

**CARSON CITY SHADE TREE COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the June 1, 2011 Meeting**  
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A regular meeting of the Carson City Shade Tree Council was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 1, 2011, in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Lee-Ann Keever  
Member Carole Brewer  
Member Terrill Ozawa  
Member Jens Peermann

**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** – Chairperson Keever called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Vice Chairperson Horvath, Member Shirk, and Member Trenoweth were absent.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS** – None

**1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Member Ozawa moved to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2011 meeting. The motion was seconded by Member Peermann. Motion carried 4-0.

**2. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA** – None.

**3. AGENDA ITEMS:**

**A. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ABSENCE OF ANY COUNCIL MEMBER FROM THIS MEETING.** – Chairperson Keever noted that Member Shirk was absent as excused due to work.

**B. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ELECTION OF THE COUNCIL'S CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR 2011.** (5:32:14) – Chairperson Keever introduced the item and explained that when the Chair and Vice Chair were elected in February, the Council did not have a full quorum of voting members. Therefore, she entertained motions for the nomination of a Council chair and Vice Chair. Member Brewer was concerned there were not enough members present; however, Mr. Moellendorf explained that a quorum was present and the vote could happen. **Member Ozawa moved to nominate Chairperson Keever to continue her duties as Shade Tree Council Chair for 2011. The motion was seconded by Member Brewer. Motion Carried 4-0. Member Brewer moved to nominate Member Horvath for the position of Vice Chairperson. The motion was seconded by Member Ozawa. Motion carried 4-0.**

**C. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE COUNCIL'S PARTICIPATION IN THE ARTS AND CULTURAL COMMISSION'S GREENHOUSE PROJECT.** (3:49:10) – Chairperson Keever introduced the item. Supervisor Karen Abowd gave background on the project and distributed a handout, incorporated into the record, containing background information and a layout concept. She introduced Ray Saliga, an AmeriCorps volunteer managing the Greenhouse, and Jenny Scanland, from the Nevada State Parks Department. She stated that the project was a 2,100 square foot “green” greenhouse, located behind Carson High School. Supervisor Abowd also indicated that the downtown flower baskets would be planted by “special needs kids” attending the high school, and the food grown would be available to “in need groups such as Ron Wood”, with 10% being donated to the culinary arts students at the high school. Supervisor Abowd stated that they had received a federal HUD grant and several Carson community youth program grants. She reminded the Council of an upcoming fundraiser on July 13, 2011, at Adele's

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Restaurant. In response to a question, Supervisor Abowd explained that once the Greenhouse becomes operational, they would have visiting hours. Ms. Scanland explained that she was on the board of the Greenhouse Project and the grant programs administrator for grants that come to municipalities through state parks. She added that the Greenhouse Project had rated second statewide in 2011, because it focused on getting children outdoors. She also announced that all the surfaces and the trails would be accessible to wheelchairs. Mr. Saliga said he was utilizing his horticulture background, and was looking at creating “a park-like outside” with native trees and shrubs, without fighting nature. He suggested dwarf trees and Member Ozawa suggested a Northstar Sour cherry Tree. Mr. Saliga also recommended staggering different harvests to provide year-round food. Chairperson Keever and Member Peermann offered the Council’s help and wanted to find out how this could be accomplished. Supervisor Abowd wished to benefit from the Council’s knowledge of trees. In response to a question, she stated that the Greenhouse would benefit all the schools in the area. Chairperson Keever suggested Supervisor Abowd get in touch with Tom Henderson of Healthy Trees, regarding his Fruit Barons Program. It was agreed that collaboration for the Council’s Fall Tree Care Seminar and Arbor Day Celebration would be a possibility.

#### **D. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE 2011 ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION IN CARSON CITY. (5:58:40)**

– Chairperson Keever introduced the item and solicited the Council’s input on the event. Member Ozawa stated that “it was a successful celebration except weather”. In response to a comment by Member Peermann, Chairperson Keever suggested compiling ideas while the event was fresh in everyone’s mind, and suggested that this be an on-going agenda item.

#### **E. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE 2011 FALL TREE CARE SEMINAR.**

(6:00:20) – Chairperson Keever introduced the item and solicited input from the Council members. Member Ozawa suggested a speaker on fruit trees. Chairperson Keever suggested having a scavenger hunt, similar to the one done by the Historic Resources Committee. Discussion ensued regarding a date for the seminar. Member Brewer offered to arrange the catering. **Member Ozawa moved to hold the 2011 Fall Tree Care Seminar on November 9<sup>th</sup> and to authorize Mr. Moellendorf to secure the event venue. The motion was seconded by Member Brewer. Motion carried 4-0.**

#### **F. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A TREE INVENTORY OF CARSON**

**CITY’S URBAN FOREST. (6:07:43)** – Chairperson Keever introduced the item. Due to the absence of Vice Chairperson Horvath, it was agreed to table the item until the next meeting.

**G. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE POSSIBILITY OF THE COUNCIL EITHER BECOMING A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION, OR ESTABLISHING ANOTHER GROUP WHICH WOULD BE NON-PROFIT, IN ORDER TO RAISE FUNDS WHICH WOULD ALLOW THE COUNCIL TO CARRY OUT ITS GOALS. (6:08:55)** – Chairperson Keever introduced the item. Mr. Moellendorf stated that this topic had emerged during his meeting with Chairperson Keever and Member Peermann, regarding the web site. He presented three options to the Council. The first option recommended keeping things as they were. The second option would entail becoming a separate entity, similar to the Sacramento Tree Foundation, a non-profit group not tied to city organizations. He stated that this would allow an increase in fund raising and educational programs. This option would also require a contractual relationship with the City, and the disbandment of the Shade Tree Council. The third option, according to Mr. Moellendorf, would be that the Shade Tree Council continue its presence, however, Council members become the core of a non-profit organization with the ability to do more fund-raising, and recruit more members widely. He also suggested that this become an on-going agenda topic, to be explored in greater detail. Member Peermann reminded the Council that Carson City is a designated Tree City, and any change could require the approval of the Arbor Day Foundation. Chairperson Keever suggested inviting Susan Stead, the liaison with the Arbor Day Foundation, to the next meeting. Member Peermann also cautioned against violating open meeting laws, should option three be adopted, stating that this was his preferred option. Member Ozawa encouraged contributing to the Greenhouse Project, while retaining the Shade Tree Council as is. **Member Peermann moved to further investigate the requirements for the Arbor Day Foundation to maintain Carson City’s status as a Tree City USA, and obtain information from the District Attorney’s office regarding open meeting laws. The motion was seconded by Member Ozawa. Motion carried 4-0.** Chairperson Keever suggested making this an on-going agenda item.

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**H. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE COUNCIL'S WEB PAGES ON CARSON CITY'S WEB SITE.** (6:19:40) – Chairperson Keever introduced the item, clarifying that this was the item discussed by herself, Mr. Moellendorf, Member Peermann, and John Wilkinson, the City's IT Director. Member Peermann suggested moving this agenda item to the next meeting, since three members were absent. Chairperson Keever asked for objections, but none were forthcoming. The item was tabled to the next meeting.

**I. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE NUMBER OF TREE CARE SERVICES OPERATING IN CARSON CITY WHO HAVE AN AT LEAST ONE ARBORIST CERTIFIED BY THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE ON STAFF.** (6:20:29) – Chairperson Keever introduced the item. Member Brewer indicated that she had been able to reach 13 tree trimming companies and had found out that four out of thirteen she had called did not have certified arborists on board. She distributed her findings, incorporated into the record, to the Council members. Chairperson Keever called the results a “good start”, and asked Member Brewer to continue her research and present the results again during the August meeting.

**J. DISCUSSION REGARDING TREE HOUSE CONSTRUCTION IN CARSON CITY.** (6:23:35) – Chairperson Keever introduced the item and gave background on a tree house in Carson City which the Council considered unsafe. Mr. Moellendorf explained that he had been in contact with Kevin Gattis, Chief Building Official, and had been informed that tree houses were not permanent structures and did not apply to international building codes. He stated that filing a nuisance complaint by an individual, in writing, would be the only recourse, which could result in enforcement. Discussion ensued regarding jurisdictions, danger to children, and the interference with power lines. Mr. Moellendorf stated that an individual complaint was the first step for any course of action. Chairperson Keever thanked Mr. Moellendorf for his efforts.

#### 4. NON-ACTION ITEMS

**STATUS REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM STAFF** (6:39:05) – Mr. Moellendorf reported that he was contacted by the Carson City School District regarding the removal of 18 honey locust trees from Carson Middle School. He stated that they were able to transplant 12 of the trees. He also announced the Fulstone Wetlands Project on Northridge Road had just been completed, and that the dedication would take place on June 17, 2011.

**MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION** (6:34:33) – Member Peermann resigned, effective immediately, due to a changing schedule in employment. The Council expressed their regret over his departure. Mr. Moellendorf advised Member Peermann that a resignation letter should be sent to the City Manager's office. Member Brewer suggested notifying former applicant Jed Block. Member Ozawa updated the Council on the May 10, 2011 tree walk. She called the event “extremely successful”, with a turnout of 60 people. Chairperson Keever inquired about some trees trimmed in her neighborhood for firewood. She also reported that she had put her friend in California in touch with the Sacramento Tree Foundation for information on preventing cottonwood trees from flowering.

#### 5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

**6. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT** (6:42:12) – **Member Ozawa moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Member Brewer. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.**

The Minutes of the June 1, 2011 Carson City Shade Tree Council meeting are so approved this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2011.

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LEE-ANN KEEVER, Chair