

CARSON CITY SHADE TREE COUNCIL
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A regular meeting of the Carson City Shade Tree Council was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6, 2011, in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Lee-Ann Keever
Vice Chairperson Kyle Horvath
Member Carole Brewer
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's Office, and available for review during regular business hours.

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (5:31:11) – Chairperson Keever called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Member Shirk was absent as excused.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (5:32:11) – None

1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES (5:32:40) – Chairperson Keever offered the option of taking the time to read the previous meeting's minutes, which were received that day, or postponing the approval until the following meeting. **Member Ozawa moved to postpone the reading of the minutes of the February 2, 2011 meeting. The motion was seconded by Member Peermann and carried 6-0.**

(5:32:50) – Chairperson Keever explained that three newly-reappointed council members had erroneously made or seconded motions, and voted on several motions during the last meeting. She consulted Mr. Moellendorf on how to rectify the situation. Mr. Moellendorf advised re-stating the motions made and seconded by the new members. He also suggested re-voting on any items that would not have constituted a quorum after removing the votes by the new members. It was agreed to have the items in question re-agendized for the June meeting.

2. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (5:38:45) – None.

3. AGENDA ITEMS:

A. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ABSENCE OF ANY COUNCIL MEMBER FROM THIS MEETING. (5:38:52) – Member Shirk was absent as excused.

B. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE COUNCIL'S LIAISON DUTIES FOR 2011. (5:39:09) – Chairperson Keever introduced the item and suggested reviewing a document, compiled by her and outlining Council members' liaison duties, in the June meeting. **Member Peermann moved to postpone this agenda item until the June meeting. The motion was seconded by member Ozawa. Motion carried 6-0.**

C. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING 2011 ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION IN CARSON CITY. (5:39:50) – Chairperson Keever introduced the item. She stated that the event would be held on April 29, 2011 and reminded the Council that at the last meeting they had selected Capital Beverages as the recipient for the 2011 George Washington Ferris Award. She added that the recipient was very happy to be present that day. She also announced that Mike Tanachek would order the actual award, and that she was working on a press release and posters.

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Mr. Moellendorf confirmed that he would be ordering the tree. Chairperson Keever stated that the Governor's Web site did not contain a proclamation for Arbor Day, and said she would contact the State Forrester to ensure a request had been made, and if not, she would request one on behalf of the Council. Mr. Moellendorf agreed to contact the Mayor's Office for the City proclamation. Chairperson Keever also suggested e-mailing the flyer she would create to Council members for distribution. Vice Chairperson Horvath agreed to send a flyer to the School District for distribution to the schools. Chairperson Keever also suggested including pictures of trees at Capital Beverages in the flyer, as they had bloomed beautifully. Mr. Moellendorf assured that bleachers would be available at Governors Field, where the Arbor Day Celebration would take place. Chairperson Keever also suggested hanging the Tree City USA flag, and mentioned that they had been awarded the Tree City USA Award for the 19th consecutive year. It was also confirmed that Smokey the Bear would be present. In the form of public comment, Jed Block suggested doing a Public Service Announcement (PSA) with the Nevada Appeal. In response to a question by Member Brewer, Chairperson Keever stated that she would be contacting the members of the legislature and the City officials. She also stated that Assemblyman Livermore had agreed to present the George Washington Ferris Award. Member Horvath offered to contact Carson City Access TV as well.

D. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A TREE INVENTORY OF CARSON CITY'S URBAN FOREST. (5:46:03) – Chairperson Keever introduced the item. Vice Chairperson Horvath revealed the results of his research, stating that he had narrowed them down to two options. The first, he said, was to purchase a GPS, computer-compatible program, inventory the trees on foot, and enter the data manually. The second, according to Vice Chairperson Horvath, was to hire a third-party company to inventory the trees for an average of \$50 per tree. Discussion ensued regarding the expensive undertaking. Mr. Moellendorf reminded the Council that a tree inventory needed experts in tree identification, and age and health assessment. He also suggested utilizing interns. Member Horvath proposed inventorying small sections of the City each year. A partnership with NV Energy was discussed, and it was suggested requesting inventory information via a survey accompanying energy bills. Mr. Moellendorf and Vice Chairperson Horvath recommended using areal photos to identify trees as a percentage of the City's canopy, to determine a baseline to work with. Mr. Block suggested conducting a tree care seminar on Access TV for the general public. Chairperson Keever advised having this item on the June 1, 2011 meeting agenda. Mr. Moellendorf proposed looking into the existing areal photos and reporting back.

E. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE COUNCIL'S WEB PAGES ON CARSON CITY'S WEB SITE. (6:16:15) – Chairperson Keever introduced the item. She stated that the meeting between Mr. Moellendorf, Member Peermann, Vice Chairperson Horvath, and herself had not yet taken place. She suggested continuing the item in June.

F. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A PROPOSED ORDINANCE REQUIRING ALL TREE CARE PROFESSIONALS DOING BUSINESS IN CARSON CITY TO HAVE AT LEAST ONE ARBORIST CRTIFIED BY THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ABORICULTURE ON STAFF. (6:16:59) – Chairperson Keever introduced the item. Mr. Moellendorf read a memorandum, incorporated into the record, from Lee Plemel, Planning Director. Mr. Plemel, who was unable to attend this meeting, expressed concern regarding checking licenses other than those mandated by the state. He also stated their inability to check expirations and ensure compliance, as the City could not regulate homeowners trimming their own trees or hiring non-licensed trimmers for the job. Member Peermann suggested soliciting feedback during the next Fall Tree Care Seminar. Chairperson Keever and Vice Chairperson Horvath suggested soliciting public input via an e-mail survey of tree care professionals. Discussion ensued on education versus enforcement. It was agreed to continue this item in the June meeting.

G. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A PROPOSED ORDINANCE REQUIRING A PERMIT TO BE ISSUES TO A PROPERTY OWNER BEFORE HE/SHE COULD BUILD A TREE HOUSE ON HIS/HER PROPERTY. (6:37:14) – Chairperson Keever introduced the item. She gave a specific example of a tree in her neighborhood, with a tree house, and branches growing into the power lines. Mr. Moellendorf read Mr. Plemel's comments, incorporated into the record, on this agenda item as well. Mr. Plemel recommended Mr. Kevin Gattis, Carson City Chief Building Official, address the building code issue, as he believed this was a building and safety issue more than a tree issue. Member Peermann

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believed that the tree houses would be considered playgrounds versus buildings. Chairperson Keever indicated that the proposed ordinance was based on a California law. Member Ozawa suggested inviting Mr. Gattis to the June meeting. Member Peermann suggested not requiring a permit, but making property occupants aware of the safety requirements that must be met. It was agreed to continue this item in the June meeting.

Member Peermann left at 6:48.

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS

STATUS REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM STAFF – None

MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION (6:49:25) – Member Ozawa disclosed that her neighbor had donated two Pyracanthas to the Carson City Library. Chairperson Keever reported that she had inspected the trees being trimmed at NDOT and was happy with the results.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (6:51:08)

- Planning for the 2011 Fall Tree Care Seminar
- Shade Tree Council Budget Monitoring
- Public Tree Care Seminar
- Canopy Tree Inventory

6. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (6:52:11) – **Member Ozawa moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairperson Horvath. Motion carried 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.**

The Minutes of the April 6, 2011 Carson City Shade Tree Council meeting are so approved this 1st day of June, 2011.

LEE-ANN KEEVER, Chair