

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC)
Monday, April 19, 2021 ● 5:30 PM
Community Center Robert “Bob” Crowell Board Room
851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada

Committee Members

Chair – Alan Welch
Member – Margie Evans
Member – Mark Kimbrough

Vice Chair – Donna Inversin
Member – Susan Martinovich

Staff

Jennifer Budge, Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Director
Lyndsey Boyer, Open Space Manager
Ben Johnson, 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

(5:29:54) – Chairperson Welch called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

(5:30:09) – Roll was called, and a quorum was present.

Attendee Name	Status	Arrived
Chairperson Alan Welch	Present	
Vice Chair Donna Inversin	Present	
Member Susan Martinovich	Present	
Member Margie Evans	Absent	
Member Mark Kimbrough	Present	

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

(5:30:25) – Chairperson Welch entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming. He also stated that the Committee would allow for public comments at this time as well as at the end of the meeting during Item #12.

4. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: APPROVAL OF MINUTES: OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 22, 2021.

(5:31:00) – Chairperson Welch introduced the item and entertained comments, corrections, and/or a motion. Member Martinovich pointed out that Vice Chairperson Inversin was incorrectly noted as appearing virtually via WebEx, and “Member Schuette” was mentioned in some areas of the minutes when Supervisor Schuette was not present at the meeting.

(5:32:18) – MOTION: Member Martinovich moved to approve the February 22, 2021 meeting minutes as corrected.

RESULT:	APPROVED (4-0-0)
MOVER:	Martinovich
SECONDER:	Kimbrough
AYES:	Welch, Inversin, Kimbrough, Martinovich
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Evans

5. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: REVIEW AND DISCUSSION REGARDING RYAN SOULIER’S EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT FOR TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS AND MAINTENANCE IN ASH CANYON.

(5:34:26) – Chairperson Welch introduced the item. Ms. Boyer introduced Eagle Scout Ryan Soulier, who appeared remotely via WebEx, and Mr. Soulier presented a PowerPoint Slideshow for his Eagle Scout project, which is incorporated into the record.

(5:44:12) – Chairperson Welch entertained Member comments and questions, and Mr. Soulier responded to clarifying questions. Member Martinovich complimented the presentation, and Vice Chairperson Inversin thanked Mr. Soulier and commented that “it’s young men like you that help us build these trails.” She also mentioned that “there is always positions on Muscle Powered’s board” as Mr. Soulier gets older.

(5:47:09) – Member Kimbrough complimented the presentation and noted the importance of reinforcing safety, which Mr. Soulier had done for his project.

(5:48:55) – Chairperson Welch informed Mr. Soulier that there are training opportunities to learn how to design, train, and build for trails.

6. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR AN OFFICIAL PROPERTY NAME FOR SIX OPEN SPACE PROPERTIES, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE WASHOE TRIBE OF NEVADA AND CALIFORNIA.

(5:50:13) – Chairperson Welch introduced the item. Ms. Boyer presented the Staff Report and the accompanying documents, all of which are incorporated into the record, and entertained Member comments.

(5:54:30) – Vice Chairperson Inversin believed that the report was missing a number of votes for the Washoe Tribe recommendations for each Open Space property, and Ms. Boyer indicated that there were percentages for each recommendation on the second page of the Staff Report.

(5:55:36) – Member Martinovich appreciated the outreach that was done for the item, although she was concerned about how the proposed names being hard to remember and say. She wished to be respectful of the culture and

have the names represent the properties and tell a story without doing a “disservice by having them be called something else and that lost.” Ms. Boyer noted that Member Martinovich’s concern had been discussed when Staff had first “gone down this road with the Washoe Tribe” and indicated that Staff were very sensitive to ensuring that the names are pronounced correctly. She added that the proposed names had been “tweaked” so that the way that they are spelled was also phonetically how they were supposed to be pronounced.

(5:58:32) – In response to Chairperson Welch’s question, Ms. Boyer confirmed that she had envisioned adding the meaning of each name to the signage as well as adding interpretative signage, which the Washoe Tribe was interested in working on with Staff.

(6:00:40) – Member Kimbrough echoed Member Martinovich’s concern.

(6:02:33) – Per Member Martinovich’s suggestion, Chairperson Welch entertained Member input on each proposed property, and discussion ensued regarding the matter as well as additional suggestions for property names, during which Ms. Boyer and Ms. Budge responded to clarifying questions.

(6:38:23) – MOTION: Member Martinovich moved to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the name of Property #1 should be Vidler Open Space with the potential of having some sort of information provided on the Washoe [Tribe] name and the Cottonwoods.

RESULT:	APPROVED (4-0-0)
MOVER:	Martinovich
SECONDER:	Kimbrough
AYES:	Welch, Inversin, Kimbrough, Martinovich
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Evans

(6:41:17) – MOTION: Member Martinovich moved to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the name of Property #2 should be Lompa Wetlands. Ms. Budge suggested combining Member Martinovich’s recommendation with the Washoe Tribe nomination, and Vice Chairperson Inversin agreed with the suggestion.

(6:42:56) – MOTION: Vice Chairperson Inversin moved to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the name of Property #2 should be Washo Wetlands.

RESULT:	APPROVED (4-0-0)
MOVER:	Inversin
SECONDER:	Martinovich
AYES:	Welch, Inversin, Kimbrough, Martinovich
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Evans

(6:43:31) – MOTION: Member Kimbrough moved to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the name of Property #3 should be Gumalonga Open Space.

RESULT:	APPROVED (4-0-0)
MOVER:	Kimbrough
SECONDER:	Martinovich
AYES:	Welch, Inversin, Kimbrough, Martinovich
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Evans

(6:44:06) – MOTION: Member Martinovich moved to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the name of Property #4 should be Voltaire Canyon Open Space.

RESULT:	APPROVED (4-0-0)
MOVER:	Martinovich
SECONDER:	Inversin
AYES:	Welch, Inversin, Kimbrough, Martinovich
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Evans

(6:44:01) – MOTION: Vice Chairperson Inversin moved to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the name of Property #5 should be Tahnu Leweh Open Space.

RESULT:	APPROVED (4-0-0)
MOVER:	Inversin
SECONDER:	Kimbrough
AYES:	Welch, Inversin, Kimbrough, Martinovich
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Evans

(6:45:29) – MOTION Vice Chairperson Inversin moved to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the name of Property #6 should be Dasolung Ridge Open Space.

RESULT:	APPROVED (4-0-0)
MOVER:	Inversin
SECONDER:	Kimbrough
AYES:	Welch, Inversin, Kimbrough, Martinovich
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Evans

(6:46:11) – Ms. Boyer stated that she would let the Washoe Tribe know what the results of the Committee discussion were and what recommendations would be made to the Board of Supervisors (BOS).

7. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING DOG USE POLICIES IN OPEN SPACE.

(6:46:30) – Chairperson Welch introduced the item. Ms. Boyer presented the Staff Report and referenced the accompanying documents, all of which are incorporated into the record. Ms. Budge provided the following feedback from the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC):

- There was a “strong desire” for education over enforcement and being able to provide effective signage, brochures, and videos.
- The Commissioners wished to have adequate municipal codes in place in case enforcement is needed by the Carson City Animal Control Officers or the Carson City Park Rangers.
- The survey was a “really strong item” at the PRC meeting to make sure that Staff has the opportunity to gather feedback from the public.
- Dog owners should be encouraged to always carry a leash with them just in case their dog needs to be restrained.

(6:54:58) – Chairperson Welch agreed with emphasizing education and entertained Member comments and questions. Member Kimbrough agreed that the education part was “wonderful” but also commented that a high percentage of people that violate the rules realize what they are doing. He stated that if Staff were to conduct a survey, the difference between parks and Open Space needs to be defined due to how harmful pets can be to wildlife, and Open Space is used to preserve the resources and allow recreation without harming the resources. He also suggested building an educational component into the proposed survey. Ms. Budge noted that there had been discussion regarding requiring dogs to be on-leash except in designated areas and what those designated areas may include.

(7:01:24) – Chairperson Welch suggested having “some distance where people really have a good chance of understanding where they are” regarding the distance from a trailhead where people can have dogs off-leash on a trail, and Ms. Budge stated that there is some “great new signage” or there are some places where an indication that dogs are allowed off-leash could be added to an existing post.

(7:03:18) – Vice Chairperson Inversin wished to keep dogs on-leash from the parking lot to some distance from the parking lot because of dogs jumping up on her and her cat and how uncomfortable it makes her cat feel “to be mobbed by a bunch of dogs.”

(7:04:37) – Member Martinovich believed that leashes should be consistently required for there to be dogs off-leash because the dog’s temperament is unknown, and “still having a dog coming at you” a distance from the trailhead on the trail would be an issue, as people would still be on the trail. Vice Chairperson Inversin added that the other concern is that dogs will chase the wildlife when the wildlife is supposed to be protected on Open Space land rather than the dogs. She also did not wish to have dogs “come rushing up at me” and mentioned having witnessed dogs getting into a fight in a public setting.

(7:08:54) – Chairperson Welch commented that enforcement may be difficult due to various land ownership changes, with such being the case with the Ash to Kings Canyon Trail.

8. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: PRESENTATION AND PROGRAM OVERVIEW OF CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT’S ‘WATERSHED WEDNESDAYS’ FORUM.

(7:09:39) – Chairperson Welch introduced the item. Ms. Boyer referenced the Staff Report, which is incorporated into the record, and she shared the video created by Staff linked in the Staff Report titled *Recreation in the Time of COVID-19: a local municipalities challenges and triumphs during a pandemic*.

(7:35:07) – Ms. Boyer thanked and recognized all of Staff for all of the hard work before entertaining Member questions and comments. Member Kimbrough, Vice Chairperson Inversin, Member Martinovich, and Chairperson Welch complimented Staff's efforts through the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the video.

9. STAFF UPDATES - DISCUSSION ONLY

9A. TRAILS COORDINATOR REPORT: ACTIVITIES RELATED TO TRAIL PROJECTS MANAGED BY THE OPEN SPACE DIVISION, INCLUDING UPDATES ON THE SNPLMA GRANT PROJECT, WATERFALL TRAIL/KINGS CANYON TRAILHEAD, PRISON HILL RECREATION AREA, CARSON RIVER AQUATIC TRAIL, AND THE CAPITAL TO TAHOE TRAIL.

(7:38:51) – Chairperson Welch introduced the item. Ms. Boyer presented the Trails Coordinator Report, which is incorporated into the record, and entertained Member questions; however, none were forthcoming.

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

(7:46:32) – Ms. Boyer presented her report, which is incorporated into the record, and entertained Member questions; however, none were forthcoming.

9C. DIRECTOR'S REPORT: UPDATES REGARDING IMPACTS RELATED TO COVID-19 INCLUDING PROGRAMMING, PROJECTS, FACILITY, OPERATIONS, SPECIAL EVENTS AND STAFFING; STATUS OF RECRUITMENT FOR VACANT POSITIONS; LEGISLATIVE UPDATES; FISCAL YEAR 21-22 BUDGET PROCESS; AND BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S ACTION ITEMS.

(7:53:49) – Chairperson Welch introduced the item. Ms. Budge presented her report, which is incorporated into the record, and responded to clarifying questions.

10. MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

(8:02:06) – Chairperson Welch entertained Member announcements. Vice Chairperson Inversin mentioned that there was a presentation for the Historic Virginia and Truckee Trail for the "Watershed Wednesdays" forum, and she added that people could bicycle from the Carson River to the Truckee River once the signage is up in Carson City.

(8:04:40) – Chairperson Welch noted that there would be two new Members joining the Committee and proposed having a "retreat" to get to know each other as well as familiarize Members with what the Committee and Staff have been doing.

(8:05:45) – Member Martinovich complimented Chairperson Welch for having done "a wonderful job" for his first day as Chair.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – DISCUSSION ONLY

(8:06:03) – Chairperson Welch introduced the item and entertained requests for future agenda items; however, none were forthcoming.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

(8:06:11) – Chairperson Welch entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

(8:06:29) – Member Kimbrough inquired about agendizing an item to present former OSAC Chair Bruce Scott with an award or plaque for his role on the Committee and noted that Mr. Scott had been “a huge part of the success of this board and the Open Space and the bills that passed.” He asked about having some form of award for former Member Gerald Massad and proposed awarding a “Bruce Scott Award” every year. He also wished to see a presentation from a Parks and Recreation nonprofit, which Ms. Budge clarified was the Foundation for Carson City Parks and Recreation, regarding who the nonprofit consists of, what they do, and how they can assist Open Space. Ms. Boyer confirmed that Staff intended to recognize Mr. Scott, and she was in favor of the idea of having a “Bruce Scott Award.”

13. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT

(8:11:27) – MOTION: Chairperson Welch adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

The Minutes of the April 19, 2021 Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee meeting are so approved this 21st day of June, 2021.