

CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
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A regular meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee was held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 4, 1999 at the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Charles Zimmerman
Vice Chairperson Claire Clift
David Johnson
Paul Pettersen
Robert Piccolo
Kevin Walsh
Barbara Wright

STAFF: Steve Kastens, Parks and Recreation Director
Vern Krahn, Parks Planner
Juan Guzman, Senior Planner, Community Development
Kathleen King, Recording Secretary
(CRAC 08/04/99; 1-0001)

NOTE: Unless indicated otherwise, each item was introduced by Chairperson Zimmerman. 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.

A. ROLL CALL, DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM (1-0003) - Chairperson Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call was taken; a quorum was present. Member Johnson arrived at 6:03 p.m.

B. COMMITTEE ACTION

1. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES (1-0011) - Vice-Chairperson Clift moved to approve the minutes of the July 7, 1999 meeting. Member Pettersen seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0-1-0.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (1-0019) - None.

D. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (1-0025) - Chairperson Zimmerman modified the agenda to address items F-6 and F-7 following item F-3.

E. DISCLOSURES (1-0039) - None.

F. PUBLIC HEARING

F-1. PRESENTATION OF A BIO-ENGINEERING VIDEO ON RIVER SYSTEMS AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO. (1-0043) - Jane Schmidt, of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, provided background information on the video, which was coordinated by a number of different agencies and produced by David Morgan. The purpose of the video is to provide private property owners with basic information on the availability of bioengineering techniques to achieve streambank stability. Ms. Schmidt then presented the video which was approximately five minutes in length. She distributed a brochure for the 1999 Windbreak & Riparian Buffer Technology Short Course, scheduled for September 7-8, 1999 and sponsored by the Carson Valley Conservation District, Western Nevada RC&D, and the Nevada Division of Forestry. Ms. Schmidt then answered questions regarding the method by which private property owners can obtain funding for streambank stabilization projects, and matching share project funding being extended for volunteer time and equipment. Chairperson Zimmerman thanked Ms. Schmidt for her presentation.

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F-2. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING AN UPDATE ON MAILING LISTS AND INFORMATION PACKETS FOR CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ON RESOURCE EVALUATION, TOXIC WEED MITIGATION, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO (1-0202) - Ms. Schmidt requested a subcommittee be formed to meet and finalize the mailing list. (1-1105) A working group, comprised of Members Johnson, Piccolo, and Wright, agreed to meet with Ms. Schmidt to review and finalize the mailing list. No formal action was taken.

F-3. PRESENTATION AND ACTION REGARDING CARSON CITY STORM DRAINAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE PROJECTS, CURRENT STATUS REPORT, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO (1-0222) - Mahmood Azad, Development Services Manager, provided an overview of the responsibilities of the Storm Drainage Advisory Committee ("SDAC"), including determination of storm drainage requirements, levels of protection, funding sources and financing, and master planning. Five information exchanges have been conducted between the SDAC and the public, and a preliminary report has been generated. The next phase involves information exchanges with the development community. The first meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m., Monday, August 9, 1999 at the Western Nevada Community College. A report will be generated from these meetings as well and, combined with the preliminary report from the neighborhood information exchanges, will be presented to the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Azad then utilized a map to review major projects to be constructed in the very near future as part of the Carson City freeway project. He explained sediment and detention basins and reviewed proposed locations for the same; drainage and flow routes; water quality improvement basins; and frequency in occurrence of 100-year storms. A "down-side" to the project is that about the time the majority of the storm water is being released into the Carson River, the flows from the high reaches of the river are arriving. Because the flow is trickled out of the detention basins, the water level will not go higher than the high water mark, but the river will remain high for a longer period of time. Mr. Azad answered questions with regard to reduction in the amounts of sediment which will reach the River once the project is completed. He explained that the River is "bed-load shy" which refers to a lack of the granular material that repairs the River. He will be working with the Army Corps of Engineers and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection ("NDEP") to determine what should be done with bed-load sediment once it is released from the sediment basins. A concern is that the box culverts never get plugged with bed-load sediment. He described the dimensions of the box culverts to be installed in various areas of the City. Mr. Azad further explained that the Lompa Ranch area is the only natural outlet for the entire Eagle Valley and this is part of the City's problem. The water quality basins will be bioengineered with plants which filter out petroleum-based and other pollutants through a physical/chemical mechanism to improve water quality before reaching the River. Additional water quality basin sites are being considered. Discussion ensued with regard to analyses of water quality conducted by the NDEP and the U.S. Geological Survey. Mr. Azad answered questions with regard to flows which flood Highway 50 and discussed plans to eliminate this problem. Chairperson Zimmerman thanked Mr. Azad for his presentation. No formal action was taken.

F-4. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING STAFF UPDATE ON THE CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENT PROGRESS FOR CARSON RIVER PARK, THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S RIGHT-OF-WAY PROJECT IMPACTS, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO (1-1128) - Mr. Krahn distributed, to the Committee and to the Clerk, cost estimate information for Carson River Park Phase I. Vice Chairperson Clift commented on the changes made to the project based on the cost estimate, including elimination of the trail leading to, and relocation of, the port-a-toilet; reduction of the width of the concrete ramp; and elimination of the chain link fence in favor of boulders. Mr. Krahn then reviewed an updated budget (Exhibit A), the original budget (Exhibit B), and a revised cost estimate (Exhibit C). With regard to placing boulders, Mr. Krahn was advised by Chuck Knowlton of the Streets Department that this could be done as long as it is in conjunction with the streambank stabilization project and that the number of boulders requested is reasonable. The Parks Department has the opportunity to acquire a port-a-toilet structure which was originally purchased for placement in another park. The developer is willing to sell it at cost, and to ensure that all necessary parts and equipment are still intact. Reference was made to the memo from Molly Sinnott, Urban Forester

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Consultant, with regard to retaining the existing willow tree in the design of the dock platform. Ms. Sinnott expressed concern over the cottonwood trees in the area and recommended hazard reduction pruning. Discussion regarding a concern over vandalism of the port-a-toilet structure followed and Mr. Krahn described the design of the structure. Additionally, BLM has agreed to lock up the gates to Carson River Park every evening. Further discussion ensued with regard to the inclusion of bike racks, costs for the same and similar equipment, and the cost for installation by staff versus installation by a volunteer group. Mr. Kastens advised that the Parks Department has received numerous requests for Boy Scout projects. Chairperson Zimmerman suggested that allocation of funds for future development be discussed and prioritized by the working group. Member Johnson moved that the Committee accept the changes made and give Parks and Recreation the go ahead to have the drawings completed and proceed on with the process. Member Pettersen seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

(1-1440) Mr. Krahn reported he had been contacted by the NDOT Right-of-Way Division, and was advised that the parcel in question may be deemed surplus property by the Surplus Property Committee of NDOT. Two results are possible, neither of which will compromise the project. If the Surplus Property Committee deems the property surplus, the City has the option to agree to take it over, and the easement would then be lifted. If the Surplus Property Committee decides the property is not surplus, NDOT would require access control. Mr. Krahn will be submitting a request for review by the Surplus Property Committee, together with the necessary encroachment permit to proceed with the project. The process may take three to six months, but will not impede progress on construction of the park. Discussion regarding the process by which the City would accept the property followed. Mr. Krahn then explained the land trade which took place prior to construction of Lloyd's Bridge. During the land trade, the Merchant Ranch property was given easement rights, which Mr. Krahn read into the record. Once the Bureau of Land Management ("BLM") acquired the land, the legal restrictions transferred and, consequently, the City will need to negotiate with BLM to ensure that the agreements can be worked through. (1-1672) Mr. Kastens reported on his attendance at the Planning Commission meeting on Wednesday, July 28, 1999, where he presented the Carson River Park project under Community Development's good neighbor policy. Mr. Krahn advised that once Mr. Shock has the Carson River Park plans completed, they will be submitted to the Building Department. Notices have been sent to surrounding property owners with regard to the project and no negative comments have been received. Discussion ensued with regard to the timetable of the Streets Department's portion of the project. No further action was taken.

F-5. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING STAFF UPDATE ON THE STREAM BANK STABILIZATION AND EROSION CONTROL PROJECT, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO (1-1613) - Mr. Krahn advised that grants from the Carson-Truckee Water Conservation District ("CTWCD") and the Carson Water Subconservancy District ("CWSD") had been awarded at the respective July 13 and July 21 meetings. Both awards were matching grants of \$20,000 each. In addition, \$3,500 was requested from a revegetation account over which Kevin Piper and Dan Kaffer have control; however, administration procedures must be completed prior to any award. Chairperson Zimmerman advised of very favorable comments provided by former Supervisor Greg Smith on behalf of the Committee at the CWSD meeting. Mr. Krahn has been advised by Kevin Piper that the survey work will be completed by August 5 and that, within the next three weeks, a design should be completed in time for submission to the Army Corps of Engineers at their August 26 meeting. Two permits have been applied for: one to the Division of State Lands, which returned the \$250 fee pursuant to the Nevada Revised Statutes; and the other to the NDEP for a rolling stock permit. (1-1727) Chairperson Zimmerman advised of a Resources and Conservation working group meeting of the CWSD which he had attended last week. The survey taken among the participants of that group indicated the priority placed on this type of project. A tour of one of the sites which Kevin Piper worked on in the Dayton area will be conducted this month, and the Committee members have been invited to attend. No formal action was taken.

F-6. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE DESIGN PROGRESS OF CANOE PORTAGE AT MORGAN MILL ROAD, AT THE EAST END OF EMPIRE RANCH GOLF COURSE AND

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ADJACENT TO THE CARSON RIVER, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO; AND F-7. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING VOLUNTEER PROJECTS BY SOUTHWEST GAS AND OTHER BUSINESSES FOR THE CARSON RIVER, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO (1-0638) - Lee Jones, of the Southwest Gas Employee Volunteer Team ("EVT"), requested information with regard to projects scheduled for the River in which the EVT can participate. At the request of Chairperson Zimmerman, Mr. Jones described the project in which the EVT participated last year. Discussion ensued with regard to the equipment used for last year's project, and the availability of similar equipment to be used in another project. Mr. Jones explained that the EVT would prefer to review a project to determine the type of equipment and number of volunteers needed. The project would then be presented to their managers for approval. Discussion regarding a determination of available projects and the possibility of the EVT working on the canoe portage followed. Chairperson Zimmerman suggested forming a working subcommittee to determine project priorities. Member Johnson volunteered for participation in the subcommittee, and further discussion regarding possible projects followed. Mr. Kastens volunteered City staff and equipment for any project being done on City-owned property. Discussion with regard to utilizing federal grant funding with matching resources for the projects followed. Mr. Jones advised that the EVT is looking for a project to do in September in order that it will not conflict with their Christmas projects. Chairperson Zimmerman suggested scheduling a field trip to potential project sites and discussion ensued with regard to empowering the working group to prioritize projects on behalf of the entire Committee. Member Pettersen moved to form a subcommittee, with Member Johnson as the chair. Mr. Kastens cautioned the Committee on appointing a subcommittee chair as this invokes the requirements of the Open Meeting law. Motion died for lack of a second. Member Pettersen moved to form a working group to prioritize a few projects for the Committee to review and possibly have Southwest Gas review and get that moving as soon as possible. Vice Chairperson Clift seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0. Mr. Jones thanked the Committee members for their time. Chairperson Zimmerman thanked Mr. Jones and the EVT for their willingness to become involved. Members Piccolo and Pettersen volunteered for the working group. A meeting date will be selected following adjournment.

F-8. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING THE STRUCTURE AND TERMS OF OFFICE FOR THE CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO (1-1754) - Chairperson Zimmerman advised he had spoken with Supervisor Williamson regarding this matter. All of the Committee memberships, with the exception of Members Pettersen and Walsh, have the same expiration date: September 9, 2000. Committee consensus was to wait until the middle of next year and stagger the membership terms in order to establish continuity on the Committee, as suggested by Supervisor Williamson. No formal action was taken.

G. INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (NON-ACTION ITEMS)

G-1. FUTURE COMMITTEE ITEMS AND DATES (1-1789) - Mr. Krahn distributed, to the Committee and to the Clerk, a fax received from Meg Getty of the Carson Water Subconservancy District. Discussion ensued with regard to agenda items for the next monthly meeting, including a report from the working group on the project prioritizations and on the mailing list. Mr. Krahn advised that advertising for nominations for the Carson River Advisory Committee award has been done through a press release last week. Nomination forms are available at the Parks and Recreation and the Community Development Departments. Further discussion ensued with regard to agenda items for the September meeting. Mr. Krahn advised that the Committee members will be receiving a copy of the draft Open Space Plan for review. Discussion with regard to the date for Carson River Day followed.

H. ADJOURNMENT (1-1999) - Member Pettersen moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m. Member Wright seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

The Minutes of the August 4, 1999 Carson River Advisory Committee meeting are so approved this _____

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day of September, 1999.

CHARLES ZIMMERMAN, Chairperson