CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the November 4, 1998 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee was held on Wednesday, November 4, 1998 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 E. William St., Carson City, NV at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Vice Chairperson Claire Clift

David Johnson Mark Kimbrough Paul Pettersen Bill Piccolo Barbara Wright

STAFF: Steve Kastens, Parks and Recreation Director

Barbara Singer, Recreation Superintendent

Juan Guzman, Senior Planner Vern Krahn, Park Planner Fran Smith, Recording Secretary

(CRAC 11/4/98 1-0000.5)

NOTE - Unless otherwise indicated each item was introduced by Vice Chairperson Clift. Individuals speaking are identified following the heading of each item. A tape recording of these proceedings is on file in the Clerk-Recorder's office. This tape is available for review and inspection during normal business hours.

- **A. CALL TO ORDER** Vice Chairperson Clift called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. A roll call was taken and a quorum was present although Chairperson Zimmerman was absent.
- **B.** APPROVAL OF MINUTES October 7, 1998 Member Wright referred to Page 4 where it indicated the Foerschlers "controlled" the road and said she had used the word "maintained" and asked that the Minutes be corrected to reflect that. Member Pettersen moved to approve the Minutes of the October 7, 1998 meeting as amended. Member Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0-1-0.
- **C. PUBLIC COMMENT** None.
- **D. DISCLOSURES** None.
- **E. MODIFICATION OF AGENDA** None.
- F. PUBLIC HEARING
- DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION STUDY/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE BRUNSWICK **CANYON BRIDGE** - (1-0034.5) Mr. Krahn said Harvey Brotzman, who was originally scheduled to make a presentation, would not be present although it is anticipated he would be at the next meeting. Mr. Krahn said Mr. Brotzman has most of the information but he would attempt to provide some of the details. Vice Chairperson Clift referred to the V&T railroad coming through the canyon. She felt if this Committee goes ahead with the reconstruction of the bridge it would impact the railroad. Mr. Krahn said it was his understanding that RTC would have to look at this and deal with it. Member Kimbrough asked where the City stands at this point. Mr. Krahn said Mr. Brotzman was looking at taking the study and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors in mid to late spring in the hope of getting some funding to proceed. Member Piccolo referred to the letter from NDOT in the packet where they referred to the bridge replacement program and asked if the City has responded. Mr. Krahn did not know but said from what Mr. Brotzman had told him that RTC is interested in trying to get the bridge replaced in some fashion. He referred to the alternatives and said from the replacement aspect Mr. Brotzman has indicated it depends on funding. Vice Chairperson Clift asked if this is a decision the Board would make and Mr. Krahn said yes and that it is both the Board's and RTC's decision. She then asked if there has been degredation at the bridge because of the flood. Mr. Krahn said yes and that those issues would be handled as far as making the bridge

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worthy because the surface of the bridge is dangerous at this point. Member Johnson asked what Mr. Brotzman needs from the Committee. Mr. Krahn said Mr. Brotzman would appreciate any support they could give him. Member Johnson moved to table further discussion on this until the next meeting when Mr. Brotzman can be present to answer questions. Member Pettersen seconded the motion. At this point Mr. Kastens suggested asking for public testimony. Member Johnson withdrew his motion and Member Pettersen concurred. Vice Chairperson then asked for public input. There being none public testimony was closed. Member Johnson moved that further discussion on Item 1 be tabled until the next regular meeting. Member Pettersen seconded the motion. Member Kimbrough asked if Mr. Brotzman was taking care of the right-of-way issue but neither Mr. Kastens or Mr. Krahn knew about that. Motion carried 6-0-1-0.

- F-2 PRESENTATION FROM STEVE LAWRENCE OF THE U.S.G.S. REGARDING WATER QUALITY OF THE CARSON RIVER (1-0171.5) Mr. Lawrence provided copies of a U. S. Geological Survey relating to Carson River activities. He also had slides showing various locations on the river. An extensive discussion ensued during which he explained the National Water Quality Assessment program. He also visually pointed out in the slides where testing for chemicals in the water had taken place, stream flow measurements, bed sediments, and groundwater-surface water interactions were considered. He then responded to questions from the Committee. At the conclusion of his presentation he commented that in general the river water is of good quality. No formal action was taken.
- F-3 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A RESOURCE ASSESSMENT FOR THE CARSON RIVER BY JANE SCHMIDT AND PEGGY HUGHES OF NRCS - (1-0717.5) Ms. Schmidt expressed her belief that an assessment should not be attempted without having specific goals in mind unless implementation is being considered. She said she had read the Committee's plan and felt it has a great starting spot and asked how they plan to implement it. Vice Chairperson Clift said the plan is based on data from the Humboldt River plan. She added from the assessment they were trying to gather information for the Carson River to determine what is happening there. She felt what USGS has started with Deer Run Road is a great opportunity for the Committee to continue with perhaps more areas on the river as it passes through the City. She commented on their concern with what is happening with the cattle and the agriculture at the prison. Ms. Schmidt said what she had seen from reading the plan was that the Committee has specific areas where they would like to She suggested looking at the wildlife area as an example. She felt that is something the Committee is focusing on but did not know what purpose getting a lot of data up and down the river would serve except to meet a certain section of the plan. Member Kimbrough said they have a lot of data but do not have a resource person to put it together. He felt there are many questions for which they would not have an answer because they do not have the information assembled. Ms. Schmidt then talked about things she had observed at the river which included road concerns, noxious weeds, and storm drainage. She also cited that private property owners could put up fences but felt it would be good if they know why specifications are being recommended and cited wildlife passage as the reason. She said these are things that need to be conveyed to the public. She commented that the NCRS role is to work on private lands. She added that the Committee has a mixture of land ownerships and felt NCRS could certainly assist with some of this but would not be working on Federal lands. She added that NCRS also administers some programs which come from farm bills. She explained some of these programs from farm bills could apply to some of the private property owners along the river. She added one is a wildlife incentives program which is a cost share project and provided details on how it works.

(1-0987.5) Ms. Schmidt also talked about the ability of NCRS to apply for grants and expressed her belief that the Committee has a series of projects that could qualify. She explained that the groups on the upper Carson and the Dayton area have done that and explained various projects they are working on. She suggested the Committee could apply for a grant and hire a person who would be able to pull the information together for them so that they could see where there are gaps in the work. She also mentioned that the applications are best tied to something where the Committee would be telling the State that, not only do they want to gather information, but want to do something. She cited environmental education, a trout in the classroom program, handicapped fishing access, stream bank stability, and best management practices as examples. She also commented that they are dealing with a mixed ownership pattern and said that makes NCRS an inappropriate agency. However, under a conservation district it is appropriate because they could have memos of understanding with different agencies and could work

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with groups like BLM and others.

(1-1193.5) At this point Member Kimbrough suggested having another retreat, perhaps in the spring, and invite Ms. Schmidt to help facilitate some of the issues. He also suggested inviting Kevin Piper and somebody from the upper river group to tell the Committee how they handle these things and how they got their funding, etc. Ms. Schmidt said the grant applications from elsewhere are available for review and that the Committee could pattern theirs after them. She added that they already have good direction in place and invited them to attend a NCRS meeting and talk about where they are and where they would like to go. Mr. Guzman said after working with the Carson River Master plan his impression is that the Committee has two areas of primary concern those being land uses and recreation potential. He felt in exploring those resources they want to make sure that in considering the health of the river they would not destroy cultural resources or wildlife, etc. The discussion turned to the workshop and Member Kimbrough suggested having it in February or March. Mr. Guzman will work on putting it together. Vice Chairperson Clift suggested having it in February because the Legislative session. Member Pettersen moved that the Committee meet in February as a group to address the issues Ms. Schmidt presented and try to bring together a comprehensive document and attend one of the NCRS meetings and learn a little more. Member Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0-1-0.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A PRESENTATION BY F-4 STANTECH OF THE FINAL PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE FEASIBILITY REPORT - (1-1519.5) Mr. Krahn said staff had included a copy of the report in the packet and said Mr. Sorensen would respond to questions from the Committee. Mr. Sorensen explained the cost estimates they had developed since he had been at the previous meeting. He also talked about possible sizes of structures. He then provided information on possible funding sources such as ISTEA, now called T-21. He commented it is a broad spectrum for all kinds of fundings among which are monies for pedestrian and hiking and biking trails which have transportation connotations as opposed to purely recreational. He also said this new money authority is a 95 percent Federal and five percent local contribution. He also explained the permit process which must be complied with. He suggested that the Committee go at least part way in the permit process to demonstrate they have support. He also suggested they get a reasonable topographic map and some soils information to add to the package so that their presentation would be competitive. He then explained the current timetable for submitting the information and suggested that the Committee wait until the next submittal period. At this point Mr. Guzman said Community Development staff has a meeting scheduled for November 18 to discuss potential projects and that these would be presented to the Board of Supervisors seeking direction. Member Wright asked who would be working on the paperwork for the permits. Mr. Kastens explained that staff would handle that but said the costs are not currently in the budget. He added that in the next budget cycle funding could be pursued and, if allocated, could be available July 1 so that the Committee could then proceed with the application and permits. He emphasized getting the permits whether or not a bridge is realized because once they have those it would take care of anything the Committee wants to do along the river later. Mr. Sorensen talked about pre-application meetings and said the Corps of Engineers has these periodically and suggested that staff attend. Member Johnson expressed his belief that the best expenditure of City resources would be to seek as broad a permit as possible. Member Kimbrough then reiterated his feeling that "a person" is needed in order to help mitigate and understand the process. Mr. Kastens commented that the permit would belong to the City rather than the Committee and that there should be somebody to manage it. Member Johnson moved that the Committee request that Mr. Kastens and/or his staff pursue the meeting with the Corps and come back with information so that the Committee would have something on which to base a recommendation or action. Mr. Kastens did not feel this was relative to the agenda item and suggested a more appropriate theme would be to either approve or accept the feasibility report by Stantech on the pedestrian bridge. He felt they could then ask staff to work on the permit application. Member Johnson withdrew his motion. Member Johnson moved to accept the feasibility study and direct staff to get with the Corps to further discuss the permit information. Member Kimbrough seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0-1-0.

(1-2139.5) Member Kimbrough said he would like to pursue a different avenue for funding on this. He explained he would like to see if Question #18 trails money could be used and wanted a couple of the members to go to the Open Space Advisory Committee and talk to them about the bridge. Mr. Kastens said these funds on the trails and bike paths are controlled by the Parks and Recreation Commission. He added that staff could approach OSAC

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telling them they need funding to pursue the permits, the soil study, and topographic maps. Member Johnson expressed his desire to bring a discussion on the permitting and options back.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE MASTER PLAN COST ESTIMATES AND PRIORITY ISSUES FOR THE CARSON RIVER PARK, AND OTHER MATTERS **RELATED THERETO** - (1-2289.5) Rich Schock of Stantech - Meg Jensen of BLM - Mr. Krahn commented that the Committee had previously approved in concept the Master Plan for the park. He explained that staff in working with Mr. Schock had smoothed out some of the rough ideas which Mr. Schock had hand drawn in his first pass. He said an 11" x 17" version of the colored plan was in the packet. He added that the Parks and Recreation Commission had approved the plan and were pleased that the Committee was proceeding with the improvements along the river. He also said staff wanted to make sure BLM was happy with being neighbors and with easing on to their property. He added that staff had met with Meg Jensen of BLM to discuss this and other management issues. At this point Ms. Jensen said they had reviewed the proposed Master Plan for the park and referred to the letter she had sent Mr. Kastens expressing their support. However, she added there is a consideration which should be kept in mind. She explained that BLM is in the process of developing a management plan for the Silver Saddle Ranch and, because they do have a public involvement, cannot give final approval. She added they had discussed with staff the possibility of getting a member of the Committee as well as the Silver Saddle Task Force to sit in on the preparation of that management plan. She also expressed their belief that the property needs to be cooperatively managed with the City in concert with the Carson River Park and that they would welcome participation in a joint effort. Mr. Krahn said this is planning for years and that the Committee would always have a representative involved in the process. He added now that there is support from BLM with Ms. Jensen's encouragement and approval of the Parks and Recreation Commission staff is planning on taking the plan to the Board of Supervisors at their next meeting. He also said they plan to continue working with Ms. Jensen on any development plans they have on the river. Member Johnson asked about a timetable for the management plan. Ms. Jensen said their goal is to complete it sometime in 1999. She added if the Committee wants them to they can develop a conceptual framework for the process and try to give them a sense of a timeframe, meeting times, etc. Member Johnson asked if that could be brought back to the next meeting and Ms. Jensen said they could probably do it by then.

(1-2656.5) At this Mr. Schock said what they had done with the cost estimate was to break down the facilities that are shown on the Master Plan. He visually pointed out on the drawing a west side development area which includes a day use area and accessible fishing sites. He added that they had also broken out the facilities on the east side in the same way so that the Committee would have a basic figure on the individual use areas. Mr. Krahn then asked the Members who had previously volunteered to help develop Alternative D if they would meet with he and Mr. Kastens to review the information in more detail so that the Committee can prioritize based on the available funding. He added that Mr. Schock could then put a proposal together and come back to the Committee with the information. Member Kimbrough liked the idea as did the other Members. Mr. Krahn will coordinate the effort and let the volunteers know. Member Kimbrough expressed the hope that the Committee can complete the application and process for the trails grant because it is due February 15. Mr. Kastens said at present he already has four grants saying two are in hand plus an ISTEA grant and a Pittman Robinson. He commented between the four and the projects he is pursuing under RCT and Question #18 funding his department is running thin. He explained there is a point where they can get strung out and harm themselves because they cannot get them done on time. He also said this gets them a reputation of not producing. Member Kimbrough said he would like to volunteer his help. No formal action was taken.

F-6 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE NAMING OF THE BLM/CITY JOINT USE AREA ALONG THE CARSON RIVER - (1-2915.5) Meg Jensen - Mr. Krahn said staff had a discussion with BLM on this and asked Ms. Jensen to present the BLM reaction. Ms. Jensen said they agree with staff and said they hope to put up a sign that says the area is cooperatively managed by the City and BLM. A copy of the resolution for naming parks was in the packet and Mr. Krahn explained the process. Mr. Kastens then provided a history of how the policy had been developed. He also talked about how the public is encouraged to participate in the naming process. Member Johnson moved that the Committee agrees with staff's recommendation to utilize the existing policy for the naming of parks and recreation facilities within Carson City

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for the access site at Carson River. Member Pettersen seconded the motion. Member Wright said Vice Chairperson Clift had suggested the name Dutch Ambrosia and noted that the research has already been done. Vice Chairperson Clift confirmed she had and provided a history of the family. Member Johnson asked if names suggested by the public would be screened before they come to the Committee. Mr. Kastens said the Committee would make a recommendation which would be taken to the Parks and Recreation Commission for their recommendation and then it would be sent to the Board. Mr. Kastens then explained the advertising process for public input. Motion carried 6-0-1-0.

- F-7 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING UPCOMING MEETINGS OF THE CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (1-3235.5) Mr. Guzman explained that this room would be used by the Planning Commission on December 2 which is the next scheduled date for a Committee meeting. He will look into availability of other meeting rooms and will let the Committee know. No formal action was taken.
- **G.** Internal Communications and Administrative Matters (Non-Action)
 - **G-1** Committee Member Comments Including:
- A. Information on a Bio-Engineering Workshop for Land Owners and Resource Professionals to be held November 2-4 at the Carson Nugget Conference Room Sponsored by Nevada Division of Forestry (1-3307.5) Members Wright and Kimbrough had attended. She said a lot of information had been given to the participants relating to what the land owners can do. She also commented she had learned a lot about what can be done for the water banks. Member Kimbrough said there had been hands on work and commented if there is a need for bank stabilization what had been learned was a valuable tool. He then said he had the bird list and is trying to get it organized in an orderly fashion and printed. He added he would put it on the next agenda for discussion and said the only funding it would need is the printing cost.
- **G-2 Staff Comments** (1-3418.5) Mr. Krahn talked about the bridge feasibility study and asked if any Members wanted colored copies. They agreed they did not need it.
- G-3 Agenda Items for the Next CRAC Meeting on December 2, 1998 (1-3429.5) Vice Chairperson Clift said the bird list printing funding, the permit with the Corps of Engineers, Ms. Jensen, and Mr. Brotzman's presentation on Brunswick Canyon would be on that agenda. Member Kimbrough said Southwest Gas, the Sub Conservancy, and the public had done a lot of work on the river on Carson River Work Day and suggested agenda items to give them some sort of awards.
- **H. ADJOURNMENT** There being no further business Member Piccolo moved to adjourn. Member Pettersen seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0-1-0. Vice Chairperson Clift adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

The Minutes of the November 4, 1998 meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee

ARE SO APPROVED12/1, 1998
/s/
Charles Zimmerman, Chairperson

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