

CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the October 1, 2003 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 1, 2003 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Charles Zimmerman
Vice Chairperson Paul Pugsley
Dan Greytak
Mark McCubbin
Randy Pahl

STAFF: Steve Kastens, Parks and Recreation Director
Juan Guzman, Open Space Manager
Vern Krahn, Parks Planner
Kathleen King, Recording Secretary

NOTE: A tape recording of these proceedings is on file in the Clerk-Recorder's Office and is available for review during regular business hours.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL (1-0008) - Chairperson Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present. Members Farrer and Johnson were absent.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (1-0014) - None.

1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - September 3, 2003 (1-0021) - Discussion took place regarding statements attributed to Vice Chairperson Pugsley on page 3. Member Greytak moved to accept the minutes. Vice Chairperson Pugsley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (1-0048) - None.

3. AGENDA ITEMS:

3-A. PRESENTATION OF THE 2003 CARSON RIVER AWARDS TO: CARSON CITY FIELD OFFICE, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT; KIWANIS CLUB OF CARSON CITY; AND JACK AND CHARLENE FOERSCHLER (1-0050) - Chairperson Zimmerman presented an award plaque to John Singlaub of the Bureau of Land Management Carson City Field Office on behalf of the Committee. He commended Mr. Singlaub and the Carson City Field Office staff for their fine work and in appreciation of their efforts, including participation in the development and implementation of the Silver Saddle Ranch Management Plan; joint creation, with Carson City, of the Silver Saddle Ranch Wetlands; joint management, with Carson City, of the Ambrose Natural Area; participation in educational programs, such as "Trout in the Classroom"; and acquisition of environmentally sensitive lands in and around Carson City. Mr. Singlaub thanked Chairperson Zimmerman and the Committee.

Chairperson Zimmerman called for the Carson City Kiwanis Club representative; however, none was present. He expressed appreciation to the Carson City Kiwanis Club for their efforts, including the establishment and organization of the annual Carson River Cleanup Day which, since it began in 1990, has successfully removed over 123 tons of debris from the Carson River area. Mr. Kastens accepted the award plaque on behalf of the Kiwanis Club and advised he would see to its delivery.

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Chairperson Zimmerman presented an award plaque to Jack and Charlene Foerschler. On behalf of Planning and Community Development Director Walter Sullivan, Mr. Krahn expressed appreciation for the Foerschlers' efforts. Chairperson Zimmerman noted that Mr. and Mrs. Foerschler were founding members of the Committee, and advised that they participated in developing the Carson River master plan element. He expressed appreciation to the Foerschlers for their time and efforts in the past. Mr. and Mrs. Foerschler thanked Chairperson Zimmerman and the Committee.

3-B. PRESENTATION ONLY REGARDING THE CARSON CITY WEED COALITION'S STRATEGIC PLAN (1-0122) - Weed Management Area Coordinator Lori Bellis, of the Nevada Department of Agriculture, advised that she was hired a year ago to assist local groups in Nevada in establishing cooperative weed management areas. She narrated a PowerPoint presentation on weed control issues, which included an overview of the problems associated with noxious weeds; methods by which noxious weeds are spread; the legal definition of noxious weeds; responsibilities over noxious weed control; the purpose and definition of a cooperative weed management area; established noxious weeds along the Carson River; and background information on the Carson City Weed Coalition, available funding, future plans, and contact information.

In response to a question, Ms. Bellis provided information on the progress of weed management area groups in neighboring counties. In response to a further question, she advised that a meeting is scheduled to discuss how to allocate the \$15,000 Carson Water Subconservancy grant. Mr. Krahn provided background information on the Committee's interest in addressing noxious weeds along the River corridor. He thanked Ms. Bellis for her presentation.

3-C. PRESENTATION AND UPDATE ONLY REGARDING THE BIO-ENGINEERING STREAMBANK STABILIZATION PROJECT AT THE AMBROSE CARSON RIVER NATURAL AREA (1-0735) - Vice Chairperson Pugsley advised of technical difficulties with the slide presentation and suggested deferring it to a future meeting. Chairperson Zimmerman suggested reagendaizing this item for the next Committee meeting.

3-D. ACTION TO CONSIDER AND PRIORITIZE POTENTIAL ACQUISITION OF LANDS BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE SOUTHERN NEVADA PUBLIC LANDS MANAGEMENT ACT IN THE VICINITY OF THE CARSON RIVER, INCLUDING APNs 10-011-16 COMSTOCK; 10-121-35 BULIN AND HOLLINGSWORTH; 10-502-01 DESORMIER; AND 10-281-41 AND -42 BENTLY (1-0400) - Mr. Guzman reviewed the staff report and pointed out the subject properties on a displayed map. He reviewed the criteria by which properties are nominated for purchase through the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act ("SNPLMA"), including environmental sensitivity, willing sellers, and concurrence by the local government. He advised that all the necessary criteria has been established for the subject parcels. He referred to the field trip which took place Saturday, September 28th and included members of the Open Space Advisory Committee. He described the characteristics of the properties, including that all of them have some measure of River frontage, scenic views, and riparian habitat.

In response to a question, Mr. Guzman described the method by which the properties were prioritized. He responded to additional questions regarding the SNPLMA process. He anticipates that since recent land sales have yielded approximately 3-4 times more revenue than usually estimated, it is very likely all the nominated properties will be purchased. Member McCubbin expressed concerns over long-term ownership

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of the land, and Mr. Guzman explained the provisions of the SNPLMA which prohibit future sale of properties to private owners. In response to a comment, Mr. Guzman acknowledged that the Bernhard property was purchased in 2000 and nominated for purchase by the Bureau of Land Management from the City's Open Space Program. He noted that the property meets all the criteria of the Open Space Program. Selling the property to the BLM would provide for more feasible management since the BLM owns the land which surrounds the property. Member McCubbin reiterated concern that there are no guarantees prohibiting future sale of the land. In response to a question, Mr. Guzman advised that the land surrounding Prison Hill will be owned by the BLM, not by the City. In response to a comment, Mr. Guzman advised that the land will be purchased with the encumbrance of the existing access road.

In response to a question, Mr. Guzman advised that this item will be presented to the Open Space Advisory Committee following this meeting. He reviewed the process by which the item will progress through the pertinent advisory committees and eventually to the Board of Supervisors. He acknowledged that the item was submitted to the Committee because of the time table involved in the SNPLMA process. In response to a further question, he explained the cost prohibitive difficulties inherent in negotiating land trades. He advised that considerably more land would be needed in order to make a land trade economically feasible in this situation.

Member Pahl expressed appreciation for the tour conducted by Mr. Guzman last Saturday to view the subject properties. He expressed a preference for lands adjacent to the River to be publicly, rather than privately, owned in order to more easily facilitate management of the River corridor. **Member Pahl moved to recommend nomination, for purchase through Round 5 of the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act, the following properties along the Carson River: Comstock, APN 10-011-16; Bulin and Hollingsworth, APN 10-121-35; Desormier, APN 10-502-01; and Bently, APNs 10-281-41 and -42. Member Greytak seconded the motion.** Mr. Guzman acknowledged that the Bulin and Hollingsworth properties have been added back to the list of nominations. He explained that because of access issues, the appraised value of the properties was approximately half that of the adjacent properties and the owners consequently refused the offer. As the Bureau of Land Management acquires the adjacent properties, the appraiser will take into consideration that acquiring legal access will be more feasible. The property value will, therefore, increase to a value comparable to the adjacent properties. Mr. Guzman discussed the possibility of purchasing some of the parcels with Question #1 funds in the meantime of the SNPLMA process. Chairperson Zimmerman called for additional comments or questions and, when none were forthcoming, a vote on the pending motion. **Motion carried 4-1.**

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS:

STATUS REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS (1-0750) - In response to a question, Mr. Krahn provided an overview of the revised agenda format. (1-0937) Vice Chairperson Pugsley advised that the Carson Valley Conservation District has scheduled a river work day on November 8th at the River Fork Ranch. A seminar sponsored by the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection, the Carson Valley Conservation District, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and others, has been scheduled to develop a water quality education program through the schools.

STATUS REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM STAFF - None.

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FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS (1-0773) - Mr. Krahn discussed various options for upcoming Committee meetings. Chairperson Zimmerman suggested scheduling a workshop in lieu of the November or December meetings to discuss areas of interest related to the Committee, such as recreation, wildlife, environmental issues, etc. and, in turn, designating a Committee member to support that area of interest relative to the Carson River Master Plan element. In addition, the workshop could focus on establishing goals and priorities for the coming year. Discussion took place with regard to designating Committee liaisons to other pertinent committees and groups, and differences between a formal meeting and a workshop. Chairperson Zimmerman suggested scheduling a presentation by Kevin Piper on river restoration projects at the same time item 3-C is agendized.

Member Greytak advised that the Division of State Lands has hired a Question #1 administrator, Kevin Hill. He suggested inviting Mr. Hill to present information to the Committee. Mr. Krahn advised of an upcoming meeting scheduled with Mr. Hill, Vice Chairperson Pugsley, and Mr. Guzman to discuss the Question #1 application process. In response to a question, Vice Chairperson Pugsley discussed the tentative Question #1 application and funding time table. (1-0965) Mr. Krahn provided an overview of the tentative agenda for the November meeting.

5. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (1-0975) - Vice Chairperson Pugsley moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 p.m. Member Pahl seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The Minutes of the October 1, 2003 meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee are so approved this 3rd day of December, 2003.

CHARLES ZIMMERMAN, Chair