

**CARSON CITY SHADE TREE COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the August 4, 2010 Meeting**  
**Page 1**

A regular meeting of the Carson City Shade Tree Council was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 4, 2010, in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Lee-Ann Keever  
Vice Chairperson Gianna Shirk  
Member Carole Brewer  
Member Kyle Horvath  
Member Terrill Ozawa  
Member Jens Peermann  
Member Roy Trenoweth

**STAFF:** Roger Moellendorf, Parks and Recreation Department Director  
Tamar Warren, Recording Secretary

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

**CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (5:30:09) -** Chairperson Keever called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Member Peermann arrived at 5:37 p.m. Member Ozawa arrived at 5:38 p.m. Vice Chairperson Shirk arrived at 5:48 and left at 6:40 p.m. Chairperson Keever noted, for the record, that, at the last meeting, Vice Chairperson Shirk, Member Horvath, and Member Trenoweth were all absent as excused.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (5:31:19) – None.**

**1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES (5:31:31) – Member Brewer moved to accept the minutes of the June 2, 2010 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Member Trenoweth. The motion carried 4-0.**

**2. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (5:32:03) – None.**

**3. AGENDA ITEMS:**

**A. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ABSENCE OF ANY COUNCIL MEMBER FROM THIS MEETING (5:32:20) –** Chairperson Keever introduced the item, noting that it had been previously covered.

**B. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET AND THE BUDGET SHORTFALL FACING CARSON CITY IN FISCAL YEAR 2011 (5:32:35) –** Chairperson Keever introduced this item and invited Mr. Moellendorf to explain how this would impact the Council. Mr. Moellendorf gave background on some of the budget cut measures that the Parks and Recreation Department had put in place. One of the first ones, he said, was that the

**CARSON CITY SHADE TREE COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the August 4, 2010 Meeting**  
**Page 2**

number of advisory committee meetings had been cut to reduce cost. He stated that the Shade Tree Council and the Carson River Advisory Committee meeting frequencies have been reduced, while the Open Space Advisory Committee and the Parks and Recreation Commission were meeting once-per-month. He also explained that now there is one meeting room setup for all other meetings, similar to that of the Board of Supervisors meetings, to reduce set up costs. He also said that they had reduced staff in the area of Community Center operations, as they were saving 1-2 hours setting rooms up for different meetings. Mr. Moellendorf went on to explain that they had lost staff in the area of Theater operations, cutting back on services to organizations that put on cultural productions in the theater, which, he was certain, would cause some discomfort for the organizations using the theater. He thanked the Shade Tree Council for offering their assistance to reduce costs, and said they would be used as a test case for e-mailed agendas, which would save time in copying and compiling packets. He also stated that they had lost 3 staff members, and had reassigned and cross trained the remaining office support staff. He thanked the Council for being the first committee to go electronic.

Mr. Moellendorf said that an “adopt a park” program had been introduced, which had received a lot of community interest. He cited Steinheimer Park, Fulstone Wetlands, Northridge Linear Park, Blackwells Pond Park and Treadway Park as successes of the “adopt a park” program. He added that simple things such as weeding and mulching the flower beds, cleaning the playground equipment and restrooms, and picking up dog waste had been a great advantage for the department. Chairperson Keever called for questions or comments, and hearing none, thanked Mr. Moellendorf for working with the Council and offered the Council’s support. In response to Member Horvath’s question on whether any commissions or boards would be consolidated, Mr. Moellendorf said “we don’t know what’s ahead of us in a budget year”. “If things got really bad”, he continued, “It would be very difficult for us to host and help facilitate meetings at the same level we are doing right now”. He also said that all the recommendations by his department would have to be approved by the Board of Supervisors.

**C. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE 2010 FALL TREE CARE SEMINAR (5:43:08)** – Chairperson Keever introduced the item and stated that they had a booking and a confirmation thanks to Member Trenoweth. In response to Member Brewer’s question about the event date, Chairperson Keever announced that the event would take place on Wednesday, November 3, 2010, from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. She explained that the date was chosen because it was the week before the Veteran’s Day holiday. She hoped for good weather and turnout. Chairperson Keever went on to say that she had read in the newspaper about Las Vegas receiving \$400,000 in stimulus funds for tree planting. She wanted to invite someone from the Nevada Division of Forestry to see how this Council could get involved. Member Horvath clarified that the funds were to create jobs and train Hispanic workers on how to plant trees. He also thought that it showed “there is money out there”. Chairperson Keever stated that if the Council did not object, she would contact the Nevada Division of Forestry to see if they could make a presentation at the Fall Tree Care Seminar. She also said that she would like to invite the Sacramento Shade Tree Initiative members as guest speakers at the seminar.

(5:46:09) – Chairperson Keever stated that a guest from Nevada Energy’s arbor department was confirmed as a presenter. In addition, she continued, Tom Henderson would do a hands-on tree trimming presentation. Member Brewer said that she would handle the catering. She also wanted clarification on how to check the arborists’ certifications, which would entail signing the attendance

## CARSON CITY SHADE TREE COUNCIL

### Minutes of the August 4, 2010 Meeting

#### Page 3

sheet at the end of the seminar, including their ISA numbers, in order to receive their continuing education credits. Discussion ensued regarding lowering the \$75 attendance fee. Chairperson Kever stated that this was their primary fund raising activity, and that they usually have between 50 and 75 attendees. Member Horvath recommended a tiered admission price. He suggested charging \$55 for early registrants, \$65 for later registrants, and \$75 at the door. Member Ozawa suggested a motion, and Member Peermann wanted to understand how the event would be advertised. Chairperson Kever stated that they send flyers, do a press release and post on Craigslist.org. She also suggested leaving flyers at locations such as the Greenhouse Garden Center. She confirmed that they had a database of former attendees and other potential attendees. **Member Horvath moved that the Fall Tree Care Seminar offer a three-tier pay schedule: An early-early registration fee of \$55 until the end of September, an early registration fee of \$65 during the month of October, and late registration, from November 1 until the day of the seminar, of \$75, in order to promote an increased activity in the Seminar. The motion was seconded by Member Ozawa. The motion carried 6-0.** Member Brewer recommended that the council have an ISA-certified list for landscape professionals who trim trees. Mr. Moellendorf suggested that this become a future agenda item. Chairperson Kever suggested asked Member Ozawa whether she would do a puzzle. Member Ozawa suggested a word jumble with tree names, but it was agreed that no outside help, such as iPhones or laptops, could be used during the challenge part of the seminar.

**D. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE SHADE TREE COUNCIL'S ART TREE PROJECT AND TREE INITIATIVE (5:56:53)** – Chairperson Kever introduced the item saying that Vice Chairperson Shirk and Member Horvath were the ones working on this initiative, and asked for a progress report. Member Horvath shared the Canopy the City Program proposal, which is incorporated in the record, as a work-in-progress to be proposed to the Board of Supervisors. He stated that the goal of the program is “to benefit the citizens and businesses of, and visitors to the area by increasing the tree inventory of Carson City by 10,000 trees over the next five years”. Chairperson Kever asked for clarification regarding the council’s involvement. Member Horvath suggested following the greenprint elements outlined by Sacramento and Las Vegas, also incorporated in the record. Member Ozawa questioned whether Las Vegas had enough water to care for the number of trees they were proposing. Member Horvath answered that since Las Vegas was very hot, they needed trees. Member Ozawa also expressed concern about having enough water in Carson City to support planting 10,000 trees. Member Trenoweth cited a federal law stating that people with less than 1 acre of land could not be offered trees purchased from the State Tree Nursery. Member Horvath said he envisioned mature trees around bike paths and freeways, and thought it would be a great idea to involve landscape companies to adopt a project. He said that the volunteers would play a key role in increasing Carson City’s tree inventory, since they would plant the trees themselves but would have them significantly cheaper, if not free. Member Horvath said that he had consulted with Susan Stead, from the Nevada Division of Forestry, about the water issue. He relayed that Ms. Stead was excited about the project but had suggested making it attainable, which he concluded it would be, since they are working with 2,000 trees per year. He continued that Phase II of the project would entail a monument, in the form of an art piece, tying the projects together. He stated that he had received a breakdown from an artist for \$50,000 to \$80,000, or \$12,000-a- year in grant funding.

**CARSON CITY SHADE TREE COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the August 4, 2010 Meeting**  
**Page 4**

(6:16:52) – Chairperson Kever called for questions or comments. In response to Member Peermann’s question on whether the council had only approved the art tree project, Chairperson Kever believed both projects were approved as one, but offered to research the past minutes to determine the council’s action. Member Peermann also wanted to know how many total trees were in Carson City and Chairperson Kever thought assigning a volunteer, such as a boy scout going for a badge, would enable such a count. Member Peermann liked the idea and wanted to put it on a future agenda. Chairperson Kever reminded the Council that a gentleman by the name of Rex Harold, now with Esmeralda County, had once done a count. Member Brewer thought she may see Mr. Harold at a meeting, so she would ask him. Another thought was to invite the participants of the Fall Tree Care Seminar as supervisors or participants, in exchange for continuing education units. Member Ozawa suggested having a speaker at the Fall Tree Care Seminar on inventorying trees, and Chairperson Kever thought that could be something the Sacramento Tree Initiative speakers could provide. Member Horvath suggested inviting someone from the Nevada Division of Forestry. Chairperson Kever agreed to contact Ms. Stead regarding the tree inventory process. Mr. Moellendorf thought a consideration would be to train the scouts not just in counting, but identifying the species and their current conditions. Chairperson Kever asked Vice Chairperson Shirk and Member Horvath to continue updating the Council at future meetings, and suggested making the project a standing agenda item.

**E. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE SHADE TREE COUNCIL’S GOALS FOR 2010-2011** (:6:28:11) – Chairperson Kever introduced the item regarding the goals, which is incorporated in the record. Discussion ensued on the achieved goals, and it was suggested that goal #7 could be achieved by involving the scouts. Mr. Moellendorf thought it would be a good start to limit the tree count to Mills Park for the time being. Chairperson Kever believed the tree at 755 Roop Street needed to be recognized, since the building was built around a Hackberry tree. Member Ozawa suggested that the water master might have a basic inventory of city trees, which could be used to estimate the amount of water each tree uses. Chairperson Kever asked input on the accomplishments, and Member Brewer said that they had done well and that they should continue to work on them. Member Peermann addressed topping and pruning damages done to the trees by the power companies who had to trim more severely, in order not to damage power lines. He suggested advising the Board of Supervisors to consider underground power lines, hence saving the power companies tree topping costs and maintenance. Member Horvath suggested writing a council-sponsored letter to the power company, expressing their opinion and availing themselves for future consultation. Mr. Moellendorf suggesting having NV Energy present at a future meeting, but cautioned that this suggestion could be very expensive. He wondered if boring could also cause any root damage. In response to Chairperson Kever’s question on having underground power lines for all new developments, Mr. Moellendorf offered to check with the Planning Division and report back. Chairperson Kever said she would contact the NV Energy arborist and invite him to a future meeting. It was also agreed that Member Peermann and Mr. Moellendorf would meet with the Planning Division prior to the next meeting. Chairperson Kever agreed to accompany them if she could, but also asked Member Peermann to keep the Council updated. Chairperson Kever responded to Member Horvath’s question by confirming that the standards were set for the Landmark Tree Recognition Program.

**CARSON CITY SHADE TREE COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the August 4, 2010 Meeting**

**Page 5**

**F. DISCUSSION ONLY ON THE BROCHURE APPROVED BY THE CARSON CITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS INFORMING TREE CARE PROFESSIONALS (AND POSSIBLY THE GENERAL PUBLIC) OF INFORMATION RELATING TO CARSON CITY'S TREES, THE NEWLY-ADOPTED LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS, AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE BROCHURE.** (6:41:32) – Chairperson Kever introduced the item and said that she, along with Member Peermann, had attended the June 17, 2010 Board of Supervisors meeting, and that the Board was very receptive to the brochure. Member Peermann reported on the distribution of the 20,000 brochures, which is incorporated in the record. He stated that Lowe's had thrown away the brochures because they were not approved by "corporate." Member Brewer suggested that Chairperson Kever contact Lowe's to express the Council's displeasure. Member Horvath suggested trying to understand their corporate policy. He also offered to take a few brochures to the Starbucks stores around the city. Chairperson Kever thanked Member Peermann and confirmed that the brochures would be included in the August water bills.

**G. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING NOTIFICATION FROM SUSAN STEAD, CONSERVATION STAFF SPECIALIST FROM THE NEVADA DIVISION OF FORESTRY'S URBAN FORESTRY PROGRAM, THAT THE CITY OF CARSON CITY IS THE OWNER OF THREE CHAMPION TREES.** (6:49:00) – Chairperson Kever introduced the item, which is incorporated in the record. She congratulated the Parks and Recreation Department since the trees were located in City rights-of-way. Member Ozawa offered to photograph these trees and try and have them at the next meeting. Mr. Moellendorf indicated that he was surprised by the notification, and said that the master list of the Champion Trees in the State of Nevada included quite a few on private properties in Carson City. He offered to compile a list of all the Carson City trees for a future meeting.

**4. NON-ACTION ITEMS**

**STATUS REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM STAFF** (6:51:55) - None

**MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION**

(6:52:04) – Member Horvath reminded the Council that he and his wife are expecting a baby in five days. Member Ozawa suggested having several challenges at the Fall Shade Tree Seminar. Chairperson Kever announced that her family had moved. She also suggested that the Council take a tour of the parks and see the trees. Mr. Moellendorf suggested doing it next spring. Chairperson Kever asked what was being done with the stumps of the storm-damaged trees. Mr. Moellendorf believed they would be cut flush or ground out.

**5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** (6:54:06) – Previously covered.

**6. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT** (6:54:12) – Member Ozawa moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Member Horvath and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

**CARSON CITY SHADE TREE COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the August 4, 2010 Meeting**  
**Page 6**

The Minutes of the August 4, 2010 Carson City Shade Tree Council meeting are so approved this 6<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2010.

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LEE-ANN KEEVER, Chair