

CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the March 3, 2004 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 3, 2004 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Charles Zimmerman
Vice Chairperson Paul Pugsley
Tom Farrer
Dan Greytak
Mark McCubbin
Randy Pahl

STAFF: Steve Kastens, Parks and Recreation Director
Vern Krahn, Park Planner
Larry Werner, City Engineer
John Givlin, Senior Project Manager
Kathleen King, Recording Secretary

NOTE: A tape recording of these proceedings is on file in the Clerk-Recorder's Office and is available for review during regular business hours.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL (1-0007) - Vice Chairperson Pugsley called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present. Member Pahl arrived at 5:47 p.m. Chairperson Zimmerman arrived at 5:57 p.m.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (1-0013) - None.

1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - December 3, 2003 and January 7, 2004 (1-0017) - Member Farrer moved to accept the minutes, as written. Member McCubbin seconded the motion. Member Farrer amended his motion to indicate approval of both sets of minutes. Member McCubbin continued his second. Motion carried 4-0.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (1-0041) - Mr. Krahn recommended deferring item 3-A until later in the meeting.

3. AGENDA ITEMS:

3-A. ACTION REGARDING THE ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON FOR 2004 (1-0680) - Chairperson Zimmerman opened the floor for nominations of chairperson. **Vice Chairperson Pugsley nominated Chairperson Zimmerman as chairman. Member Farrer seconded the nomination.** Chairperson Zimmerman called for additional nominations and, when none were forthcoming, a vote on the pending nomination. **Nomination carried 6-0.** Chairperson Zimmerman opened the floor for nominations of vice chairperson. **Member Greytak nominated Vice Chairperson Pugsley to be reappointed. Member Pahl seconded the nomination.** Chairperson Zimmerman called for additional nominations and, when none were forthcoming, a vote on the pending nomination. **Nomination carried 6-0.**

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3-B. UPDATE ONLY REGARDING CARSON CITY'S STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (1-0054) - Mr. Werner introduced Mr. Givlin, and explained his responsibilities with regard to the stormwater management plan. He referred to the Milestone Schedule included in the agenda materials, and provided an overview of the same. Mr. Givlin discussed the responsibilities of the consultant to assist City staff in conducting interviews, gathering and analyzing data on the City's current management practices, and developing best management practices which will be incorporated into a manual to be used primarily by City staff. Best management practices for the community at large will be developed during the second year of the program.

In response to a question, Mr. Werner advised that the stormwater permit was issued September 10, 2003 by the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection ("NDEP"). In response to a further question, Mr. Givlin advised that the notice of intent was due to NDEP in March 2003; the plan submittal deadline was September 2003. Mr. Givlin explained that the notice of intent was very complete and included everything the City intends to do within the next five years. NDEP accepted the notice of intent in satisfaction of the permit requirements. In response to a question, Mr. Werner advised that the thirty-day comment period had already taken place. He explained that the City falls under the statewide, general permit.

In response to a question, Mr. Werner advised that the Board of Supervisors was interested in holding public workshops, but decided against forming a citizens advisory panel. Mr. Werner advised that the public participation portion of the program will include meetings with this Committee, the Clear Creek Watershed Coalition, and other related groups. In response to a further question, Mr. Werner advised that he had no insight into the Nevada Department of Transportation's BMP Manual. He clarified that the consultant is attempting to correlate all available BMP manual information. Mr. Givlin advised that NDOT has been participating in the phase 1 program, and has been assigned additional responsibilities in phase 2. NDOT representatives have expressed an interest in participating with local agencies involved in phase 2, specifically with regard to public information workshops. Mr. Givlin advised that there are many BMP manuals available for Carson City to use. Vice Chairperson Pugsley advised that if NDEP has not yet issued their BMP manual, they are very near to doing so. He suggested it as a valuable resource.

In response to a question, Mr. Werner advised that Carson City's BMPs will include all city-owned properties and facilities. The BMPs must also be related to issues on the Carson River, including sediment transport, phosphates, dissolved oxygen, pH, etc. Mr. Krahn advised that Mr. Givlin has met with Parks staff to review the issues. At Mr. Krahn's request, Mr. Givlin provided an overview of the meeting between Development Services staff, the consultant, and Parks and Recreation Department staff to review practices such as spraying, fertilizing, mowing, and maintenance. All activities will be reviewed and analyzed, BMPs will be applied accordingly, and included in the manual.

Member Greytak suggested considering stream zone buffers prior to the three-year point in the program. He expressed a preference that the ordinance should have been considered sooner in order to give "some teeth" to getting the follow through on BMPs in sensitive areas. Mr. Givlin advised that the goal was to analyze the internal processes first, and then to consider the community processes. In addition to parks, he advised that the Streets Department practices will be reviewed, including such things as street sweeping, mowing, spraying, cleaning storm drainage system catch basins, etc. The second year includes rigorous review of City-wide activities which potentially cause pollution. Mr. Givlin advised that the City will then be in a position to consider controls, in terms of ordinances and various provisions, to prohibit, or at least limit, those activities.

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In response to a question, Mr. Werner advised that Committee participation is not required at this stage. He advised that staff and the consultant will be working on public participation policies over the next couple months. Once the BMP reviews begin, the Committee's involvement will be needed. Mr. Givlin advised that the goal is to have the BMP manual reviewed and adopted by September 2004. It will be submitted to the public review process well before then. Mr. Werner advised that there will be two sets of BMPs, those which apply to Carson City generally and those which apply to Clear Creek specifically. Unique issues on Clear Creek will have to be identified and managed separately. Vice Chairperson Pugsley thanked Mr. Werner and Mr. Givlin for their presentation.

3-C. ACTION REGARDING UPDATING THE CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S PLANNING GOALS ADOPTED ON FEBRUARY 5, 2003 FOR THE CARSON RIVER WITHIN CARSON CITY (1-0275) - At Vice Chairperson Pugsley's request, Mr. Krahn provided background information on this item. He provided an overview of the planning goals which were included in the agenda materials. Vice Chairperson Pugsley suggested rephrasing item 1 under the "Enhance Surface Water Quality in the Carson River" heading to "Support Carson City in performance of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Phase II Permit" in accordance with the presentation made in item 3-B.

Member Greytak discussed the original purpose for developing the planning goals, and suggested considering how to specifically address them. Mr. Krahn suggested establishing volunteer groups to address the planning goals individually. Member Greytak advised of a meeting earlier in the day with Parks and Recreation Department Director of Operations Scott Fahrenbruch, representatives from the Nevada Division of Forestry and the Natural Resource Conservation Service, land owners, and a wildlife biologist to tour Riverview Park, review current practices, and develop recommendations to improve the habitat. He advised that Mr. Fahrenbruch recognizes the increased use and consequent impacts at Riverview Park. The group offered to work with Mr. Fahrenbruch to develop a plan. Member Greytak referred to the "Encourage Habitat Improvement Along the Carson River" goal, and suggested developing a habitat management or conservation plan for all River properties which could be adopted by private landowners and public agencies. Vice Chairperson Pugsley commented that there are significant City and BLM properties to which a habitat improvement plan would apply.

In response to a question, Mr. Kastens advised that the Committee doesn't have a specifically dedicated staff person, but that Parks staff would assist in facilitating Committee projects. Vice Chairperson Pugsley noted that an updated habitat inventory was recently incorporated into the Carson River Master Plan Element. Mr. Kastens advised that the Parks and Recreation Department will be pursuing funding for another intern, who will be dedicated to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Element revision. He indicated that the intern may be able to assist with some of the Committee's projects, as well.

Member Greytak discussed the possibility of grant funding opportunities to assist in developing a habitat management plan. He expressed the preference that the plan be developed county wide in order that it could serve as a model for the entire River system. Mr. Krahn agreed that this would be a good project to begin working toward. He acknowledged that Question #1 funding is available with a 50% match requirement. He suggested the Nevada Department of Wildlife as an additional source of Question #1 funding. He agreed that other possible funding sources for the project would be worth exploring, and

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advised that staff would look to the Committee to do so. He requested that the volunteer group invite staff to meetings and keep them informed. Vice Chairperson Pugsley called for additional comments; however, none were provided.

Mr. Krahn reviewed proposed verbiage revisions to the planning goals, and discussion took place regarding additional revisions. Member Pahl suggested including language regarding the River as a habitat for aquatic life. Vice Chairperson Pugsley suggested taking action to adopt the revisions proposed by Mr. Krahn, and taking separate action to agendaize the habitat improvement plan for the next meeting. **Chairperson Zimmerman moved to accept the proposed changes for the Carson River Advisory Committee goals, as listed under this item, and to defer the changes to the habitat improvement plan as a separate agenda item at the next meeting. Member Greytak seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.** Vice Chairperson Pugsley passed the gavel to Chairperson Zimmerman.

(1-1866) Jude Greytak advised of having participated in the tour earlier in the day, and that those present offered their expertise in developing a habitat improvement plan. She anticipates that there are many people who would be willing to contribute professionally. She expressed an interest in getting the plan developed soon because of concerns that volunteer and educational programs could do damage without proper direction. She volunteered her services, in a secretarial capacity, and advised of friends in various agencies who could be contacted for assistance. She offered to make contacts or develop an outline upon which to base park improvements and volunteer projects.

Mr. Krahn acknowledged that this item would be agendaized for the next Committee meeting. He suggested that the Committee could establish a direction at that time. He expressed appreciation for Mrs. Greytak's offer and advised that it would be a tremendous resource to City staff. He suggested scheduling a meeting with Member Greytak prior to the next meeting to develop preliminary information which could be included in the Committee's agenda materials. Vice Chairperson Pugsley suggested inviting some of the same people who participated in the tour.

3-D. ACTION REGARDING APPROACHING THE CARSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PROMOTE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, PROJECTS, AND VOLUNTEERISM ALONG THE CARSON RIVER WITHIN CARSON CITY; and 3-E. ACTION REGARDING APPROVAL OF TWO COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE AS LIAISONS AND FACILITATE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, PROJECTS, AND VOLUNTEERISM ALONG THE CARSON RIVER WITHIN CARSON CITY (1-0718) - Mr. Krahn provided background information on this item, and advised that three applicants will be interviewed at the March 4, 2004 Board of Supervisors meeting to fill the Committee's vacant position. Mr. Krahn discussed the water monitoring project being conducted by students of Eric Anderson, an educator at Eagle Valley Middle School, on the Moffat Open Space Property. He solicited input from the Committee members with regard to their level of interest in these agenda items. In response to a question, Mr. Krahn discussed the anticipated role of the Committee in identifying projects, encouraging participation in previously identified projects, discussing improvement of existing facilities to enhance educational opportunities, etc.

In response to a question, Mr. Krahn provided background information on the candidates to be interviewed by the Board of Supervisors. Member Greytak advised of having attended a recent Carson River Coalition meeting, and discussed the "Explore Your Watershed" PowerPoint presentation developed by their education committee. He further advised that the presentation is available for schools and community

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groups, and that Genie Azad agreed to present the program to the Committee. He suggested that the Committee can facilitate these types of presentations whenever possible. Member Pahl advised that his office has "Project Wet: Water Education for Teachers" which is available for presentation. He referred to the water monitoring project at Eagle Valley Creek, and agreed that there are many opportunities for interactive trails which focus on habitat, wetlands value, etc. He expressed an interest in serving as the Committee's education liaison. Chairperson Zimmerman suggested designating three volunteers in order to ensure coverage in the event of scheduling conflicts. Vice Chairperson Pugsley advised that Julie Koop, an educator at Carson High School, is taking three classes to the Ambrose-Carson River Natural Area over a ten-day period in March to do a clean up project along the interpretive trail which a former class helped to create. He suggested that Ms. Koop and Mr. Anderson could use support in seeking funding. He discussed grant opportunities which support classroom activity; however, the teachers themselves do not often have the opportunity to write the grants. In addition, he suggested providing information to the schools regarding educational opportunities available on and around the River.

Member Farrer moved to institute a volunteer program to advise the local school district on the resources of the Carson River and to request two volunteers and an alternate from the Committee to perform this task. Vice Chairperson Pugsley seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0. Chairperson Zimmerman called for volunteers. Member Pahl reiterated his offer to volunteer. Chairperson Zimmerman expressed an interest in being involved. Member Farrer volunteered. Chairperson Zimmerman suggested designating Member Farrer as the second volunteer, and volunteered to serve as the alternate. In response to a question, Mr. Krahn requested Member Pahl to provide a list of names in order to schedule a meeting. He suggested scheduling a meeting between staff and the volunteer work group first. Member Farrer offered to assist with leg work. Vice Chairperson Pugsley suggested scheduling the meeting at the Carson Water Subconservancy District, and taking the opportunity to review the "Explore Your Watershed" program.

(1-2149) Member Pahl suggested adding to the "Promote Community Outreach and Public Education on Carson River Issues" heading an item indicating the Committee's intent to pursue educational opportunities with the school district. Member Krahn advised that he would reagendaize this item for additional discussion.

3-F. PRESENTATION AND UPDATE ONLY REGARDING THE BIO-ENGINEERING STREAMBANK STABILIZATION PROJECT AT THE AMBROSE CARSON RIVER NATURAL AREA (1-1075) - Vice Chairperson Pugsley provided background information on the project, and narrated a slide presentation. He described the location of the project, and invited the Committee members and the citizens to visit it. Chairperson Zimmerman commended Vice Chairperson Pugsley on the success of the project. In response to a question, Vice Chairperson Pugsley discussed the possibility of adding more barbs to the River. He advised that a scour hole which was present prior to the project had disappeared by October 2003. He further advised that the project will continue to be monitored with regard to the rock and the revetment. There is a possibility that 1-2 barbs will be installed beyond the revetment area.

Member Greytak commented that the project was a good demonstration of non-standard techniques for bank stabilization. He discussed the importance of the educational portion of the bio-engineering workshop prior to actually doing the project. Vice Chairperson Pugsley advised that there were 70 workshop participants, including a few engineers. He discussed the participants' involvement in the project, and advised that they also participated in a tour of other, similar projects. In response to a question, Vice

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Chairperson Pugsley advised that there has been no indication that the River has “compensated” for the project either downstream or upstream. He suspects that the characteristic of the large, gravel barb at the base of the project will change based on the work done as part of the subject project. He will continue to monitor the project for changes.

3-G. UPDATE ONLY REGARDING STATEWIDE BALLOT QUESTION #1 GRANT APPLICATION SUBMITTED FOR CARSON RIVER PARK - PHASE II (1-1637) - Mr. Krahn provided background information on Question #1, and reviewed the application process. A copy of the application was included in the agenda materials. Mr. Krahn anticipates receiving a letter within 2-3 weeks from the Nevada Division of State Lands indicating whether or not the application has been accepted. A ten-day period will be granted to remedy an incomplete application. Once the application is accepted, the review process will begin. Mr. Krahn anticipates receiving an answer in June or July 2004. He reviewed information which was not included in the agenda materials, including cost estimates. He advised that the cost of Carson River Park Phase 1B was used as part of the match requirement. An estimate of staff time for Phase 1B and a projected estimate of staff time for phase 2 was also submitted as an in-kind match. Mr. Krahn advised that approximately \$228,000 will be available for improvements to Carson River Park. He has requested Rich Shock, of Stantech, to work with staff to develop cost estimates.

Mr. Krahn advised that there is an operating well on the property, and he has requested Utilities Operations Manager Tom Hoffert to determine if the City has water rights. He advised that staff is being conservative in the cost estimates, and is hoping to include playground equipment as an additive alternate. He reviewed the project improvements, including picnic shelters, turf areas, a pump system, a pressurized tank for the irrigation water source, and an irrigation system. He advised that the character and architectural features of the park will have to be consistent with those at the Silver Saddle Ranch. He indicated that BLM is on board, as indicated in the application, and a Memorandum of Understanding will be required at the appropriate time. Chairperson Zimmerman commended Mr. Krahn and Mr. Kastens.

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS:

STATUS REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS (1-1993) - Member Greytak discussed the City-sponsored leadership training classes in which he has been participating. Chairperson Zimmerman recognized Mr. Kastens' upcoming retirement and thanked him for all his time, effort, guidance, careful planning, and assistance over the years. He wished him all the best in his retirement years. Mr. Kastens thanked the present and previous Committee members for their support, and commended them on their diligent volunteer efforts. He requested the Committee members to be patient with the current staff until his position is filled, and advised that Mr. Fahrenbruch will serve as the acting director in the interim. He explained the process by which his position will be filled, and encouraged the Committee members to participate in the interview panel, if asked.

STATUS REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM STAFF (1-2089) - Mr. Krahn reviewed the FYI items included in the agenda materials. He reiterated that three applicants will be interviewed by the Board of Supervisors at their March 4th meeting. Mr. Kastens advised that an open house, commemorating his retirement, is scheduled on March 18th from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Parks Administration Office.

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FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS (1-2128) - Chairperson Zimmerman reviewed the previously discussed future agenda items. (1-2174) Mr. Krahn advised that the City is in the process of updating the bicycle system plan. Any proposed changes relative to the River will be submitted for review by the Committee. Mr. Krahn advised that the Pine Nut Mountains Plan Amendment will most likely be agendized for the May Committee meeting. A presentation by an NDOT representative will be agendized for the May Committee meeting to discuss water quality issues related to the freeway project. Discussion took place regarding possible changes to the semi-monthly meeting schedule.

5. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (1-2268) - Member Greytak moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m. Vice Chairperson Pugsley seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

The Minutes of the March 3, 2004 meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee are so approved this 5th day of May, 2004.

CHARLES ZIMMERMAN, Chair