A regular meeting of the Carson City Parks and Recreation Commission was held at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 6, 2000 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson John Simms
Vice Chairperson Glen Martel
Lou Cabrera
Jim Dunn
Ken Elverum
Jon Plank
Charles Wright

STAFF: Steve Kastens, Parks and Recreation Director
Scott Fahrenbruch, Parks Superintendent
Vern Krahn, Parks Planner
Kathleen King, Recording Secretary
(PRC 06/06/00; Tape 1-0001)

NOTE: Unless indicated otherwise, each item was introduced by Chairperson Simms. A tape recording of these proceedings is on file in the Clerk-Recorder's Office and is available for review and inspection during regular business hours.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL (1-0002) - Chairperson Simms called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Roll call was taken; a quorum was present. Commissioners Osborne and Wilke were absent.

ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (1-0015) - None.

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO CAPITAL ENGINEERING FOR THEIR DEDICATION TO THE LINEAR PARK BIKE PATH PROJECT (1-0022) - Mr. Krahn introduced Cary Chisum, of Capital Engineering, and reviewed the staff report. In response to a question, Mr. Krahn advised that Capital Engineering had donated approximately $7,000 in hours to Phase I and approximately 60-80 hours over the estimated construction administration hours. Chairperson Simms expressed appreciation for the willingness of the Capital Engineering staff to go beyond the scope of the contract. Mr. Chisum stated that the staff had enjoyed working with Mr. Kastens and Mr. Krahn and looks forward to working with the City in the future. Chairperson Simms read the certificates of acknowledgment into the record and presented them to Mr. Chisum.

2. ACTION ON A PROPOSAL FOR AN UNCONTROLLED BMX FACILITY (1-0132) - Mr. Kastens reviewed the staff report and referred to the attachments included in the agenda materials. In addition, an aerial photograph was displayed. Kevin Law introduced himself as a representative of the

Bikers of Carson City. He referred to a bike track previously located across the street from the skate park which was plowed over by a new owner. Mr. Kastens indicated the location of the former track on the aerial photograph. Mr. Law advised of other bike tracks in various locations around town which have also been plowed over as part of new development. He reviewed the proposal included in the agenda materials. He explained that the BMX facility is not conducive to the type of activity in which the bikers are interested. He indicated that the bikers are willing to solicit donations, and advised that they could design the track as they have done at other locations. He expressed the opinion that the track would not be expensive to build, and that incidents of injury would be minimal. He acknowledged that the proposed area is the dirt field in the southeast corner of Mills Park near the condominium complex. He responded to questions regarding the number of bikers using the area across from the park and their ages. He acknowledged that he had been elected to represent the bikers; however, there is presently no official organization. In response to a question, Mr. Kastens advised that the proposed location will be used in conjunction with the Kit Carson Rendezvous. He explained that the location had been considered for the skate track but ultimately not used because of the potential impact to the adjacent neighbors. He discussed the need for public hearings if the bike track is to be located on City Park property. He reviewed the comments portion of the staff report and advised that staff is willing to work with Mr. Law to determine a suitable location. He requested direction from the Commission as to how to proceed.

Commissioner Plank suggested that staff meet with the bikers, as they have done with the Fuji Park Users Coalition, and discuss possible locations which would be suitable for the activity. In response to a question from Commissioner Cabrera, Mr. Law acknowledged that the bikers are unable to use the location across from Mills Park. He advised that the bikers are currently riding down town or not at all, and acknowledged that the BMX track is a fair distance for some of the bikers to travel. Commissioner Cabrera expressed the hope that the Commission and staff would be able to help. Commissioner Elverum concurred and thanked Mr. Law for his presentation. Chairperson Simms commended Mr. Law for his initiative. Commissioner Cabrera cautioned Mr. Law on becoming discouraged during the bureaucratic processes necessary to accomplish his goals. **Commissioner Elverum moved to adopt staff's recommendation to work with Mr. Law and other bike users to address concerns that the City needs to properly consider before construction of the proposed facility. Commissioner Plank seconded the motion.** In response to a question, Mr. Law advised that he will be leaving town until the end of the summer, and discussion took place regarding scheduling a meeting with the users to review potential sites. Chairperson Simms called for a vote on the pending motion. **Motion carried 7-0.** Chairperson Simms thanked Mr. Law for his presentation.

3. REVIEW AND ACTION ON DRAFT OF THE INTERDISCIPLINARY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SILVER SADDLE RANCH AND THE AMBROSE CARSON RIVER NATURAL AREA (1-0420) - Chris Miller, of the Bureau of Land Management ("BLM"), distributed an overview of her presentation and copies of the draft plan. Mr. Krahn provided background information on the project and reviewed the staff report. Ms. Miller expressed appreciation for the partnership between the BLM, City staff, the Carson River Advisory Committee, and other groups and individuals. She indicated that the Carson River Master Plan Element had been valuable in the development of the plan for both the internal team of BLM specialists and the external team. She provided background information on acquisition of the land and the connectivity it provides between Prison Hill and the Pine Nut Mountains. She reviewed maps and the elements of the proposed plan, alternative plans A and B, the wildlife and irrigation areas, trail development, and the Ambrose-Carson River Natural Area, as contained in the draft plan. She advised that the grand opening of the Ranch is scheduled for National Public Lands Day on September 23, 2000.

Ms. Miller displayed photographs of the area and responded to questions regarding how the plan blends with Carson River Park. She advised that the BLM is soliciting comments regarding fees and the method by which to collect them. She discussed annual costs, and responded to questions regarding other parks managed by the BLM. At the request of Chairperson Simms, Commissioner Wright commented on his involvement in the planning process, emphasizing the desire to keep the Ranch green. Ms. Miller advised of the need to acquire additional water sources, and reviewed the public comment schedule. The goal is to have the final plan selected by August 1, 2000. In response to a question, she discussed authorized uses for the paths and advised that Carsonite signs will be installed to indicate proper trail etiquette.

Vice Chairperson Martel expressed appreciation for all the public involvement, and also emphasized the need to keep the Ranch green. Mr. Kastens expressed appreciation and commended the BLM staff for their willingness to develop the plan. He commented that the proposed plan represents a "happy medium," and advised that he has committed to assist Ms. Miller in developing a non-profit organization to support the Ranch. Ms. Miller invited the Commissioners and the public to the National Public Lands Day on September 23, 2000. In response to a question, Ms. Miller advised that John Singlaub, the BLM Field Manager, will make the final decision on selection of the plan at the end of June. The decision will be based upon public, committee/commission, and City staff input, and a thirty-day appeal period will follow. Vice Chairperson Martel inquired as to the fee structure, and Ms. Miller solicited input from the Commissioners and staff. She explained that fees are proposed for special events, and drive-in tours/events, but not for pedestrian use of the trails and facilities. Vice Chairperson Martel concurred. Commissioner Wright suggested a parking fee. In response to a question, Mr. Kastens explained the fee structure for Carson City Parks, and Ms. Miller advised of the fee structure for Washoe County Parks and Lyon County Parks.

Chairperson Simms solicited public comment; however, none was provided. **Vice Chairperson Martel moved that the Carson City Parks and Recreation Commission approve the proposed plan in the draft of the Interdisciplinary Management Plan for the Silver Saddle Ranch and the Ambrose Carson River Natural Area and support the implementation of a parking or access fee to the farm area itself, somewhere in the neighborhood of $3 to $5 as presented in the BLM plan. Commissioner Wright seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.** Chairperson Simms thanked Ms. Miller for her presentation.

4. UPDATE ON PROJECTS THAT ARE ON HOLD AWAITING A DECISION ON THE DISPATCH COMPUTER SYSTEM (1-1055) - Mr. Kastens advised that he had discussed this matter with the City Manager and the Finance Director and was informed that the City has hired a consultant to pursue purchase of the equipment for the dispatch computer system. It is anticipated that a recommendation will be made to the Board of Supervisors at the end of June and that this will drive the cost of the system.

Mr. Kastens reminded the Commissioners of the projects which were prioritized by the City's Capital Improvements Projects Committee ("CIP"), as follows: Parks equipment - $49,000; the T-ball parking lot - $75,000; Dasher boards at the Pony Express Pavilion - $62,500; and tile at the Community Center - $48,050. He advised that at the time the computer dispatch system was funded, $755,000 was allocated which represented the cost of the high-end system. Preliminary quotes of $350,000 and $400,000 were also received. Mr. Kastens was informed that the system which is currently being considered costs approximately $500,000, leaving a savings of $250,000 to $255,000. In addition to the Park-related CIP items, a truck lift and an analyzer for vehicle maintenance were also approved, totaling approximately $16,000. Mr. Kastens advised that if a cost savings is realized, the opportunity exists to lobby for the Parks-related items. He assured the Commissioners that the City Manager and Finance Director are aware of the previous prioritization, and he will continue to remind them of the same. Until a final decision is made on the dispatch system, however, the projects will remain on hold.

Mr. Kastens further advised of ongoing discussions with regard to including with the dispatch system compatibility features for the District Attorney and the Courts. He recalled discussions during the CIP process that allocation of the funds were for the dispatch system only. The Finance Director also recalled the discussions and is in agreement that only the original system, approved by the CIP Committee and the Board of Supervisors, should be pursued at this time.

Chairperson Simms discussed feedback he has received from some of the user groups that they are now convinced of not receiving the funding because of the delay. He expressed the hope that there will be funding available to pursue the projects.

5. STATUS REPORT ON THE TRAIL SIGNAGE AND KIOSK PROJECTS (1-1162) - Mr. Krahn displayed samples of trail signs and reviewed the staff report. He referred to the presentation made by Eagle Scout Bill Ghilieri in 1999, and his subsequent work with the Parks Department staff. Mr. Krahn advised that the displayed signs will be installed at the Mexican Ditch Trail, the Empire Ranch area, and Riverview Park. He indicated the differences between the City signs and BLM and U.S. Forest Service signs, and explained the symbols depicted on each. Mr. Ghilieri will begin installing the signs this weekend. Mr. Krahn commended Facilities Maintenance Manager Larry Nair and his staff, and Skilled Trades Technician Dick Buttner for their time and effort in manufacturing the signs. In response to a question, Mr. Krahn advised that 14 of the brown, square signs and 24 of the Carsonite signs will be installed.

Mr. Krahn referred to the kiosk designs included in the agenda materials, and advised that another Eagle Scout, Alan Woolridge, had assisted with designing and building a prototype. Staff has spent some time with Mr. Woolridge refining and simplifying the design and will present further information at a future meeting.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS (1-1332) - None.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS (1-1365) - Commissioner Wright inquired as to the status of the second gymnasium. (1-1460) Mr. Kastens advised that the planning process will begin after July 1, 2000, and that actual construction will begin in approximately two years. Staff is continuing to work with the Boys and Girls Club regarding the site off of Northridge Drive.

STATUS REPORTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS (1-1382) - None.

COMMENTS AND STATUS REPORTS FROM STAFF (1-1339) - Mr. Krahn discussed the planning effort the U.S. Forest Service is presently going through regarding the Carson Range. Staff has been discussing the possibility of a joint meeting between the Commission and the Open Space Advisory Committee wherein a presentation by Dave Loomis, of the U.S. Forest Service, would be agendized. (1-1383) Chairperson Simms requested a status report on the Costco negotiations. Mr. Kastens indicated that he didn't have any further information other than what had been reported in the newspaper. He advised that a special meeting of the Board of Supervisors/Redevelopment Authority is scheduled for Thursday, June 8, 2000. Commissioner Plank advised that each of the Supervisors had received correspondence from residents of the RV park with some requests regarding the sound wall. He forwarded his to the City Manager. Mr. Kastens commented on the monthly meeting of the Fuji Park Users Coalition on June 5th at WNCC. Staff and the Coalition members worked on finalizing some of the numbers which had been presented to the Commission and the Board regarding proposed improvements. Mr. Kastens advised that the caretaker's residence has been demolished and removed and the caretaker and his family relocated to a travel trailer at the front of the arena. Plenty of parking is now available for any event.

STATUS REPORT ON QUESTION #18, RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION TAX, AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT (1-1478) - Mr. Kastens referred to the Nevada *Appeal* article included in the agenda materials and indicated that it is a good synopsis of the current status of the Aquatic Facility. He has not received any written notice from the mediator but has an appointment with him on June 7th. Staff is moving forward with cleaning and opening the 25-yard pool as it is needed for swim lessons and other programs. Chairperson Simms inquired as to any assistance and support the Commission could provide with regard to the Aquatic Facility. Mr. Kastens advised that he has received good public and District Attorney support for his position. He reported that the Sierra Pacific Power Company project at the Edmonds Sports Complex is nearly complete, and that the new soccer fields are filling in well and should be ready for use in the fall.

ADJOURNMENT (1-1550) - Vice Chairperson Martel moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Commissioner Wright seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

The Minutes of the June 6, 2000 meeting of the Carson City Parks and Recreation Commission are so approved this _____ day of August, 2000.

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JOHN SIMMS, Chairperson