

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC)
Monday, August 17, 2020 ● 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, Open Space Manager
Gregg Berggren, Trails Coordinator
Mihaela Neagos, Deputy District Attorney via WebEx
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 and approved minutes of this meeting is available on www.CarsonCity.org/minutes.

1. CALL TO ORDER

(5:31:31) – Chairperson Scott called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

(5:32:20) – Roll was called, and a quorum was present.

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

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

(5:33:00) – Chairperson Scott entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

4. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES (MAY 18, 2020 AND JUNE 15, 2020)

(5:34:24) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item and entertained comments, corrections, and/or a motion.

(5:35:03) – MOTION: Member Massad moved to approve the May 18, 2020 regular meeting minutes and the June 15, 2020 joint meeting minutes. Chairperson Scott entertained comments and, when none were forthcoming, called for a vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED (5-0-0)
MOVER:	Massad
SECONDER:	Inversin
AYES:	Scott, Hall, Massad, Inversin, Michael
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Evans, Welch

MEETING ITEMS**5. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: REVIEW AND DISCUSSION REGARDING MICHAEL SERVICE’S EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT FOR REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF THE “C” ON C-HILL.**

(5:36:29) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item, and Mr. Berggren introduced Eagle Scout Michael Service. Mr. Service presented his PowerPoint Slideshow, which is incorporated into the record, and responded to clarifying questions.

(5:41:09) – Chairperson Scott entertained Member comments and questions. In response to Member Inversin’s question, Mr. Service stated that he could enforce 6-feet of distance between the attending Scouts as a COVID-19 safety precaution.

(5:43:32) – Chairperson Scott entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

6. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: PRESENTATION FROM THE FRIENDS OF SILVER SADDLE RANCH REGARDING THE ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2020.

(5:44:15) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item, and Ms. Boyer presented an overview of the Staff Report, which is incorporated into the record.

(5:45:10) – Friends of Silver Saddle Ranch (FOSSR) President Tom Donaldson introduced himself and provided the following updates:

- FOSSR had decided to conduct a meeting every odd month of the year, with FOSSR reportedly being financially healthy as of the July 2020 meeting and having an all-time high of 55 members.
- FOSSR participated in a phone conference call with stakeholders in April 2020, and there would be follow-up with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the City, and possibly the Carson City Fire Department on some of the issues raised in the 2019 Homestead Holidays event.

- Mr. Donaldson had shared the job posting for the Silver Saddle Ranch Gatekeeper position.
- FOSSR was awarded the Foundation for Carson City Parks and Recreation 2020 Organization of the Year and would be honored at the Mills Park Wall of Honor on September 18, 2020.
- Ms. Boyer had been contacted regarding violations of the Conservation Easement regarding the contractors for the Silver Saddle Ranch trail construction relating to the brush, the dirt, and the debris, which led to meetings to “educate people out there” to mitigate the issue.
- The portion of the trail on Silver Saddle Ranch had appeared to be almost completed, and the existing road between the old White House site and the Red House had been widened.
- The August 16, 2020 Day in the Country Concert with the Mile High Jazz Band was cancelled, and September 20, 2020 was being considered for rescheduling the event, which FOSSR was also willing to participate in and support.
- The next FOSSR Board Meetings were scheduled for September 14 and November 9, 2020.

(5:49:13) – Chairperson Scott thanked Mr. Donaldson for the updates, his interest, and his leadership, and he appreciated FOSSR’s support and participation. He also entertained Member questions and comments as well as public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

7. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE BYLAWS.

(5:50:51) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item. Ms. Boyer presented the Staff Report, which is incorporated into the record along with the amended Open Space Advisory Committee Bylaws. Ms. Neagos noted that an excerpt from the Carson City Boards, Committees and Commissions (BBC) Policies and Procedures regarding Rules of Procedure had been added to the Staff Report to guide the Committee in making any other amendments to the Bylaws other than what was being proposed.

(5:53:04) – Chairperson Scott entertained Member questions and comments. In response to Member Massad’s question, Ms. Budge stated that the Carson City Board of Supervisors directed OSAC and the Carson City Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) to alter their meeting schedule in 2018, which included joint meetings twice a year, and the Bylaws were directed by the Board to be updated based on that schedule. She noted that there were a few procedural changes that needed to be made to the Bylaws for consistency and identifying the rules and responsibilities of the Staff and the Committee.

(5:54:32) – Ms. Budge explained to Member Hall that item 6.d had been removed from the Bylaws for consistency with some of the other documents, and the procedure that Staff would like the Committee to follow is that a Member would request an item for review from the Chair who then would work with Staff to agendaize it.

(5:56:55) – Chairperson Scott entertained public comments and, when none were forthcoming, a motion.

(5:57:30) – MOTION: Member Hall moved to recommend to the Board of Supervisors the proposed amendments to the Open Space Advisory Committee Bylaws as presented.

RESULT:	APPROVED (5-0-0)
MOVER:	Hall
SECONDER:	Inversin
AYES:	Scott, Hall, Massad, Inversin, Michael
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Evans, Welch

8. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: DISCUSSION REGARDING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE SNPLMA ROUND 18 GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE BUZZY'S RANCH WETLAND ENHANCEMENT PROJECT AND/OR CARSON RIVER TRAILS PHASE III.

(5:58:10) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item. Ms. Boyer and Mr. Berggren presented the Staff Report and the accompanying documents, all of which are incorporated into the record, and responded to clarifying questions.

(6:14:27) – Chairperson Scott entertained Member questions and comments. In response to Member Hall's question, Mr. Berggren stated that most of the trail going through Prison Hill would be going through areas currently closed off to motorized access due to deep slopes and close proximity to private property, and most of the trail would be outside of the current limit of the off-highway vehicle (OHV) area. He assured that for the couple of instances that the trail would be crossing an existing or proposed OHV road, there would be mitigating measures, such as fencing and signage, put in place.

(6:16:30) – Chairperson Scott noted that the \$50,000 match recommended by the Committee and approved by the BOS for Phase Two of the project would be rolled over into Phase Three. He also noted that public comment on this subject would be heard during agenda Item #12.

9. STAFF UPDATES - DISCUSSION ONLY

9A. TRAILS COORDINATOR REPORT: ACTIVITIES RELATED TO TRAIL PROJECTS MANAGED BY THE OPEN SPACE DIVISION, INCLUDING UPDATES ON THE CARSON RIVER TRAILS PROJECT PHASE II, PRISON HILL OHV AREA AND THE WEST SIDE OF PRISON HILL.

(6:17:00) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item, and Mr. Berggren presented his report, which is incorporated into the record.

(6:31:22) – Chairperson Scott entertained Member questions and comments, and Mr. Berggren responded to clarifying questions. In response to Member Massad's question, Chairperson Scott suggested that the proposed modifications to the Prison Hill Master Plan be distributed to the Committee, which could also be agendized if the Members feel like the matter deserves to be addressed at a Committee meeting, prior to being presented to the BOS for approval.

9B. OPEN SPACE MANAGER REPORT: ACTIVITIES RELATED TO PROJECTS MANAGED BY THE OPEN SPACE DIVISION, INCLUDING UPDATES WITHIN THE CARSON RIVER CORRIDOR.

(6:38:10) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item. Ms. Boyer presented her report, which is incorporated into the record.

(6:59:12) – Chairperson Scott entertained Member questions; however, none were forthcoming.

9C. DIRECTOR’S REPORT: UPDATE ON DEPARTMENTAL IMPACTS RELATED TO COVID-19, INCLUDING: BUDGET PLANNING, PROGRAMMING, PROJECTS, FACILITY OPERATIONS, AND STAFFING; CITYWIDE HIRING FREEZE AND STATUS OF RECRUITMENT FOR VACANT POSITIONS; FEDERAL LANDS BILL; AND BOARD OF SUPERVISOR’S ACTION ITEMS.

(6:59:14) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item. Ms. Budge presented her report, which is incorporated into the record. There were no Member comments.

10. MEMBERS’ ANNOUNCEMENTS

(7:01:18) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item and entertained Member announcements; however, none were forthcoming.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – DISCUSSION ONLY

(7:01:33) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item. Ms. Budge noted that the Prison Hill Recreation Area Master Plan was added as a possible future agenda item.

(7:02:12) – Member Hall inquired about the continuing discussion of naming open spaces. Ms. Boyer explained that the reason the item had been pushed back in the last few meetings was due to how short-staffed the department had been, and Staff would need to put together a report for the public that would include maps, property descriptions, and background and history. She believed that introducing the new Senior Natural Resource Specialist would open up more free time that she could devote towards putting that report packet together. Member Hall offered to assist with the maps and a questionnaire for public input.

(7:05:20) – Member Inversin informed the Committee that the final logo for the Historic Virginia and Truckee Trail would be finished by the end of September 2020, and she wished to present Mr. Berggren’s section of the trail’s map at the next OSAC meeting.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

(7:06:05) – Chairperson Scott entertained public comments. Dan Greytak introduced himself and was concerned about the alignment of the Carson River Trail, as he believed it was too close along the river and believed that a lot of effort needs to go towards protecting the resources in that area. Regarding Item #8, he believed that a plan needed to be developed to protect the wetlands and riparian area before building a trail and “turning people into it.” He suggested that the cows be moved somewhere else if the area is not going to be a pasture, as the wetlands should have permanent vegetation. He also commented that the best thing that could be done along the Carson River Trail was an assessment of the habitat and recommended creating one or two conservation area(s) that is/are restricted from visitor access.

(7:10:08) – Robyn Orloff introduced herself and was concerned about the topography for the circumnavigation trail and the Golden Eagle Lane residents’ privacy. She requested that the southwest side of Prison Hill as well as the

Snyder Avenue/Gentry Lane area be looked at again to prevent some of the issues that had emerged from the Kings Canyon Trailhead project. Ms. Orloff noted “a series of washes” and a concern for the scenic viewpoint and the gateway to the City as well as for the resources due to 72-inch wheelbase crawler extreme vehicles going up [sand] washes that are up to three to six feet wide at the most. She referenced emails that included photographs of the areas that she was concerned about on the Prison Hill Interim Map to show the minimal impact of the wash and what could happen with the mentioned crawlers riding up the washes and taking out the soil on the side of the canyon, pulling out the vegetation, and causing erosion. She pointed out the highest density was in the southwest section of Prison Hill and that the multiuse, single tracks, which also will potentially be eliminated. She wished that the Interim Map had more discussion in the meetings. Ms. Orloff believed that the improvements of the staging area “looked awesome” but noted that the fencing and signs had been knocked down, and the railroad ties had been moved the following Sunday after she had initially seen the area. She wished that the Conservation Easement was “spelled out in more detail” in the Master Plan so people may understand that the City had taken control over Prison Hill with a great deal of serious risk as well as guidelines, restrictions, and protections.

13. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT

(7:18:33) – MOTION: Chairperson Scott adjourned the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

The Minutes of the August 17, 2020 Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee meeting are so approved this 19th day of October, 2020.