

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee
Monday, February 22, 2016 ● 5:30 PM
Community Center Sierra Room
851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada

Board Members

Chair – Bruce Scott	Member – Margie Evans
Member – Laura Fitzsimmons	Member – Donna Inversin
Member – Gerald Massad	Member – Toby Welborn
Member – Alan Welch	

Staff

Ann Bollinger, Open Space Administrator
Rich Wilkinson, Natural Resources Specialist
Iris Yowell, Deputy District Attorney
Tamar Warren, Deputy Clerk

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

An audio recording of this meeting is available on www.CarsonCity.org/minutes.

CALL TO ORDER

(5:30:53) – Chairperson Scott called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and announced that Vice Chairperson Howard Riedl had chosen not to seek reappointment; therefore, the Board of Supervisors had reappointed Member Margie Evans and had appointed Member Gerald Massad.

ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

(5:32:18) – Roll was called. A quorum was present.

Attendee Name	Status	Arrived
Bruce Scott	Present	
Alan Welch	Present	
Margie Evans	Present	
Laura Fitzsimmons	Present	
Donna Inversin	Present	
Gerald Massad	Absent	
Toby Welborn	Present	Via Telephone, 5:52 pm

PUBLIC COMMENTS

(5:32:56) – John Costello, the newly-hired Open Space Park Ranger, introduced himself. Chairperson Scott welcomed Mr. Costello on behalf of the Committee.

1. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES – NOVEMBER 16, 2015

(5:35:05) – Member Inversin suggested a correction to the minutes (already made and posted).

(5:38:15) – Ms. Yowell clarified the Open Meeting Law, noting that the minutes were past the 45-day approval period due to the cancellation of the December meeting. Both the mover and the seconder were in agreement with the notation.

(5:35:34) – MOTION: I move to approve the Open Space Advisory Committee meeting minutes for Monday, November 16, 2015, as modified.

RESULT:	APPROVED (5-0-0)
MOVER:	Welch
SECONDER:	Inversin
AYES:	Scott, Evans, Fitzsimmons, Inversin, Welch
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Massad, Welborn

2. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

(5:36:11) – None.

3. MEETING ITEMS

A. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO ELECT A CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON OF THE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR 2016.

(5:36:30) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item. Member Fitzsimmons nominated Chairperson Scott to another term as Chair and Member Welch to the position of Vice Chair.

There were no public comments.

(5:37:45) – MOTION: I move to reelect Chairperson Scott to another term as Chair and to elect Member Welch to the position of Vice Chair.

RESULT:	APPROVED (5-0-0)
MOVER:	Fitzsimmons
SECONDER:	Inversin
AYES:	Scott, Evans, Fitzsimmons, Inversin, Welch
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Massad, Welborn

B. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO APPROVE THE WETLANDS ENHANCEMENT PROJECT AT THE OLD BUZZY’S RANCH PROPERTY AS DESIGNED BY DUCKS UNLIMITED.

(5:38:44) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item.

(5:38:53) – Mr. Wilkinson presented the agenda materials which are incorporated into the record. He also noted that the items erroneously marked “final draft” would be considered as such after being approved by this Committee.

(5:40:32) – John Ranlett of Ducks Unlimited introduced himself, gave background, and presented the agenda materials. He also clarified that the project is to build infrastructure for better irrigation. Member Evans expressed concern over the disturbance to the area resulting in noxious weeds. Vice Chairperson Welch inquired about the process by which the changes will be managed. Chairperson Scott suggested bringing back only the major issues to the Committee in order to streamline the process. Mr. Wilkinson clarified that the bulk of the work would be to enhance the existing infrastructure.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

(5:55:54) – MOTION: I move to approve the wetlands enhancement project in its concept, along with allowing Staff to make the final decisions on the details that were outlined in the comments, on the old Buzzy’s Ranch property as designed by Ducks Unlimited.

RESULT:	APPROVED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Evans
SECONDER:	Fitzsimmons
AYES:	Scott, Welch, Evans, Fitzsimmons, Inversin, Welborn
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Massad

C. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: UPDATE ON THE MID-YEAR REVISIONS TO THE QUALITY OF LIFE – OPEN SPACE BUDGET.

(5:57:22) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item.

(5:57:32) – Ms. Bollinger presented the agenda materials which are incorporated into the record, and stated that this item was informational only.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no member or public comments.

D. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SUBMITTAL OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE FOREST LEGACY PROGRAM FOR THE PURCHASE OF A CONSERVATION EASEMENT ON THE OLD WOODS RANCH, APNS 007-051-12 AND 007-051-79.

(5:59:40) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item and Ms. Bollinger presented the agenda materials, incorporated into the record.

(6:02:08) – Anna Higgins, Resource Manager with the Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF), introduced herself and noted that NDF had been working with the owners to create a 10-year management Forest Stewardship Plan to protect resources such as soil, water, and timber. She also reviewed the grant award process, and noted that this project may be ranked higher since the adjacent property was also an Open Space conservation easement. Chairperson Scott was informed that currently work was being done to have forest health Stewardship Plans for four Carson City Open Space properties.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

(6:07:37) – Helen Scott introduced herself as a third-generation Schulz heir and current property manager, and noted that the family would meet soon to discuss the management plan, and thanked NDF and Open Space for working closely with the family, especially when addressing the mistletoe issues.

There were no additional public comments

(6:10:30) – MOTION: I move to recommend to the Board of Supervisors submittal of a grant application to the Forest Legacy Program for the purchase of a conservation easement on the Old Woods Ranch, APNs 007-051-12 and 007-051-79

RESULT:	APPROVED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Inversin
SECONDER:	Welborn
AYES:	Scott, Welch, Evans, Fitzsimmons, Inversin, Welborn
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Massad

E. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SUBMITTAL OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND FOR FEE-TITLE ACQUISITION OF 20 ACRES, APN 007-051-81, LOCATED ALONG HIGHWAY 50 AND OWNED BY W. MICHAEL FAGEN.

(6:11:26) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item and Ms. Bollinger presented the agenda items which are incorporated into the record. She also referred to an email into the record from W. Michael Fagen in favor of the above-mentioned fee-title acquisition.

There were no public comments.

(6:14:25) – MOTION: I move to recommend to the Board of Supervisors submittal of a grant application to the Land and Water Conservation Fund for fee-title acquisition of 20 acres, APN 007-051-81, located along Highway 50 and owned by W. Michael Fagen.

RESULT:	APPROVED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Welch
SECONDER:	Evans
AYES:	Scott, Welch, Evans, Fitzsimmons, Inversin, Welborn
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Massad

F. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE “MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR CARSON CITY OPEN SPACE AND PARKS IN THE CARSON RIVER AREA”.

(6:15:24) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item and disclosed that since his firm had been involved in the project; therefore he would participate in the discussions but would not vote.

(6:15:55) – Ms. Bollinger reviewed the Staff Report which is incorporated into the record. Lynn Zonge presented the Management Plan which is available online on www.carson.org/PROSdocuments, (<http://www.carson.org/index.aspx?page=6235>).

(6:23:01) – Member Inversin praised Staff’s efforts. She also suggested several clarifications and minor edits.

PUBLIC COMMENT

(6:25:28) – Maurice White thanked the Committee and Staff for being responsive to public comment and for their hard work. He also requested clarification on the document’s use of the term OHV and its definition, and Ms. Bollinger offered to look into it and get back to him. Additionally, he suggested defining roads versus trails and their uses. Discussion ensued regarding regulating fishing and the role of Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) versus the Parks and Recreation/Open Space departments. Member Fitzsimmons suggested keeping the Committee informed about new ordinances. Vice Chairperson Welch inquired about regulations for the use of drones on Open Space properties.

(6:40:15) – MOTION: I move to recommend to the Board of Supervisors approval of the “Management Plan for Carson City Open Space and Parks in the Carson River Area”.

RESULT:	APPROVED (5-0-1)
MOVER:	Inversin
SECONDER:	Fitzsimmons
AYES:	Welch, Evans, Fitzsimmons, Inversin, Welborn
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	Scott
ABSENT:	Massad

G. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO PROVIDE COMMENTS REGARDING TRAILHEAD IMPROVEMENTS ON THE NORTH END OF THE PRISON HILL RECREATION AREA IN PREPARATION FOR A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM.

(6:41:20) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item and Mr. Wilkinson presented the agenda materials which are incorporated into the record.

(6:44:33) – Member Inversin believed that a restroom facility, trash cans, and dog waste disposal may be preferable to a shade structure. Chairperson Scott believed that the improvements should distinguish the area as a trailhead and not a park. Member Fitzsimmons received clarification that an interpretive kiosk was also being considered, and Ms. Bollinger stated that trail maps and the dispatch phone number will be included on the kiosks. Member Inversin suggested encouraging the use of the new Carson City Connect application. Chairperson Scott noted that “bringing water to a place like this brings a maintenance level that we probably don’t need”.

There were no public comments.

(6:49:38) – MOTION: I move to encourage Staff to move forward with this [item], utilizing the comments that were made today.

RESULT:	APPROVED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Evans
SECONDER:	Welch
AYES:	Scott, Welch, Evans, Fitzsimmons, Inversin, Welborn
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Massad

H. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL ACTIVITIES REPORT OF THE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2015.

(6:50:57) – Chairperson Scott introduced the item. Ms. Bollinger presented the Staff Report and the attached report to the Board of Supervisors. Member Inversin applauded Staff for their accomplishments. Ms. Bollinger invited the Committee members to attend the March 3, 2016 Board of Supervisors meeting in which this report would be presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

(6:55:04) – Mark Kimbrough introduced himself and noted the absence of the names of the volunteer individuals and groups, and the names of several sponsors over the years. He believed that this was “a good time to give people credit”. Member Fitzsimmons suggested highlighting, in a separate forum, the deep support of the community to Open Space. Chairperson Scott encouraged maintaining a history of volunteer contributions to Open Space.

(6:49:34) – MOTION: I move to recommend to the Board of Supervisors approval of the annual activities report of the Open Space Advisory Committee for calendar year 2015.

RESULT:	APPROVED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Welch
SECONDER:	Evans
AYES:	Scott, Welch, Evans, Fitzsimmons, Inversin, Welborn
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	Massad

Further ideas were considered as means of recognizing volunteers.

4. STAFF UPDATES – DISCUSSION ONLY

A. SOUTHERN NEVADA PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT ACT PROJECT (SNPLMA).

(7:04:12) – Mr. Wilkinson gave an update on the activities of the volunteer working group and reviewed the project summaries, scoring matrices, and scoresheets, incorporated into the record, for each area. He also noted that moving forward, the group would focus on Buzzy’s Ranch and the Silver Saddle Ranch which had scored higher based on the SNPLMA’s scoring criteria. Mr. Wilkinson also noted that they would work towards meeting SNPLMA’s expedited schedule. Chairperson Scott was informed that the working group was looking into phased approaches. Member Welborn inquired about the public’s interest level in Prison Hill, and Mr. Wilkinson clarified that this particular comment was one of many tabulated from the working group and staff discussions. Member Evans offered to further discuss the item in the next working group meeting, adding that the Silver Saddle Ranch had greater potential than previously realized.

There were no public comments.

B. ACTIVITIES, PROJECTS, AND GRANTS LOCATED WITHIN THE CARSON RIVER CORRIDOR.

(7:17:04) – Mr. Wilkinson presented the Staff Report which is incorporated into the record. Member Fitzsimmons commended the Staff for writing their own grants.

There were no public comments.

C. ACTIVITIES, PROJECTS, AND GRANTS THROUGHOUT OTHER AREAS OF THE OPEN SPACE DIVISION.

(7:22:20) – Previously discussed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

(7:22:38) – Robyn Orloff applauded the hard work by Open Space Staff and noted the “big improvements on the south end of Prison Hill”.

5. MEMBERS’ ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION.

(7:24:30) – Member Inversin announced that Carson City Connect was a great resource and wished to ensure that the Parks and Recreation and Open Space departments were also supported by that site. Ms. Bollinger pointed out several upcoming events and announcements, incorporated into the FYI items in the members’ packets.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

(7:28:06) – Member Fitzsimmons requested an update on the enforcement ordinances discussed earlier.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

8. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT

(7:28:48) – **MOTION: Member Fitzsimmons moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairperson Welch.** The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

The Minutes of the February 22, 2016 Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee meeting are so approved this, 18th day of April, 2016.

BRUCE SCOTT, Chair