

CARSON CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Minutes of the October 5, 2010 Meeting
Page 1

A regular meeting of the Carson City Parks and Recreation Commission was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 5, 2010 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Vice Chairperson Steve Lasco
Commissioner Randy Carlson
Commissioner Sean Lehmann
Commissioner James Smolenski
Commissioner Todd Westergard
Ex-Officio Commissioner Molly Walt

STAFF: Roger Moellendorf, Parks and Recreation Department Director
Vern Krahn, Park Planner
Kristin Luis, Senior Deputy District Attorney
Tamar Warren, Recording Secretary

NOTE: A recording of these proceedings, the commission's agenda materials, and any written comments or documentation provided to the recording secretary during the meeting are part of the public record. These materials are available for review, in the Clerk's Office, during regular business hours.

CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (5:33:25) – Vice Chairperson Lasco called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present. Chairperson Curtis, Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Brod, and Commissioner Livermore were absent.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (5:34:06) - None.

1. **ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - (5:34:17)** – There were no minutes to approve.
2. **MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (5:34:37)** – Vice Chairperson Lasco stated that the Commission would like to have item 4, Agenda Items, precede Item 3, Staff Updates.
3. **STAFF UPDATES - DISCUSSION ONLY - NO DELIBERATION**
 - 3A. **OPENING DAY AT THE URBAN FISHING POND**
 - 3B. **URBAN FISHING POND DEDICATION CEREMONY AND KIDS FISHING DAY SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2010.**
 - 3C. **INSTALLATION OF FOUR ENVIRONMENTAL INTERPRETIVE SIGNS AT FUJI PARK BY THE CLEAR CREEK WATERSHED COUNCIL**
4. **AGENDA ITEMS:**
 - 4-A. **PRESENTATION OF THE CARSON CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S PROMOTIONAL VIDEO. (5:34:58)** – Vice Chairperson Lasco introduced the item and invited Ronni Hannaman, Executive Director, Carson City Chamber of Commerce, to elaborate. Ms. Hannaman thanked the Commission for the opportunity to be there and stated that “the Chamber of Commerce has always been very happy to see how many parks and recreation facilities and open spaces we have in the community”. “It's one of the reasons why people decide to come to Carson City”, she continued. She said that the Chamber had unveiled a new website a month ago, and that for the first time, they had included a video, showcasing the parks and recreation areas, and the open spaces. Ms. Hannaman proceeded to show the newly-created video, which is currently available on the Chamber of Commerce website. She also brought copies of In Focus Magazine, incorporated in the record, which is a Chamber of Commerce publication, and was included in last

CARSON CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the October 5, 2010 Meeting

Page 2

Friday's Nevada Appeal. Ms. Hannaman stated that the magazine highlighted Lone Mountain Cemetery, which shows the history of Carson City.

Vice Chairperson Lasco called for public comments, and several members of the public echoed "bravo" and "excellent".

Vice Chairperson Lasco then called for comments from Commission members. In response to Commissioner Lehmann's inquiry on the target market for the video and where it would be shown, Ms. Hannaman stated that the video was a part of the Chamber of Commerce website. She indicated that this was an "experiment" and that the video would change every six months. She also said that the video was downloadable and could be sent to anyone. Mr. Moellendorf also thanked Ms. Hannaman for the hard work she put into the video and the In Focus publication. He called the Chamber of Commerce an "invaluable partner", and suggested they would not be as far along without its help. Vice Chairman Lasco stated that the Commission echoed the Staff's comments, calling the Chamber "a great partner and a great citizen of Carson City".

4-B. PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION A CONCEPTUAL LAKEVIEW PARK TRAILHEAD DESIGN (5:43:19) – Vice Chairperson Lasco introduced the item. Mr. Moellendorf turned the item over to Mr. Krahn who showed a PowerPoint presentation, introducing the site, the Exhibits of which are incorporated into the record.

In response to Commissioner Westergard's request for clarification, Mr. Krahn stated that the adjacent homeowners felt that these should be pass-through type of improvements, which would allow equestrians to "unload their horses and head up into the back country". Therefore, he continued, they felt no need for a shade structure, benches or lighting. He said that the proposal, as part of a special use permit, was a minimal attempt at development. Mr. Moellendorf added that this was not intended as a destination park, and it was "a pretty good compromise plan", from three plan variations. Commissioner Westergard wondered whether it would be easier to go through the expense of using boulders instead of replacing split-rail fences when damaged. Mr. Krahn agreed that part of the reason for using boulders in the "inside loop" was just that. However, he said, it would take a "boulder wall" to eliminate an off-road motorbike or dirt bike on the outside of the loop. Therefore, he added, the split-rail fence would be more cost-effective in that case. Mr. Moellendorf explained that a split-rail fence was easy to replace and repair, as opposed to a chain-link fence.

Commissioner Lehmann believed this was a "legitimate compromise" which would help out the neighborhood. He also commended "the equestrian folks for ponying up almost half the amount to build it". However, he felt that this was a city facility, so "we've left out everyone else, basically". He stated that "young families are consistently left out. I cannot understand why we can't put just a couple of picnic benches up there, so people can go up there, and bring their Happy Meals up, and eat them there". Commissioner Lehmann indicated that he would like to make a motion to add two picnic benches to said area.

Ex-Officio Commissioner Walt questioned how the other half of this project would be funded. Mr. Moellendorf responded that the project would not be started until all the funding had been secured. He also suggested looking at the commitment by the equestrian group, adding their volunteer labor and his department's in-kind services, and applying for a grant to pay for the balance of the expenses. He also reminded the Commission that the focus of the discussion had been toward equestrian use. He added that the trailhead had been popular with hikers and mountain bikers as well. Mr. Moellendorf clarified that in the 2004-2005 master plan, the highest priority that people placed for outdoor recreational facilities along Carson River, were pathways, trails and connectivity, and that this would go a long way towards connectivity to state park and national forest lands. Ex-Officio Commissioner Walt agreed that this was really a trailhead and not a park, but she wondered whether it would hurt having a few picnic tables for use after riding. She was glad a compromise was reached, but felt it lacked a community. She believed this was different from the 2009 plan brought before the Commission. It was mentioned that in discussion with the residents, they had not requested a destination park, but wanted one that served as a trailhead to the back country. Commissioner Lehmann stated that nothing would change for the hikers, mountain bikers, runners and fishermen, but he believed that "if we're putting taxpayer funds out there, it would be nice if all the taxpayers could at least have some benefit. Not lighting, not bathrooms, not playground

CARSON CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the October 5, 2010 Meeting

Page 3

equipment, but a couple of picnic benches isn't going to be the end of the world up there. In fact they'd be used, and it would be a nice place to go."

Vice Chairperson Lasco was concerned about any exposure to legal action or lack of ADA compliance that would put the city at risk, because there was consideration but no plans for disabled access. Mr. Moellendorf did not believe this was any different from other backcountry access to forest service or state park lands.

In response to Commissioner Lehmann's question about parking, Mr. Krahn stated that the parking would be parallel, because the area was narrow due to homeowner landscaping. He estimated that the area would accommodate seven or eight cars and possibly four or five horse trailers.

Vice Chairperson Lasco entertained public comments. (6:37:20) – Mr. Gil Yanuck, Lakeview resident, thanked Mr. Moellendorf, Mr. Krahn and the Parks and Recreation Department staff. He stated that the equestrian group and the homeowners "did what you'd asked, to get together at numerous meetings". He commented that the area had been a natural park for forty years, with no amenities, prior to Lakeview being created as a subdivision. He believed it was adequate and it worked, and that it was still working; however, it was somewhat self-limiting. He was concerned that throughout the discussions in the past several months, whether this would be turned into an equestrian park, or whether it would be called a natural park had not come up. He believed that having horses move through the park would leave horse waste, which would not be conducive to having a picnic, surrounded by that "evidence". He was worried that if the public brought dogs with them, the interaction between dogs and horses might become a problem. He believed that a trailhead where trailers could be parked and horses would pass through was what was envisioned, not having a corral and facilities inside the park. He thought that the Parks and Recreation Department had accommodated as many people as practical, and he appreciated that. The only issue of contention, he added, was to keep horses out of the park, ensuring they only passed through, and stated that this was what they had been doing already. It was asked where the term "corral" was used, and Mr. Yanuck clarified that it was not in the Staff Report, however, he would like to have a sign posted stating "that this is not an equestrian park. It's a trailhead pass through to get to the back country." In response to historical access to the park, Mr. Yanuck stated that he had lived in the area for 13 years, and had never seen horses "mulling around the main part of the park". Mr. Moellendorf believed that the park use would not change, but would become more formalized, with the proposed improvements.

(6:46:43) – Commissioners Carlson and Smolenski left the meeting at 6:46 p.m. A quorum was no longer present.

4-C. ACTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS A NAME FOR THE URBAN FISHING POND LOCATED AT FUJI PARK

4-D. PRESENTATION ONLY REGARDING THE FOUNDATION FOR THE BETTERMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION AWARDS

4-E. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE CARSON CITY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S RECENT "SMOKE FREE PARKS AND EVENTS SURVEY"

4-F. DISCUSSION ONLY AND AN UPDATE REGARDING THE POSSIBLE LODGING TAX INCREASE UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE CARSON CITY CONVENTION AND VISITOR'S BUREAU

5. COMMISSIONERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

5-A. REPORT FROM SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

CARSON CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the October 5, 2010 Meeting

Page 4

7. **ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT** (6:46:43) – The meeting was adjourned due to loss of quorum.

The Minutes of the October 5, 2010 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting are so approved this 9th day of November, 2010.

DONNA CURTIS, Chair