

CARSON CITY SHADE TREE COUNCIL
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A regular meeting of the Carson City Shade Tree Council was held on Thursday, March 27, 1997 in the Administrative Complex Conference Room #59, 2621 Northgate Lane, Carson City, NV at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairperson Donna Kuester
Vice Chairperson Ralph Marrone
Mike Aragon
Dallas English
Mary Lee Foster
Craig Hartman
Isabel Young

STAFF: Scott Fahrenbruch, Parks Superintendent
Fran Smith, Recording Secretary
(SHA 3/27/97 1-0000.5)

NOTE - Unless otherwise indicated each item was introduced by Chairperson Kuester. 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 - Chairperson Kuester called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m. A roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Member English moved to approve the Minutes of the special January 16, 1997 and regular January 30, 1997 meetings. Member Marrone seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MEMBERSHIP TO THE CARSON CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - (1-0029.5) Chairperson Kuester advised that Kay Elverum was to have been at the meeting but was not in attendance at this point.

2. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION - (1-0031.5) Chairperson Kuester said Frankie Sue Del Papa could no longer be the speaker. The second choice was Toni Tenille but she would be out of the state that day. The third choice was Steve Hartman who had agreed to do it. This would be at the 5:30 p.m. ceremony. She also said Senator Reid still had not given her a commitment for the high school ceremony. However, a representative from his office felt strongly he might be there because he enjoys talking to high school students.

(1-0057.5) She had a supply of the posters which were done in black and white rather than the green and black she had ordered. The Members agreed to keep them rather than have a delay by reprinting them. Member Young asked where they are to be placed and it was explained they can be put in any business that will allow them. Chairperson Kuester cautioned the Members to remember where they put them so that they can retrieve them when Arbor Day is over.

(1-0095.5) She also reported she and Member Hartman had talked to the Leisure Hour Club about a tree selection. An extensive discussion ensued on the various species they had indicated they would like to see. Arborist Molly Sinnott explained which would do best at the site and it was agreed that a scarlet oak was a good selection. They also discussed the cost of a tree the size the Leisure Hour desired.

(1-0301.5) The high school principal had provided a drawing of three proposed planting sites on the high school grounds. Chairperson Kuester suggested that Ms. Sinnott and Member Aragon go see Dave Timmons, head of maintenance, and tour the area to determine the best site. It was also noted that the species and size need to be decided upon.

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(1-0609.5) The discussion turned to how the Ferris award should read and Chairperson Kuester said she would contact former member Tanchek to do it. She also commented that the Leisure Hour Club is celebrating their 100th anniversary. She asked the Members to let her know if they would be able to attend one or both ceremonies so that a notice of a possible quorum could be posted. She reported that Members English and Young were working on the proclamation. No formal action was taken.

3. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION TAX PROJECTS, PAST AND FUTURE - (1-0609.5) Chairperson Kuester explained for the Members that residential construction tax is \$1,000 per home when someone is having a new home built. She added this goes into a fund just for Park and Recreation facilities but no maintenance. She said every year or so the fund is allocated by the Parks and Recreation Commission for various projects requested by the public. However, this has been on hold for the past few years because there has only been a minimal amount accumulated. She said for 1995-96 she had applied for \$10,000 to replace the cottonwoods that came down in Mills Park. She wanted to know if the Council was interested in applying for funding this year because the previous request had not been funded. She said she had also applied for \$8,500 for a drip system, trees and planting, and a windbreak that nearby residents had asked for at Fuji Park because of the noise at the racetrack. She said there was also a request for \$8,500 for a drip system, trees and planting at Ross Gold Park, again requested by the public. Mr. Fahrenbruch said from a staff standpoint he would like to see the Council put in for Mills Park and Ross Gold because it is felt these are needed. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that Members should attend a Parks and Recreation Commission meeting in May to campaign for their projects. No formal action was taken.

4. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING SALES AND DISTRIBUTION OF CARSON CITY TREE SELECTION GUIDE - (1-0759.5) Member English said there are approximately 100 of the books left. She reported she had talked to a scout leader about possibly having them sell the books at Wal Mart for \$6.00 per book, thereby making a \$1.00 on each book for the troop. Chairperson Kuester suggested that Members contact places like K-Mart to see if some of the books could be placed at their establishments. It was then suggested it would be easier to sell them at \$5.00 giving the scouts the \$1.00 profit and that the Council could take a small loss. Members agreed this was a good idea. Member English will contact the Board of Realtors and Member Aragon will contact a nursery in Douglas County. Chairperson Kuester asked that any other Members who sell books report the tally to Member English. No formal action was taken.

5. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING GRANT APPLICATIONS - (1-0933.5) Chairperson Kuester said the applications had gone in to NDF who had expressed their disapproval of the way the applications had been filled out. However, she said they still awarded a grant of \$825 for Arbor Day. She added they had also given the Council an award of \$2,000 for the fall tree care seminar. She noted they turned down the spring small tree pruning seminar because that was something they felt the Council could do in conjunction with the Cooperative Extension. She said she, Member Marrone, Mr. Fahrenbruch, and Sandy Tschumperlin of the Parks Department office had worked on an application for City funding adding in a request for funding to have the tree book reprinted. She then asked Members to mark June 9 and 10 on their calendars because the Federal Review Committee will be meeting on these grants and the Council had been invited to attend. No formal action was taken.

6. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON TREE PLANTING SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 19 IN CONJUNCTION WITH CARSON PRIDE WEEK - (1-1102.5) Chairperson Kuester said what has been decided is that the Quality of Life Initiative is going to take the funding they have left, the City is going to put in some funding, and the Council will double it and plant a tree to watch Question #18 grow. Several sites and species had been considered and it was agreed to plant a tree in Mills Park. She said it would be about 9:00 a.m. on April 19 and asked as many of the Members who can to attend. Discussion ensued on what species to plant and Chairperson Kuester said the Quality of Life people wanted something that would be "flamboyant". Discussion ensued on the location and it was agreed it should be planted in an area where it would stand out. Mr. Fahrenbruch suggested that it be somewhere in the loop near the Firemens Memorial and that there is a drip system there. Chairperson Kuester suggested that whoever can should walk the park to see if they can agree on a good location. No formal action was taken.

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7. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON YEARLY REPORT OF CARSON CITY SHADE TREE COUNCIL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - (1-1303.5) Chairperson Kuester said this would be on the agenda for the Board of Supervisors April 17 meeting. She added that each year she goes and lets the Board know of the Council's accomplishments. She added that this year it is very important because of the grant application the Council had submitted to the City. She added that the Tree City USA presentation to the City will again be made. She had provided a list of 16 accomplishments and solicited any further suggestions at this meeting so that they could be added to her presentation to the Board. She had also asked the Members to provide her with their volunteer hours so they could be added to the list. Discussion ensued on what could be included by each Member. No formal action was taken.

1. CONTINUED - Chairperson Kuester returned to this item and noted that the Chamber of Commerce person had not shown up. Member Marrone said he did not like their attitude. Discussion ensued on the pros and cons. Member Young then moved to table the decision on whether to join or not and again ask the Chamber to send someone to a meeting. Member Aragon seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-2. (Member Marrone and Chairperson Kuester voted naye.)

At this point Chairperson Kuester read a letter from Jay Meierdierck into the record. "As one of the founders of the Carson City Shade Tree Council and the first Chairman of the Council I have been a long time supporter of the Council's program of funding. I support the concept of down planning and trees for a better Carson City. It is my understanding that the Shade Tree Council is considering membership in the Carson City Chamber of Commerce. I can think of no more inappropriate use of Shade Tree Council funds or public money than to support the Chamber of Commerce. I see no benefits to the Shade Tree Council for joining an organization such as the Chamber. If the Shade Tree Council is supposed to be a green advocacy group why would they want to associate with such an anti-environment organization. I just cannot comprehend why they would want to waste valuable resources on something like that. I have to base my opinion of the Chamber on its current executive vice president because in actuality he is the Chamber in Carson City. Mr. Osborne, as a member of the Carson City Parks and Recreation Commission, has voted to give away valuable wetlands for no reason. Mr. Osborne has opposed landscaping requirements in public ordinances. He sees no value in good design as indicated in his comments on the pending sign ordinance. He has opposed staff's position for planting and tree management. Mr. Osborne spoke in opposition to the Quality of Life Initiative that included dedicated funding for street trees and beautification. I cannot think of any action that the Chamber of Commerce, or Mr. Larry Osborne in particular, has done to support the ideals or programs of the Shade Tree Council. I think that you and other Shade Tree Council members have many more worthwhile project ideas that can benefit the entire community than to waste public money on this proposal. Jay Meierdierck." Mr. Fahrenbruch then suggested sending a short note to the Chamber telling them when the Council would be meeting again and reminding them they had "stood up" the Council at this meeting and telling them it would be on the next agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None.

REPORTS

1. Parks and Recreation Staff - None. This will be deleted from future agendas because it is in General Discussion.

GENERAL DISCUSSION - Chairperson Kuester asked for an update on Question #18 at the Legislature. She said it had been approved by the Assembly and still needs to go to the Senate. Mr. Fahrenbruch said he had not heard of a date for that but would look into it.

Chairperson Kuester said the next Council meeting would be April 24. She also noted that May 6 is the night that the Parks and Recreation Department will be at the Board of Supervisors budget hearing. She encouraged Members to attend that meeting to give their support.

She also said that Member Young had done some nice advertising for the Council by writing an article for the newspaper.

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She asked that Mr. Fahrenbruch research the terms of Members with City Personnel. He will discuss this with them.

She asked that someone contact the former wild animal center people to find out why the trees are not being maintained.

There being no further business Chairperson Kuester entertained a motion to adjourn. Member English moved to adjourn. Member Young seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0. Chairperson Kuester adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

The Minutes of the March 27, 1997 meeting of the Carson City Shade Tree Council

ARE SO APPROVED _____, 1997

Donna Kuester, Chairperson