

CARSON CITY OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the June 16, 2003 Meeting

Page 1

A regular meeting of the Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 16, 2003 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Steve Hartman
Vice Chairperson Dan Jacquet
Laura Bird
Margaret Robinson

STAFF: Steve Kastens, Parks and Recreation Director
Juan Guzman, Open Space Manager
Mary Margaret Madden, Deputy District Attorney
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 and inspection during regular business hours.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL (1-0007) - Chairperson Hartman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was present. Members Fischer, Riedl, and Scott were absent.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (1-0012) - None.

1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - May 19, 2003 (1-0013) - Member Robinson moved to approve the minutes. Vice Chairperson Jacquet seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (1-0036) - None.

3. AGENDA ITEMS:

3-A. ACTION TO CONSIDER AND PRIORITIZE POTENTIAL ACQUISITIONS AND CONSERVATION EASEMENTS AS WELL AS POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES, INCLUDING THE USE OF STATE BALLOT INITIATIVE QUESTION #1, AS PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED BY THE ADOPTED OPEN SPACE OPPORTUNITY MAPS OF CARSON CITY (1-0038) - Mr. Guzman reviewed the staff report and the attached Question #1 Projects and Funding Sources matrix. He discussed and pointed out the listed properties on the displayed Open Space Opportunities Map. Chairperson Hartman discussed federal funding opportunities and requested Mr. Guzman to include these as part of the matrix. Mr. Guzman advised that Parks and Recreation Department staff has been working on a second matrix of potential match funding sources. He explained the purpose of the attached matrix was to demonstrate the possibility of using recreation/trails, acquisition, and habitat conservation funding. He advised that Division of State Lands Director Pam Wilcox had expressed the opinion that it would be inappropriate to use the same funding source more than once. He suggested that once the Question #1 administrative regulations are adopted, federal funding will be more likely accepted as a match source.

Mr. Kastens provided an overview of the potential funding sources matrix, and advised that it includes a sportsmen's organizations category. Mr. Guzman suggested beginning to assemble projects in a systematic and comprehensive fashion, i.e., acquisition of a property in conjunction with trails, staging areas, facilities,

CARSON CITY OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the June 16, 2003 Meeting

Page 2

etc.; including memoranda of understanding, when necessary, with such agencies as the U.S. Forest Service; identifying funding sources for management plans, etc. Member Bird expressed support for this concept. In response to a question, Mr. Guzman advised that Ms. Wilcox has estimated the first bonds will be sold at the end of summer 2003. Applications will be due in approximately September. Mr. Guzman explained that the time frames reflected in the matrix represent a best guess in terms of ongoing negotiations with property owners. Member Bird suggested that referencing larger projects and cooperating with other agencies to apply for funding for different portions of the same project will appeal to the Division of State Lands Director.

In response to a question, Mr. Guzman explained that Question #1 requires consultation with NDOW on habitat conservation programs. Chairperson Hartman requested Mr. Guzman to add a category which indicates acreage. He agreed with Member Bird's earlier comments with regard to considering the projects in groups. Discussion took place regarding conservation easement acquisitions. Mr. Guzman advised that staff will continue working to group properties with the purpose of advancing projects. **Vice Chairperson Jacquet moved to direct the Open Space Manager to organize the matrix into projects and to prioritize the projects and prioritize within the projects in relationship to Question #1 funding. Member Bird seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.**

(1-0582) In response to a question, Mr. Kastens suggested possible groupings of the listed properties. Discussion took place with regard to the same, and Mr. Kastens suggested briefly recessing the meeting in order that staff could group the properties according to the direction of the Committee. Member Bird acknowledged the Committee's priorities as designated by the Open Space Master Plan element, and pointed out that the Committee has indicated in the past that since a significant amount of funding and effort has been expended in the area of the River, perhaps some focus should be directed to some of the other areas identified in the Open Space plan. Chairperson Hartman agreed and noted that the Committee is always looking for targets of opportunity. [Chairperson Hartman recessed the meeting at 6:42 p.m. and reconvened at 6:46 p.m.] Mr. Guzman provided an overview of the method by which he and Mr. Kastens grouped the properties. He pointed out the groupings geographically using the displayed Open Space Opportunities Map. Mr. Kastens reviewed the groupings, as follows:

- Upper Voltaire/Kings Canyons: Fagen, Swafford, Hutchinson;
- Lower Kings Canyon: Andersen;
- Between Ash and Kings Canyon: Long, Schultz, Darling;
- Along the River: Jarrard/Anderson, Serpa, Comstock, Bently, Eagle Valley Creek;
- Lower Ash Canyon: Leid, Joost, Adams, Masonic Lodge;
- C-Hill: Stanton Park;
- Combs Canyon: Wagner, Wise, Casey, Serpa, Timberline, Eagle Valley Creek at its origin

Member Bird suggested allowing each Committee member to submit a prioritization of the groups for review and consideration by the full Committee. Vice Chairperson Jacquet suggested sticking with the master plan priority designations. Member Bird suggested that the matrix is not exactly concurrent with the priorities of the master plan. She commented that a significant amount of effort has been invested in facilitating the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act nominations, and suggested that the Committee has a responsibility to not focus only on the River. She expressed support for concentrating on the Sierra Front accesses, and suggested that the choices are obvious, including the Lower Kings Canyon properties, the Fagen property, and the Lower Ash Canyon properties which are very important to the

CARSON CITY OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the June 16, 2003 Meeting

Page 3

community as historic access points to the Sierras. Member Bird commented that Kings Canyon has extensive recreation opportunities into the Sierras, including the potential for Capital to Capital trail linkage. The Ash Canyon area is also very important to the community and, from there, opportunities around Eagle Valley Creek at its origin. Member Bird acknowledged that the Committee is always in the situation of acting on opportunities as they are presented. She suggested that sticking to the priorities of the master plan was not the intent in developing it. She commented that the Committee has the obligation to consider each opportunity on its merit and that this information was not available to the people voting on Question 18. In response to a question, Member Bird continued indicating her priorities, as follows: “Along the River” properties, the “Between Ash and Kings Canyon” properties, and the C-Hill property. Discussion took place regarding properties which were not included in the first list.

In response to a question, Mr. Kastens discussed the purpose of the priority matrices and the subcommittee meeting. He reviewed the priority groupings, as follows:

1. Lower Kings Canyon: Andersen;
2. Upper Voltaire and Kings Canyon: Fagen, Swafford, Hutchinson;
3. Lower Ash Canyon: Leid, Joost, Adams, Masonic Lodge;
4. Combs Canyon: Wagner, Wise, Casey, Serpa, Timberline, Eagle Valley Creek (origin);
5. River: Jarrard/Anderson, Serpa, Comstock, Bently, Eagle Valley Creek, Lompa;
6. Between Ash and Kings Canyons: Long, Schultz, Darling;
7. C-Hill: Stanton Park; and
8. Upper Ash Canyon: Benna/Marshall, Wilson

Chairperson Hartman suggested the following motion: **to designate the listed priorities subject to targets of opportunity. Member Bird so moved. Member Robinson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.**

3-B. ACTION TO SELECT TWO COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO SERVE ON A SUBCOMMITTEE TO DEVELOP A PROJECT LIST AND PRIORITY RANKING MATRIX FOR CARSON CITY’S STATEWIDE BALLOT QUESTION #1 PROJECTS (1-0485) - Mr. Guzman reviewed the staff report. Mr. Kastens advised that the subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 23rd. In response to a question, Mr. Kastens advised that no advance meetings are planned because the other advisory committees have each previously established and prioritized a matrix. He explained the planned format of the subcommittee meeting. (1-1066) In response to a question, Member Bird and Vice Chairperson Jacquet volunteered to serve on the subcommittee, and Member Riedl was designated as the alternate.

3-C. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE WRITING OF A ZONING DISTRICT ORDINANCE TO BE USED FOR OPEN SPACE PROPERTIES; REVIEW OF MASTER PLAN CONSIDERATION AND DRAFT ORDINANCE (1-1087) - Mr. Guzman discussed the purpose of this agenda item, and suggested postponing the PowerPoint presentation to the next meeting. He referred to the draft Open Space Zoning District ordinance, included in the agenda materials, and requested the Committee members to review it in preparation for discussion during the next two Committee meetings.

CARSON CITY OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the June 16, 2003 Meeting

Page 4

3-D. ACTION TO CONSIDER POTENTIAL PURCHASE OF AN 8-ACRE PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE VICINITY OF CENTER DRIVE, UNDER THE OWNERSHIP OF BILL KUGLER AND SUE COFFEY, APN 9-311-47 (1-1147) - Mr. Guzman reviewed the staff report. Vice Chairperson Jacquet agreed that beneficial use of water is an important consideration of the Committee especially in context of the Open Space Program and as more land is acquired and managed along the River. He suggested that the Utilities Department may put the water to beneficial use but this may not necessarily enhance open space. Chairperson Hartman agreed that the subject parcel would be more appropriately considered by the City Utilities Department, and that consideration of priorities in the canyons should include an emphasis on riparian use. Mr. Kastens explained the purpose for agendaing this item. Chairperson Hartman commended the community-minded effort on the part of Mr. Kugler and Ms. Coffey, and requested Mr. Guzman to thank them. **Member Bird moved to instruct the Open Space Manager to convey to Mr. Kugler and Ms. Coffey the Committee's sincere appreciation for their interest but that it doesn't meet sufficient criteria for positive purchase consideration by the Open Space Advisory Committee. Vice Chairperson Jacquet seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.**

3-E. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING THE SELECTION OF DATES FOR A FIELD TRIP FOR THE COMMITTEE (1-1257) - Following a brief discussion, Mr. Guzman advised that he would request Management Assistant Stella Hyatt to poll the Committee members with regard to available dates. He offered to include any property in which the Committee is interested.

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS:

STATUS REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS - None.

STATUS REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM STAFF (1-1291) - Mr. Guzman referred to the May 2, 2003 meeting minutes of the Advisory Board on Natural Resources included in the agenda materials. With regard to the status of the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act, Mr. Guzman advised that lands in southern Nevada sold for "millions more" than was anticipated. As a result, the SNPLMA Technical Advisory Committee met and decided to reinstate all nominated properties, including the Bernhard property, prioritize them, and submit them to the Secretary of the Interior. Subsequent to that, Bob Abbey took it upon himself to make a case for the Bernhard property. Mr. Guzman advised that, barring unforeseen circumstances, the Secretary of the Interior is very likely sign an order agreeing to purchase the Bernhard property and many of the other previously nominated properties. He assured the Committee members that the lobbyists will be informed of these developments.

Mr. Guzman reviewed the invitation to the Memorial Tree Planting Ceremony commemorating the life of the late Supervisor Jon Plank. He provided background information on the funding donated to purchase additional trees by various members of the community. He reviewed the appraisal information on the SNPLMA Round II nominations. Vice Chairperson Jacquet advised that the environmental assessment for the Round II acquisitions has been completed. Mr. Guzman referred to the title policy for the Gilbert property, and reviewed the remaining "FYI" items included in the agenda materials.

Mr. Guzman reported on a field trip to the Fagen property with Ms. Madden and her husband, Andrew List, who is a member of the SNPLMA Technical Advisory Committee. Mr. List indicated a much better sense of the value of the lands after seeing them "on the ground." Mr. Guzman discussed a separate tour of the Fagen property, with a representative of Otis Bay Company, to look for native frog species. He reported

CARSON CITY OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the June 16, 2003 Meeting

Page 5

on recent meetings with the volunteer working group which is helping to develop the wetlands management plan. He discussed a clean-up project which took place earlier in the day and advised that the next big focus will be on noxious weeds.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS (1-1534) - Chairperson Hartman reviewed items for the July agenda, including review of the funding source matrix, the draft ordinance, the PowerPoint presentation, and a status report on the SNPLMA. Mr. Guzman advised that the U.S. Forest Service landscape analysis will be pertinent to the Committee as well. He will be meeting with City Manager Linda Ritter and Ranger Gary Schiff at the end of June.

5. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (1-1585) - Vice Chairperson Jacquet moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 p.m. Member Bird seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

The Minutes of the June 16, 2003 meeting of the Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee are so approved this 21st day of July, 2003.

STEPHEN D. HARTMAN, Chair