-vault toilet instead of a two-vault toilet. He also supported closing the parking lot to deter individuals from "congregating" late at night near his residence. Mr. Goering affirmed that the ideas outlined by Mr. Stokes were "doable" and stated that, "since this trailhead has significant impacts to the community and the butting property owners," the project team would be working with Central Federal Lands and its design team to do "more of an editing process ... to get consensus and move forward" with the project.

(6:14:30) – Ernie Walsh introduced himself as a resident of the Kings Canyon area and supported the reduction of the parking lot from 45 parking spaces to 30 parking spaces. He was also in favor of moving the location of the trailhead and restroom to "the other end of the canyon."

(6:15:57) – Chairperson Scott entertained further public comment, and when none were forthcoming, he entertained Committee member comments. In response to Member Massad's question, Mr. Goering stated that there would be "multiple opportunities" to ensure consensus among the community and residents on the project plans by attending the bi-monthly project status report meetings with the Carson City Regional Transportation Commission (RTC).

(6:17:40) – Member Inversin expressed concern regarding cutting into the "bank" for the wall of the parking area design plan due to the preexisting erosion problem in that area. Mr. Goering explained that he and his team would be working "very hard to make sure we have the right grades to support vegetation" for the "re-vegetation" part of the project since the slope of the grade could affect vegetation. In response to Member Inversin's comment about there only being two trailer areas for horse trailers, Mr. Goering pointed out that the parking area did not have any trailer parking areas prior to the project, so the addition of two was still an improvement in his opinion. In response to a comment by Member Hall, Mr. Goering explained that there had

been discussion with Central Federal Lands about the possibility to “underground and pipe some of that drainage” to “allow for some surface area” in regards to an open drainage ditch on the side of the road that impedes the possibility of adding a “parallel equestrian trail along the roadway.”

(6:22:24) – In responds to Vice Chairperson Welch’s question, Mr. Goering stated that closing off the parking area would only close the trailhead and not prevent people from moving up the dirt trail. He also noted that once a “sufficient number of parking stalls” has been established, improvements would be put in place to “strongly prevent” people from parking on the side of the road in order to alleviate “emergency response” issues.

(6:23:29) – Mr. Berggren stated that the team was considering the possibility of installing a single-vault toilet restroom.

(6:24:10) – Member Michaels referenced documents stating that over 447 people had visited the trailhead on a Saturday in November and commented that when the 30 stalls of parking were to fill up, people would still be parking up and down the roadways in front of the residences. She proposed expanding the parking area “maybe to the uphill side, which would pull people away from the houses.” Mr. Goering noted that “some of the numbers that we reported within our application were during definitely peak times such as holidays or when folks were off or during nice weather.” He also pointed out that people could still park on the Kings Canyon dirt road and that the trail “is a high turnover trail.” He also noted the car count to be approximately 30 to 35 as the highest at one time. Mr. Goering explained how boulders and “other types of design features” would be used to “really prohibit folks from parking alongside the road.”

(6:27:17) – Chairperson Scott believed “we have to recognize the impact” on the residents and advised listening to their requests. He stated that he wished to see the residents’ comments “reflected in the design plans as they go forward” and offered to be “an advocate” and “a basis for maybe one more informal round of reviews,” and the Committee could “provide written input” if there were questions.

(6:29:22) – Member Inversin inquired about using the area off of the “old road that goes up towards Virginia City canyon” for horse and ATV trailer parking in the case that “there was any consideration” to improve the road “up to the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) gate.” Mr. Goering believed it was outside the scope of the grant; however, he offered to look into it.

(6:30:34) – Mr. Goering stated that he and his team had not yet “delved into the details of all the signage” but would “make sure that happens” regarding adding signage to prevent visitors from blocking residents’ driveways.” Responding to Member Hall’s question, Mr. Goering explained that Central Federal Lands has National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) professionals for “procuring and managing all of the consultants for the NHPA work, and Central Federal Lands “as a federal agency” would be “working with the USFS ... to make sure that they have NHPA documents that satisfy the [USFS] as well as their own regulations.” He also clarified that there are properties located on USFS properties, and Central Federal Lands signed a Memorandum of Understanding with USFS. In regards to Member Hall’s question about NHPA, Section 106 compliance, Mr. Goering explained that he believed that it would be taken care of “similar[ly] to the Sierra Vista Lane [project]” with the developed documents, after being reviewed and agreed upon with the Bureau of Land Development, being submitted to the USFS.

(6:33:14) – Chairperson Scott entertained further public comment; however, none was forthcoming. Mr. Goering informed the Committee that he may not have design plans ready in time for the joint meeting with the Parks and Recreation Commission.

D. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR AN OFFICIAL PROPERTY NAME FOR AN OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION LOCATED BETWEEN ASH CANYON AND VICEE CANYON PURCHASED FROM GERALD AND LUANN HAMM IN 2018.

(6:36:30) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item. Ms. Boyer presented an overview of the Staff Report, which is incorporated into the record along with the survey. Chairperson Scott entertained public comments, and when none were forthcoming, he entertained Committee member comments.

(6:40:40) – Vice Chairperson Welch pointed out that the property was a hill, not a ridge, in reference to the most popular nomination of the survey “Eagle Ridge Open Space.”

(6:41:15) – Member Hall commented that the most popular nomination was “a little bit too generic” and noted a comment from the survey that pointed out that “Eagle Ridge” is used in Genoa for a trail. He stated that he was “receptive to” the name “Golden Eagle Ridge Open Space,” although he also supported going with the most popular result for the 42 percent who had participated in the survey and had voted for that nomination.

(6:42:43) – Member Massad recommended the name “Eagle View Open Space.”

(6:43:00) – Member Inversin was in favor of the nomination “Soaring Hawk Open Space” or the name “Soaring Eagle Open Space.” She also supported the idea to name it “Eagles View Open Space.”

(6:45:03) – MOTION: Vice Chairperson Welch moved to name the official property “Eagles View Open Space.” Member Massad seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0-0.

RESULT:	APPROVED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Welch
SECONDER:	Massad
AYES:	Scott, Welch, Hall, Inversin, Massad, Michael
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Evans

E. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: REVIEW AND DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE DRAFT PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE DEPARTMENT MEMORIALS POLICY TO ESTABLISH GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES FOR MEMORIALS AND DEDICATORY DONATIONS ON CARSON CITY PARKS, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACE.

(6:45:56) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item. Ms. Budge presented an overview of the Staff Report, which is incorporated into the record along with the draft Memorials Policy.

(6:50:00) – Chairperson Scott entertained Committee member comments. Vice Chairperson Welch commented that he would not “have any particular objection to a small, brass memorial or something fairly subtle like that.”

(6:51:15) – Member Inversin pointed out “we want to make sure that anything we do do is going to remain rustic enough” on Open Space land and suggested looking into natural burials. She recommended adding some language in the Policy regarding the Open Space. Ms. Budge noted that vandalizing and stealing could occur with memorial items, and suggested formalized guidelines “just makes it very clear so the City’s not responsible financially.”

(6:54:47) – Member Hall cautioned that the City may be stuck with the management of trees used for memorialization and recommended a selection to include the species of the tree as well as legal language that stated that the City would not be responsible for the management of the tree.

(6:55:49) – Member Massad suggested flat rocks with plates on them for memorialization and inquired about who would be installing the items and “what happens to it after that?” Ms. Budge pointed out in the draft that “the donation would include purchase, installation, all of those things, so it wouldn’t be a burden on the City’s budget, whether it’s Open Space parks or otherwise.” She also explained that the donor may need to hire a third party to install or move a complicated item.

(6:57:21) – Member Michael supported the idea of having memorials on Open Space and memorialized benches.

(7:00:05) – Member Hall inquired about pet burials, and Ms. Budge informed him of the City’s pet cemetery on Butti Way.

(7:01:42) – Chairperson Scott pointed out “the issue of accessibility” and commented that the memorial serves as an “opportunity for people with something that doesn’t age or die or [is] subject to vandalism. He suggested the Moffat Open Space Property.

4. STAFF UPDATES - DISCUSSION ONLY

A. DIRECTOR’S REPORT: UPDATE REGARDING DEPARTMENTAL PROJECTS, PROGRAMS AND GRANTS; AND BOARD OF SUPERVISOR’S ACTION ITEMS.

(7:02:40) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item. Ms. Budge announced the retirements of Park Ranger Allan Biddle and Parks and Senior Park Planner Vern Krahn, and she stated that the park Ranger job description would be updated and posted to fill the vacancy. Chairperson Scott entertained Committee member comments; however, none were forthcoming. No public was available to comment.

B. ACTIVITIES, PROJECTS, AND GRANTS LOCATED ON OPEN SPACE PROPERTIES WITHIN THE CARSON RIVER AREA.

(7:03:57) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item. Ms. Boyer presented the Staff Report, which is incorporated into the record, and responded to clarifying questions from Committee members. No public was available to comment.

C. ACTIVITIES, PROJECTS, AND GRANTS THROUGHOUT OTHER AREAS MANAGED BY THE OPEN SPACE DIVISION.

(7:09:42) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item. Ms. Boyer presented the Staff Report, which is incorporated into the record, and responded to clarifying questions from Committee members. In response to Vice Chairperson Welch’s question, Ms. Boyer stated that parking at the Kings Canyon Trailhead had not been addressed for the particular grant opportunity, although parking may become “a necessity in the future.” No public was available to comment.

D. ACTIVITIES RELATED TO TRAIL PROJECTS MANAGED BY THE OPEN SPACE DIVISION.

(7:14:33) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item. Mr. Berggren presented the Staff Report, which is incorporated into the record, and responded to clarifying questions from Committee members. No public was available to comment.

5. MEMBERS’ ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION.

(7:24:53) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item. Member Hall requested the status of the Carson City Rifle and Pistol Range, and Ms. Budge stated that the Use Agreement with the Carson Rifle and Pistol Club expired on October 18, 2019. She explained that the Board of Supervisors approved, as a part of this year’s budget, hiring a Range coordinator, who had been selected, as well as funding for improvements at the Range for \$250,000 to “meet the minimum recommended standards from the National Rifle Association (NRA).” She stated that the department had been working “pretty diligently” with the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) on hunter education funding that was identified for shooting Ranges, and the department had invested \$46,000 to “get engineering and design for the entire facility,” which she noted was 100 percent completed. She explained that the grant that the department had previously submitted to NDOW for improvements would not satisfy the costs from the quotes received for the shooting bay improvements, so another grant was written and resubmitted. She assured that once the bays had been completed, the Range’s public hours would be increased. Ms. Budge also announced that once the shooting base had been completed, the department would be working with NDOW to do a second grant to improve the long and short Ranges.

(7:32:16) – Chairperson Scott announced that Chuck Darling, who has some water rights on the Carson River, “had offered to enter into a long-term lease on those water rights so that [he] can be utilize on Buzzy’s Ranch.”

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – DISCUSSION ONLY.

(7:33:00) – Ms. Budge noted the Kings Canyon Trailhead design plans and potentially the Memorial Policy for the December joint meeting with the Parks and Recreation Commission.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public was available to comment.

8. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT

(7:33:59) – MOTION: Chairperson Scott adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

The Minutes of the October 21, 2019 Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee meeting are so approved this 16th day of December, 2019.