

**CARSON CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**Minutes of the August 15, 2000 Meeting**

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A regular meeting of the Carson City Parks and Recreation Commission was held at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 15, 2000 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

**PRESENT:** Chairperson John Simms  
Vice Chairperson Glen Martel  
Lou Cabrera  
Jim Dunn  
Larry Osborne  
Jon Plank  
Stacie Wilke  
Charles Wright

**STAFF:** Steve Kastens, Parks and Recreation Director  
Scott Fahrenbruch, Parks Superintendent  
Vern Krahn, Parks Planner  
Kathleen King, Recording Secretary  
(PRC 08/15/00; Tape 1-0001)

**NOTE:** Unless indicated otherwise, each item was introduced by Chairperson Simms. 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 (1-0001)** - Chairperson Simms called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Roll call was taken; a quorum was present. Commissioner Elverum was absent.

**ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES (1-0015)** - Commissioner Wilke moved to adopt all four sets of minutes (April 5, 2000, May 16, 2000, June 6, 2000, and July 18, 2000). Vice Chairperson Martel seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-0-1-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (1-0050)** - None.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON PROPOSED THEME AND CONCEPTUAL DESIGN FOR MURAL AT ROSS GOLD MEMORIAL PARK (1-0058)** - Mr. Fahrenbruch introduced Elizabeth Jacobsen, a participant in the project; Dianne L. Aguirre, the artist/muralist; Sandy Hatchell, of JOIN, Inc.; Joe McCarthy, the Executive Director of the Brewery Arts Center; and Don Costa, the Branch Manager for JOIN, Inc. Mr. Fahrenbruch reviewed the staff report, and advised that the proposed location is the back wall of the Utilities Department well house at Ross Gold Park. He advised that the Parks Division has committed \$2500 toward the project. He noted that this is the same amount contributed as matching funds for the previously funded grant.

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Mr. McCarthy discussed the project details, the experience level of the participants, the teaching provided by Ms. Aguirre, and the practice mural done on the south wall of the Brewery Arts Center ("BAC") building. He discussed the mission of the Mural 2000 Project, the similar project undertaken two years ago, and the reasons for enlisting JOIN. He advised that the Carson City Parks Department is the principle partner, and that the BAC is coordinating the project. He indicated that the six student artists meet JOIN's economically disadvantaged criteria. Funding has been provided by the Parks Department and the BAC has provided space and a variety of other in-kind donations. Kelly-Moore Paints and the CraftsMore Store have donated a substantial amount of equipment and materials.

Mr. McCarthy reviewed the standards established by JOIN for the student artists, including attendance, appearance, punctuality, attitude, etc. He advised that the student artists have been paid a reasonable monetary incentive at specific times throughout the project, and instructor evaluations have been incorporated. An additional goal of the project is to emphasize job training skills and preparation for future job training programs. The emphasis is on artistic expression and the opportunity to participate in an artistic project. The targeted age of the participants was 14 to 18 years old.

Mr. McCarthy advised that Ms. Aguirre has developed a curriculum focusing on the history of mural art work, the different mediums available depending upon the site, choosing a theme, assisting the participants to design the theme, and the preparation and painting of the mural site. In addition, the students will be exposed to some small business practices, including portfolio building, research, marketing, and building coalitions. He advised that Ms. Aguirre has attended a variety of training workshops to prepare for the instruction she has provided. Mr. McCarthy advised that he developed the procedures, wrote the employee handbook, gathered the evaluation data, is acting as the fiscal agent, serves as the authorizing officer, and has primary fiscal responsibility together with Mr. Fahrenbruch. The goal of the project has been to generate an intense learning experience for the student artists; produce excellent mural art; stimulate business, civic, and community involvement; generate substantial good will and currency within the community at large; and provide the groundwork for gradual expansion of new art projects. He commented that success could generate a youth artists series, discussed an ongoing youth literary project, and indicated that the mural program could continue for several years.

Ms. Aguirre provided background information on her education and experience, and discussed her work with the project participants. She displayed and reviewed three proposed mural designs. Mr. McCarthy passed the proposed designs to the Commissioners and solicited their comments.

In response to a question, Ms. Hatchell described the selection process for the participants in relation to JOIN's purpose. Mr. McCarthy discussed the significance of the task undertaken by Ms. Aguirre in teaching the participants, who did not have a great deal of art training, to create a final project which will meet an established standard. Commissioner Osborne expressed appreciation for Mr. McCarthy's management of the project, and for the involvement of JOIN. In response to a question, Mr. McCarthy discussed the anecdotal evidence which indicates that murals deter graffiti. Mr. Fahrenbruch concurred, and advised that the intent of the first mural project was to deter graffiti. In the two years the mural has been on the well house at the east end of Mills Park, it has not been vandalized. He indicated that the main focus of the Ross Gold mural is to keep the mural program going. Mr. McCarthy advised that he and Mr.

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Fahrenbruch have met with Paul Ford, an art instructor at Carson High School, to discuss a collaboration between the BAC, the City, and the high school arts program to incorporate murals into the curriculum.

Commissioner Plank suggested visiting Susanville to view several well-done murals, and commented on the murals at Heidi's Restaurant and at the Lucky Spur. Mr. Fahrenbruch advised that the initial grant request included participation by JOIN and proposed to establish a mural program similar to the program done two years ago. He indicated that the budget developed for the program two years ago, including the donations, the grant funding, and the Parks and Recreation Department funding, was nearly \$10,000. He commended Mr. McCarthy for continuing to move forward with the Mural 2000 Program even though this project's budget was only \$2500. Discussion took place regarding the time frame, and Ms. Aguirre advised that she plans to begin painting the mural at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>. Mr. McCarthy advised that he is planning an unveiling ceremony, and acknowledged that the mural would be finished before the end of September. Chairperson Simms suggested scheduling the unveiling ceremony for sometime near Nevada Day. In response to a question, Ms. Jacobsen indicated her favorite of the three proposed mural designs. Chairperson Simms called for a show of hands for each of the three proposed murals. Six of the Commissioners indicated a preference for the second proposed mural; and two indicated a preference for the third proposed mural.

**Commissioner Osborne moved that the Parks and Recreation Commission approve the theme of design number two as submitted for the mural at Ross Gold Memorial Park. Commissioner Wright seconded the motion.** Chairperson Simms called for public comment; however, none was provided. He called for a vote on the pending motion. **Motion carried 8-0-1-0.**

**2. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE BREWERY ARTS CENTER INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE GRANT AND INCORPORATION OF THE GRANT INTO THE LINEAR PARK BICYCLE PATH PROJECT (1-1166)** - Mr. Krahn reviewed the staff report. Mr. McCarthy thanked Mr. Kastens and Mr. Krahn for their assistance in making the partnership possible. He provided background information on the project, and discussed its goal to enrich the opportunity and education of the youth who will participate in the project and also to create a visually appealing, mile-long interpretive trail.

Mr. McCarthy advised that the intent of the original project has easily been incorporated into the existing project. The trail will provide an interpretive experience which stresses the importance of preservation and stewardship. The BAC will supply a landscape architect, photographers, and an interpretive programmer to create a one-mile trail which will celebrate the natural art indigenous to our region, including tribal culture, mining, and agriculture. The art will use photography and landscape architecture. The trail will include reader boards which will lead the trail user in a self-guided tour which may be expanded upon by teachers and/or youth groups. The trail will be open to the general public and to school youth groups throughout the year.

Mr. McCarthy advised that a local artist, Carol Anderson, has already been contacted. He provided information on her background, experience, and recent accomplishments. Rich Shock has been retained as the senior landscape architect, and Mr. McCarthy provided information on Mr. Shock's background, experience, expertise, and accomplishments. A nature photographer and a planner, with experience in

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environmental education, have yet to be chosen. The goal for the young people involved in the project is that they learn about the native plants and animals in the area, enjoy the natural beauty of the area, become more familiar with the agricultural and mining history of the area, and assist in designing a favorite educational and leisure experience for the entire community. History and environmental preservation will be combined to teach children and adults. Once the project is completed, the area will have a tremendous impact with minimal maintenance and upkeep. Mr. McCarthy indicated that the project will add diversification to the area in the form of a general resurgence of the recognition of native cultures which have been present in the area, and the contributions made by the present culture and by the industries associated with Nevada. The project could act as a model for other local arts agencies to advance natural treasures and to environmentally educate youth, while simultaneously exposing them to the art of photography and environmental architecture.

The proposed location is the linear park near Fremont School, and Mr. McCarthy discussed the educational opportunities for area schools. He indicated that the U.S. Forest Service has approved the proposed site and advised that it meets the grant requirements. Mr. Krahn advised that both Carson High School and Seeliger Elementary School are within walking distance of the trail. Because of its location, the trail will have substantial exposure. The interpretive signage will be designed for minimal maintenance and as vandal proof as possible. Mr. Krahn indicated that the Parks Department staff is pleased with this opportunity, and commented that the U.S. Forest Service has been very supportive. He advised that the City's investment will include staff's time only.

In response to a question, Mr. McCarthy indicated that no conclusion has been made as to the appearance of the signs, other than that they will have to be virtually vandal proof, easily seen, and artistically attractive. He is awaiting advice from the artists and the sign makers, and solicited comments from the Commissioners and staff. Mr. Krahn referred to the interpretive signs located at Riverview Park, and Mr. Kastens described the materials necessary to accommodate photographs. Ideally, the material would not be redwood, although it is the least expensive. He advised that staff will be reviewing parks catalogues for ideas. He reiterated the need for the height of the signs to be such that small children can easily see them and that taller people are not tripping over or running into them. He advised of having seen all types of interpretive signage done by the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and in the Yosemite Valley. Staff will most likely draw on the experience of these agencies. Mr. Krahn offered to return to the Commission for review and input as the process moves forward. Commissioner Plank suggested asking the U.S. Forest Service about the signage in Lamoille Canyon. Mr. McCarthy discussed the possibility of incorporating benches along the trail. Commissioner Wilke discussed the need to inform the teachers of the educational benefit.

**Vice Chairperson Martel moved that the Parks and Recreation Commission approve the partnership between the Carson City Parks and Recreation Department and the Brewery Arts Center to implement the interpretive signage grant and incorporate the signage into the linear park along the bicycle path. Commissioner Wright seconded the motion.** Chairperson Simms solicited public comment and questions; however, none were provided. He called for a vote on the pending motion. **Motion carried 8-0-1-0.** Chairperson Simms thanked Mr. McCarthy for his presentation.

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**3. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR SITE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE WUNGNEMA HOUSE AT THE EAST END OF MILLS PARK (1-1921)** - Mr. Krahn reviewed the staff report, and introduced Fred Stanio, the President of the Foundation for the Betterment of Parks and Recreation. He commended Mr. Stanio for his attention to the project. Mr. Stanio discussed the comments he has received from citizens which indicate that the house has become a source of pride in the community. He expressed a concern that a fence will be needed once school starts, and discussed his desire that the fence blend in with the color scheme of the house. He advised that the design work for the fence, the concrete and the landscaping has already been done. Mr. Kastens advised that, under contract law, the City can add up to 35% to any project which has already been bid. The proposed site improvements will only add 20-22% to the total cost. Staff has negotiated with E-Z Construction regarding addition of the improvements to their existing contract. Mr. Kastens advised that everything is in place and E-Z Construction is willing and able to start once approval is received. He referred to the cost estimate included in the agenda materials. Mr. Krahn distributed a color rendering of the site improvements to the Commissioners, and the fencing information was circulated. Mr. Kastens reviewed Exhibit C - the Quality of Life Fund accounting included in the agenda materials - and advised that staff's recommendation is to use funding from the Unreserved-Parks Capital category.

Discussion took place regarding a discrepancy between the Commissioners' agenda materials and the Board of Supervisors' August 17<sup>th</sup> agenda materials. Mr. Krahn explained that the Board of Supervisors' materials were provided prior to an update done by the Parks Department Administrative Assistant. He assured the Commission that the Board of Supervisors' materials will be corrected. Commissioner Osborne inquired as to whether or not contingency funds could be used for some of the site improvements. Mr. Kastens advised that this option was considered; however, several unknowns still exist. He explained that any left over contingency will be returned to the Quality of Life Fund. Chairperson Simms solicited public comment; however, none was provided. Mr. Kastens acknowledged that the hand written amounts indicated on Exhibit C reflect anticipated amounts after the funding for the site improvements is deducted.

**Commissioner Plank moved that the Parks and Recreation Commission recommend to the Board of Supervisors to add \$22,914.90 of additional funding from the Question 18 - Quality of Life Fund (Unreserved/Parks Capital Account) to the Wungnema House Project. Commissioner Dunn seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-0-1-0.** Chairperson Simms thanked Mr. Stanio.

#### GENERAL DISCUSSION

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS (1-2443)** - Commissioner Osborne requested an update on the projects delayed pending the selection of the dispatch software. He inquired as to alternatives for some of the projects. Mr. Kastens advised that the decision has once again been delayed, and indicated that staff has been working on alternatives. He will check into the matter and determine whether or not action by the Commission is warranted. If so, he will agendize the matter for the September meeting. Commissioner Plank indicated that he has been following the matter closely, and expressed a concern over the roller hockey dashboards.

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**COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS (1-2574)** - Commissioner Wright inquired as to a resolution regarding the V&T Trail. Mr. Kastens advised that he would agendaize a status report for the September meeting.

**STATUS REPORTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS (1-2627)** - None.

**COMMENTS AND STATUS REPORTS FROM STAFF (1-2631)** - Mr. Krahn advised that the Mills Park Task Force has been discussing the arboretum project as well as the east end improvements. An additional task force meeting will be scheduled for the latter part of August. The plans will then be presented to the Commission at the second meeting in September.

Mr. Krahn advised that Parks and Recreation Department staff has been working on technical specifications and standards for a valve set and tree staking detail. Vice Chairperson Martel and former Commissioner Cheryl Adams assisted in the development. Mr. Krahn advised that the specifications are ready to be distributed for final review prior to presentation to the Commission. He requested an additional volunteer to review the specifications, and Commissioner Wilke volunteered.

Mr. Kastens advised that Residential Construction Tax applications will be agendaized for the first meeting in September. He anticipates that approximately \$200,000 will be available for allocation.

**STATUS REPORT ON QUESTION #18, RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION TAX, AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT (1-2830)** - Mr. Kastens reported that construction on the Mexican Ditch trail between East Fifth Street and Hells Bells Road is underway. He discussed a favorable comment received from an area resident who was previously opposed to the project.

Mr. Kastens advised that the aquatic facility project has been turned over to the District Attorney's office. A second contractor has been retained and staff is in the process of developing an estimate for completion of the project. The original contractor was notified of the City's position that he was in breach of the contract, and he was removed from the project prior to hiring the second contractor. Chairperson Simms inquired as to the estimated revenue lost from the slide and therapy pool not being open. Mr. Kastens advised that this will be explored and may become an issue. He is hoping that the final items can be completed and punched out within a month.

Commissioner Plank inquired as to the status of the aquatic facility air handler. Mr. Kastens advised he had been contacted by an attorney who represented that he was calling on behalf of the Harbin Street residents. He explained the neighbors have been informed that until the project is finalized, no modifications can be made to the system. He drafted a response to the attorney and notified him that staff is considering options which include an acoustical treatment to the stack and putting the units on a timer. The only remedy at present is for the aquatic facility staff to turn the unit off at 9:30 p.m. when they go home, and turn it back on at 5:30 a.m. During the summer months, this does not pose a problem; however, condensation was building up while this was being done last January and February. The mechanical engineer and architect are exploring options, and Recreation Supervisor Kurt Meyer has located an acoustical company which specializes in minimizing noise from these types of units. Mr. Kastens further

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reported that he had been instructed by the District Attorney's office to inform the neighbors that the project was submitted to the special use permit process. A wall was constructed around the unit and Mr. Kastens advised that another option is to extend the height of the wall to minimize the noise. Staff is willing to work with the area residents and do everything possible to minimize the impact. In response to a question, Mr. Kastens advised that a noise impact study will be conducted before a great deal of money is spent in trying to remedy the situation.

Mr. Krahn advised that the scheduled opening of the new fields at the Edmonds Sports Complex is August 28<sup>th</sup>. The ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for September 9<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Kastens advised that the AYSO has decided to use the fields for the younger players which will give the turf an opportunity to mature. Mr. Krahn reported that the Governor's Field irrigation system should be ready for bid during the first or second week of September. As soon as Fall Ball is completed, the project will be started. With regard to the Symms Trails grant funding application, Mr. Krahn reported that he has not yet received official notice to proceed but staff is beginning to develop the necessary contracts to receive the money. He further reported that the Open Space Advisory Committee will be considering purchase of the Moffett property at their next meeting. The property is located at the intersection of the Mexican Ditch Trail and the Linear Park Trail. Mr. Krahn advised that the property was appraised at over \$1 million, and that Mr. Moffett will be making a substantial donation to the City.

Mr. Fahrenbruch reported that the family of Bill Furlong donated \$3600 for tree planting at Governor's Field. Eighteen large trees were purchased for the T-Ball Complex, and were planted two weeks ago. Chairperson Simms commented that the trees look very nice.

**ADJOURNMENT** (1-3630) - Vice Chairperson Martel moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 p.m. Commissioner Wilke seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-0-1-0.

The Minutes of the August 15, 2000 meeting of the Carson City Parks and Recreation Commission are so approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of September, 2000.

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JOHN SIMMS, Chairperson