MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC)
Monday, April 18, 2022 ● 5:30 PM
Community Center Robert "Bob" Crowell Board Room
851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada

Committee Members

Chair – Alan Welch
Vice Chair – Mark Kimbrough
Member – Donna Inversin
Member – Susan Martinovich
Member – Mary Berge
Member – Robert Ghiglieri
Member – Kristine Currie

Staff

Jennifer Budge, Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Director
Lyndsey Boyer, Open Space Manager
Ben Johnson, Senior Deputy District Attorney
Gregg Berggren, Trails Coordinator
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.

All approved meeting minutes are available on www.CarsonCity.org/minutes.

1. CALL TO ORDER

(5:30:10) – Chairperson Welch called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL & DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

(5:30:20) – Roll was called, and a quorum was present.

Attendee Name	Status	Arrived
Chairperson Alan Welch	Present	
Vice Chair Mark Kimbrough	Present	
Member Donna Inversin	Present	
Member Susan Martinovich	Present	
Member Mary Berge	Absent	
Member Robert Ghiglieri	Present (via WebEx)	
Member Kristine Currie	Present	

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

(5:30:40) – Chairperson Welch indicated that public comments would be limited to three minutes and entertained public comments. Scott Drake introduced himself as a resident on Golden Eagle Lane. He referenced the section of the Prison Hill Recreation Area Master Plan regarding Golden Eagle Open Space stating that *"motorized travel on Golden Eagle Lane to this location is discouraged because the road crosses private property, so it is encouraged that access be achieved through non-motorized means,"* and he commented that the road being referenced has a public easement that suggests otherwise. Additionally, he stated that encouragement of non-motorized means "kind of suggests a hike or bike trail rather than the public road it is," and "it suggests an adversarial position of private property with public access." Mr. Drake questioned how appropriate it would be to include the referenced portion on the Prison Hill Recreation Area Master Plan. He respectfully requested, as one of the approximately 10 property owners on Golden Eagle Lane, that Staff "please leave me out of it" and "humbly" requested revising or removing the referenced portion to avoid making the implications or suggestions as outlined by Mr. Drake.

(5:33:57) – Ron Moe introduced himself and stated that he is a frequent visitor of Prison Hill. He commented that there seemed to be continuation of off-highway vehicle (OHV) users not staying on trails or designated trails based on the history of Prison Hill and "what's working, what's not," and he noted that the Prison Hill area was losing more vegetation. He believed that some of the signs and the Avenza maps were helping with the trail misuse at Prison Hill, but the OHV users did not seem to care. He noted that there was not really enforcement or penalties for the conduct by the OHV users at Prison Hill as well as pointed out that it would be difficult for the Carson City Park Rangers to "see everything and check everything out." Mr. Moe indicated that the fencing to divide the motorized and the non-motorized areas on the west and the northwest boundaries has worked to mitigate the issue, and he also suggested using a process that involves using rocks to guide OHV users into the areas where they should be riding when they travel off the trails. He believed that the whole area at Prison Hill needed fencing around it. He noted that there have been three fires at Prison Hill during the last three summers, with one being next to the Staging Area, for which Mr. Moe commented that fencing would be cheap to block off OHV users from driving through it and potentially stop fires. He added that the fire could have burned down the houses on Hobbyhorse Lane if there had been winds similar to the Jacks Valley fire.

(5:37:47) – Robyn Orloff introduced herself as a citizen of Carson City. Commenting in regards to the Prison Hill Recreation Area OHV Management Plan, she wished to see the boundaries secured "sooner rather than later," as a fence had been installed on the north side of Prison Hill between the OHV and non-OHV areas largely through Ms. Orloff's efforts before the land transfer, and she added that "it's worked pretty much 99 percent." She stated that the open space was not "really working" with the wooden dowels and the fence sections because she has seen tire tracks through the areas continually, and she believed that there was grant funding for fencing for the boundary. She stated that the I Am Carson River Watershed campaign was "a real big deal" and "really important" right now, and she indicated that protection of the area above the Carson River may be considered as part of the campaign. Ms. Orloff commented that the signage that was being installed was "incredibly professional" and "awesome," and she was in favor of the designated signage as well as the roads, which she indicated were "fun to ride." She requested that the Carson City Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Department install the signage "sooner than later," as the map was released during March 2020 while the signage had not been installed until over a year later during the summer of 2021, and new roads were constructed in the fall of 2021 with no signage to indicate where visitors may ride. She pointed out that there was a video on the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Department *Facebook* page of the new roads and encouraging people to use the roads; however, the roads could not be found, and they were not indicated on the Avenza map or the Prison Hill Interim Map. She believed that there would be less impacts off the roads once they are signed, and she noted that "we have a great guy out there" that was doing "an awesome job" as well as expressed that she wished for the trails to be signed as they are constructed possibly

using a volunteer group to do so within a short amount of time. She complimented the RecConnect trail designer and noted how the trail designer interacts with riders at Prison Hill. She was concerned about there being a lack of presence during the winter months at Prison Hill, and she suggested for the trail designer for RecConnect to designate some of the trail partners to continue as a presence at Prison Hill if he himself cannot be there.

4. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: APPROVAL OF MINUTES – OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF 2/28/2022.

(5:41:20) – Chairperson Welch introduced the item and entertained comments, corrections, and/or a motion. Member Inversin clarified her comment on page #8, and Vice Chairperson Kimbrough requested adding the information into the minutes as pointed out in Ms. Orloff's public comment submitted via email, which are incorporated into the record.

(5:43:03) – MOTION: Member Inversin moved to approve the February 28, 2022 meeting minutes as revised. Chairperson Welch abstained from voting, as he was absent during the February 28, 2022 meeting.

RESULT:	**APPROVED (5-0-1)**
MOVER:	Inversin
SECONDER:	Martinovich
AYES:	Kimbrough, Inversin, Martinovich, Ghiglieri, Currie
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	Welch
ABSENT:	Berge

5. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: PRESENTATION ONLY REGARDING CARSON CITY INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS.

(5:43:24) – Chairperson Welch introduced the item. Carson City Park Ranger Tyler Kerver presented a Slideshow regarding the Park Ranger-Led Programs, which is incorporated into the record.

(5:57:04) – Chairperson Welch appreciated the presentation as well as the educational aspect of informing people what they can do rather than what they cannot do. He also entertained Member comments and questions, and Ranger Kerver responded to clarifying questions.

(5:57:25) – Member Currie complimented the contents of the presentation and mentioned having lived in Calgary in Canada, a bicycle-friendly community, and suggested that the City could buy some of the bicycle bells used in Calgary to alert others while riding bicycles, especially for those with small dogs on leads, to sell during some of the summer events. Ranger Kerver was certain that the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Department could find a company that could offer unique bells to put the Department's logo on.

(6:00:16) – Member Inversin commented that Dr. David Kowalek, a Carson City veterinarian, posts often on dog interactions and might be willing to work with the Department to produce some helpful dog videos. She mentioned that Muscle Powered sells the bicycle bells at the Farmers Market and could possibly provide a link for where to purchase the bicycle bells. She complimented the Junior Ranger Program and offered to provide some ideas for adventure activities for kids that she has seen in Los Angeles.

(6:02:01) – Member Martinovich complimented the presentation and the Junior Park Ranger Adventure Guide. Ranger Kerver indicated that the Junior Park Ranger Adventure Guides were located at the Parks and Recreation

Administrative Office at 3303 Butti Way and could be downloaded from online. Member Martinovich recommended indicating for the data of such programs as the Winter Full Moon Hike that the percentage increase may not show if the programs keep getting full.

(6:03:37) – Vice Chairperson Kimbrough complimented the presentation and advised Ranger Kerver to not "lose sight of the opportunity to tell them where the tax dollars come from for what all these things you're doing." He suggested adding a case statement to the brochures to inform the public that its tax dollars helped fund the programs.

(6:06:02) – Member Martinovich stated that there may be an opportunity to contact the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) and combine funds or education for bicycling safety. Ranger Kerver stated that the Park Rangers were working with the River Wranglers, and the River Wranglers had funded the guides during the previous year.

(6:07:51) – Member Inversin informed Ranger Kerver that Muscle Powered has a booth at the Farmers Market and offered for him to sit at the booth to sign up Junior Rangers.

(6:08:48) – Chairperson Welch suggested providing some of the Junior Ranger Adventure Guides to the Children's Museum of Northern Nevada to pass out to children. He also added that if the bicycle bells are used often, people will start to understand that they are being used to avoid bicyclists "sneaking up" on others.

6. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF THE PRISON HILL RECREATION AREA: A TARGETED GEOMORPHIC REVIEW.

(6:09:50) – Chairperson Welch introduced the item. Ms. Boyer referenced the Staff Report and the accompanying attachment titled Prison Hill Recreation Area: A Targeted Geomorphic Review prepared by Resource Concepts, Inc. (RCI), both of which are incorporated into the record.

(6:13:00) – Chairperson Welch entertained Member questions and comments, and Ms. Boyer responded to clarifying questions. Member Ghiglieri called the report "very informational" and commented that, based on his knowledge as a geologist, the geomorphology of the OHV area will always continue to erode because the only soil is decomposed granite, so there would not be sustainable soil "until the slope is gone." He added that the OHV area would continue to erode "long past all of us will be here," but he supported Staff's efforts to install erosion control features to minimize erosion. He noted that rock crawlers were "not truly the real contributors of the erosion," and the storm events were actually causing a larger impact. Vice Chairperson Kimbrough agreed with Member Ghiglieri's input and complimented the report.

(6:25:14) – Member Inversin commented that she was "really glad to have this report now" because the report "backs up" some of Staff's work and provides the Committee with a baseline to use for the future.

7. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO APPROVE THE FINAL PRISON HILL RECREATION AREA MASTER PLAN.

(6:27:00) – Chairperson Welch introduced the item. Mr. Berggren referenced the Staff Report and presented the accompanying attachments on the Prison Hill Recreation Area Master Plan, all of which are incorporated into the record. He and Ms. Boyer also responded to clarifying questions.

(6:45:08) – Member Martinovich complimented the presentation.

(6:51:43) – Member Inversin brought to the Committee's attention about how the Eagle Valley Trails Committee won a national award for its work. She referenced the appearance of Prison Hill when it was transferred to the City and commented that "the amount of work that the Staff has put into this project is phenomenal." She also complimented the Master Plan.

(6:56:14) – Member Currie complimented the Master Plan and suggested creating "a user-friendly option" of a table of contents with a link for each section in the Master Plan.

(6:58:51) – Member Ghiglieri complimented the Master Plan as well as the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Department for the work with the Prison Hill area regarding the trails, reduction of the overall footprint, reduction of erosion, and minimization of visual impacts. He recommended ensuring that there are lights when considering crosswalks across Edmonds Drive and Koontz Lane due to those being dark areas towards twilight time.

(7:01:09) – Vice Chairperson Kimbrough advised giving credit to who wrote the Master Plan and including some of the other parties that were involved with its development. He believed that it could be beneficial to have the United States Bureau of Land Management (BLM) review the Master Plan. Referencing Member Martinovich's question regarding a plan schedule for the recommendations, Vice Chairperson Kimbrough suggested including a short, bulleted action plan toward the back of the Master Plan with the recommendations and the action items so readers would not need to go through the entire document to find the action plan. He echoed Member Inversin's input regarding Staff's work on Prison Hill since the City acquired the land and noted that the City "inherited all these problems, so the time that it takes to fix them might take some time; they had minimal patrol [and] very little oversight supervision." Referencing page #17 of the Master Plan, he informed Staff that the crosswalks across Edmonds Drive were developed to allow equestrians to safely cross the roadway and proposed adding that information to the Master Plan. Vice Chairperson Kimbrough referenced Mr. Drake's public comment regarding the Golden Eagle Open Space section of page #20 of the Master Plan, called the section "wishy-washy," and recommended providing an access point. He also recommended "get[ting] a corridor or something," as he believed it was the best opportunity "without being too sandy or too close to private property." He advised defining whether electric bicycles (e-bikes) are permissible for pages #22 and #35 of the Master Plan, and he pointed out that motorized means would likely need to be included in order to have Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility. Regarding the Silver Saddle Ranch on page #29 of the Master Plan, Vice Chairperson Kimbrough stated that he would "hate that this is considered a trailhead because it takes away the integrity of that historic site" and suggested moving the trailhead up the road so individuals could experience "this 1930s ranch" by walking up to it. He pointed out that page #36 of the Master Plan has a recommendation for a 150-foot buffer zone along only one side of the Carson River and noted that a sentence may be missing. Regarding the recommended action on page #37 of the Master Plan indicating that *"trails not meeting standards should be improved, modified, realigned, or decommissioned and rehabilitated,"* Vice Chairperson Kimbrough wished to have clarification on "who and when" for the action. He noted that there was "a huge audience now" of the recreational mountain biking community that enjoy downhill runs, which were not included in the Master Plan, and he noted that while they were not sustainable most of the time, there should be an opportunity provided for the downhill runs. While addressing some of Vice Chairperson Kimbrough's feedback, Mr. Berggren indicated that a majority of the comments that Staff receives from Golden Eagle Lane residents indicate that they do not want motorized access beyond the entrance to the OHV area, which Staff were trying to mitigate by providing access to open space areas through other means, and the Prison Hill Loop Trail could provide non-motorized

access to all of the properties in the area. He added that Staff were open to revising the wording on page #20 of the Master Plan if the Members offered any change to the wording. He explained that the City defaults to the Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) regarding e-bikes because there is no specific Carson City Municipal Code (CCMC). Mr. Berggren also stated that downhill runs would need to be considered by the Committee and the Carson City Board of Supervisors (BOS), as the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Department tries to make all the trails multi-use.

(7:30:55) – Member Martinovich stated that there should be a summary to indicate "who do you think and how, that way it gives you that idea that you can go back and check it off" for the recommendations, and Member Currie added that the summary could be titled "Executive Summary."

(7:36:15) – Chairperson Welch entertained a motion.

(7:36:37) – MOTION: Member Currie moved to recommend to the Board of Supervisors the Prison Hill Recreation Area Master Plan with the changes as discussed.

RESULT:	**APPROVED (6-0-0)**
MOVER:	Currie
SECONDER:	Inversin
AYES:	Welch, Kimbrough, Inversin, Martinovich, Ghiglieri, Currie
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Berge

8. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: REVIEW AND DISCUSSION REGARDING A SUMMARY AND OVERVIEW OF OPEN SPACE ACQUISITIONS.

(7:39:09) – Chairperson Welch introduced the item. Ms. Boyer referenced the Staff Report and the accompanying attachments, all of which are incorporated into the record, and responded to clarifying questions.

(7:48:05) – Member Inversin believed that the two Bently Family LTD Partnership properties on the east side were the only properties that were of interest to the Committee for acquisition.

(7:58:26) – Member Martinovich complimented the summary, and she appreciated the "focus that the Supervisors had at the time." She believed that Staff should include consideration of the Budget, staffing, maintenance, and the long-term growth "so that everything is sustainable" when pursuing priorities for new property acquisitions. Ms. Budge stated that the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Department would like to have a decent savings account available for acquisitions that require more staff, and she wished to be able to look at other creative options for when an acquisition becomes available. She mentioned that she and Ms. Boyer have discussed doing a lease option for water rights so the Department could slowly acquire properties while still having the funds to operate.

(8:01:54) – Member Ghiglieri believed that the information in the summary was "very helpful," and he supported the priorities being more towards water rights long term.

9. STAFF UPDATES - DISCUSSION ONLY

9A. TRAILS COORDINATOR REPORT: ACTIVITIES RELATED TO TRAIL PROJECTS MANAGED BY THE OPEN SPACE DIVISION, INCLUDING UPDATES ON THE CAPITAL TO TAHOE AND LINCOLN BYPASS TRAILS, KINGS CANYON TRAILHEAD, PRISON HILL PROJECTS, CARSON RIVER TRAILS PHASES III, SHARE THE TRAILS MESSAGING, AND SOME TRAIL USE DATA.

(8:02:19) – Chairperson Welch introduced the item. Mr. Berggren presented his report, which is incorporated into the record, and responded to clarifying questions.

(8:10:27) – Vice Chairperson Kimbrough suggested inviting the Carson City Fire Department for the June 4, 2022 ribbon cutting for the Kings Canyon Trailhead to present on the memorial for the firemen that had passed away during the fire in that area.

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

(8:12:18) – Chairperson Welch introduced the item. Ms. Boyer presented the report, which is incorporated into the record, and responded to clarifying questions.

10. MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

(8:25:42) – Chairperson Welch entertained announcements from Members; however, none were forthcoming.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – DISCUSSION ONLY

(8:25:50) – Chairperson Welch entertained requests for future agenda items. Member Martinovich requested an opportunity for the Committee to review the Budget again after it has been approved and finalized, and Ms. Budge indicated that the operating Budget and the capital items would be reviewed by the BOS during the April 21, 2022 BOS meeting. She also stated that the joint meeting with OSAC and the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) would be scheduled for July 18, 2022.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

(8:29:03) – Chairperson Welch entertained public comments. Ms. Orloff commented that the consultants presented "the plan for the [Prison Hill] OHV area" to OSAC in October 2018, during which the Members had voted unanimously in favor of the plan. She mentioned that "we were all pretty excited for it because it was all about sustainability, mitigation of damage, protection of natural resources, lots of lofty language." She referenced a part of the plan that stated, *"wash trails/washes provide a path of least resistance if commonly used as trails; however, the utilization of washes must be done carefully or valuable vegetation can be lost,"* and she stated that "we were a little concerned" when first seeing the trails that were developed on the property because of the number of washes that were designated for rock crawler routes. Ms. Orloff indicated that there was a working group that was supposed to be reviewing the trail recommendations, and the trail plan was supposed to be reviewed by OSAC until the meeting was cancelled, so it was not reviewed by OSAC. Additionally, she pointed out that OSAC had just approved the [Prison Hill Recreation Area Master] Plan for sustainability. She was concerned because the RCI report had reported that two acres of open area were "totally intact vegetation and intact biotic crust," and those two acres were designated in the summer of 2021 to be open areas, which includes riding anywhere on the terrain

between the boundaries, and she noted that the designation was "an overt active destruction of resources." She commented that while she was aware of erosion on the hill, destroying resources and flora would cause more erosion, which she stated had "come out" in the RCI report. Ms. Orloff stated that RCI Fluvial Geomorphologist Lynn Zonge had indicated that "the more vegetation and biotic crust you destroy, the more erosion you're going to have, the more sedimentation you're going to have." She added that Ms. Zonge identified four acres that are in "off-the-trail" or another open area that are intact soil and vegetation, which was permitted to be ridden over. Additionally, Ms. Zonge had noticed that if vegetation is destroyed in the washes, the washes would widen, and there would be more erosion and sedimentation because vegetation is what holds the soil together. Ms. Orloff noted that there were 838 feet of a wash trail between two open areas that are accessible by a designated road that runs alongside the wash, and she inquired about why the rock crawlers cannot use the designated road instead of a vegetated wash to get to the open areas.

(8:33:00) – Mr. Drake thanked the Committee for "all the work you guys do." Regarding who cleans up after erosion events on Golden Eagle Lane, he commented that it was considered abandoned by the City [Street] Maintenance [Division], and he was told that the State had no interest in maintaining the road. He added that erosion on the road appeared to have been cleared by resources from other nearby City projects, and he did not believe that maintenance on the road was being funded. Regarding non-motorized use of the off-road area, Mr. Drake informed the Committee that many people use the area for their remote-control rock crawlers. He commented that it was common when bicycling to call out the side on which an individual is approaching on, which indicates an additional detail that bicycle bells cannot, and he suggested the Committee take this into consideration. He noted that e-bikes can be more powerful than motorcycles, so if e-bikes are mentioned in the Prison Hill Recreation Area Master Plan, there should be a maximum wattage specified in the Plan.

13. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO ADJOURN

(8:38:03) – MOTION: Chairperson Welch adjourned the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

The Minutes of the April 18, 2022 Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee meeting are so approved this 18th day of July 2022.