

CARSON CITY SHADE TREE COUNCIL
Minutes of the August 1, 2012 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson City Shade Tree Council was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 1, 2012, in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Kyle Horvath
Vice Chairperson Gianna Shirk
Member Carol Brewer
Member Terrill Ozawa
Member Roy Trenoweth

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 (5:30:41) – Chairperson Horvath called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Member Saliga was absent as excused.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (5:31:02) – Chairperson Horvath entertained citizen comments; however, none were forthcoming.

1. **ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES (5:31:44)** – Chairperson Horvath introduced the item. **Member Brewer moved to approve the minutes of April 24, 2012 and June 6, 2012. The motion was seconded by Member Ozawa. Motion carried 5-0.**

2. **MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (5:32:02)** – Chairperson Horvath introduced the item. **Member Ozawa moved to hear agenda item 4C before item 3A. The motion was seconded by Member Brewer. Motion carried 5-0.**

3. **AGENDA ITEMS:**

A. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ABSENCE OF ANY COUNCIL MEMBER FROM THIS MEETING. – Member Saliga was absent as excused.

B. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO RECONFIRM LIAISON DUTIES. (6:08:02) – Chairperson Horvath introduced the item and noted that after the resignation of Member Mix the communications responsibilities would be handled by Vice Chairperson Shirk and Member Trenoweth. He stated that Members Saliga and Ozawa would have the education responsibilities; Members Brewer and Trenoweth would liaise with the City; and explained that grant and fundraising duties were still open, suggesting to recruit someone with those skills for the open position. Chairperson Horvath entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

C. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO DETERMINE FALL TREE CARE SEMINAR SPEAKERS, PRESENTATIONS, AND TOPICS, AS WELL AS COUNCIL MEMBERS' DUTIES. (6:09:30) – Chairperson Horvath introduced the item and noted the commitment of Mark Young from NV Energy, adding that the game/puzzle would be developed by Member Ozawa. Chairperson Horvath also mentioned that the Greenhouse topic would be handled by Member Saliga, and stated that he was working on bringing a soils expert and several other speakers. In response to Member Brewer's question, Chairperson Horvath stated he would work on the event catering. Mr. Moellendorf agreed that "water is a great topic" and suggested working with the University of Nevada Reno or the Cooperative Extension Program to secure a speaker. He also suggested having an outdoor pruning demonstration, and planned to arrange for a tree planting speaker. Chairperson Horvath entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

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D. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: REGARDING WHETHER THE COUNCIL SHOULD ADOPT A LANDMARK TREE PROGRAM. (6:15:05) – Chairperson Horvath introduced the item. Discussion ensued regarding the function of such a tree. Chairperson Horvath entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming. **Member Ozawa moved to suspend the Landmark Tree Program. The motion was seconded by Member Brewer. Motion carried 5-0.**

E. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: REGARDING FUNDRAISING PLAN OR OPPORTUNITIES FOR A CITY-WIDE STREET TREE INVENTORY. (6:16:30) – Chairperson Horvath introduced the item and suggested postponing it, in light of Member Mix’s resignation. There were no public comments regarding this item.

F. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: REGARDING DEVELOPING AND RECOMMENDING A TREE PLANTING PROGRAM ON CITY-OWNED PROPERTIES IN CARSON CITY. (6:16:45) – Chairperson Horvath introduced the item and asked whether this Council would like to endorse a tree planting program. He stressed the importance of such a program. Member Brewer wondered about such a program given the state of the economy. Member Ozawa received clarification from Mr. Moellendorf that trees on city-street right-of-ways would be the responsibility of the adjacent property owner. Mr. Moellendorf referred to a handout regarding the now suspended Carson City Street tree Program, which was funded by Question 18 funds. He explained that the program would advertise twice a year for homeowners to purchase a tree for a right-of-way, and the City would pay for the planting and “for some follow-up care for the next couple of years”, adding that due to budget cuts, the program was now on hold but hoped it could be resurrected someday. Mr. Moellendorf also praised Chairperson Horvath’s presentation of the urban forest to the Board of Supervisors. Chairperson Horvath noted he was in favor of such a program and suggested postponing this discussion in order for him to meet with City Staff for a brainstorming meeting and return with ideas. He also entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS

A. DISCUSSION ONLY ON THE STATUS OF THE SHADE TREE COUNCIL’S CURRENT WEBSITE AND WHETHER IT NEEDS TO BE REVISED. (6:27:22) – Chairperson Horvath introduced the item. Mr. Moellendorf explained that the City’s Information Technology Department would be able to design and create the website, but the maintenance would fall under this Council’s responsibility. Mr. Moellendorf also suggested having a presence on the City’s Facebook page.

B. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE CHAIRMAN’S PRESENTATION OF THE SHADE TREE COUNCIL’S GOALS TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. (6:30:26) – Chairperson Horvath introduced the item and thanked Mr. Moellendorf for delivering the financial portion of the presentation. He believed that the goals he presented had an impact, but was uncertain about the Board’s thoughts about a replanting program. Mr. Moellendorf noted that Chairperson Horvath was well-prepared and reminded him that the presentation was informational only. He noted that future recommendations would be easier because of this informational presentation.

C. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE PRESENTATION REGARDING NV ENERGY’S TREE CLEARANCE AND PRUNING PROGRAM. (5:32:53) – Chairperson Horvath introduced the item. Mark Young, Senior Vegetation Management Administrator for NV Energy, updated the Council on the company’s tree clearance and pruning activities in Carson City. Mr. Young noted that the program was to begin in June; however, the start date had been July 15, 2012, adding that the three sub-stations involved were Curry 1280, 1281, and 1282. He stated that the Curry 1281 was started first, as it was the Governor’s Mansion area and 90 percent of the work, 1,300 trees, would be done within that four-block radius. Mr. Young explained that 131 trees were trimmed to date, with 12 “facility protects”, which he clarified as hazards, in addition to “12 removals and 2 units of brush”. He estimated the completion to be within two or three weeks, utilizing five crews. Mr. Young stated that they had “a few refusals” from area residents; however, the overall experience had been positive. In response to a question by Member Brewer, Mr. Young clarified that objections are documented and negotiated, outlining all the necessary follow-up steps, including legal action. He also noted that the pushback had not been as negative as expected. Chairperson Horvath inquired about a “rip and replace” program and was

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informed that “it was the property owners’ responsibility to manage their own landscape”. Discussion ensued regarding property owner education versus replacement, and Chairperson Horvath stressed the importance of trees in Carson in order to avoid their replacement by sagebrush. Member Ozawa expressed concern over the removal of a sufficient number of trees, radically impacting the environment. Mr. Young noted that his responsibility included “over 15,000 miles of distribution line and 5,000 miles of transmission line” within Northern Nevada, adding that when his crews are trimming trees in this area, they are not attending to the other areas, impacting his budget and headcount. Member Brewer indicated that her trees had been trimmed by NV Energy and that the crews had “done a nice job”. She asked that the crews work on her property when she is home. Mr. Young also addressed the re-sprouting issues, especially during wet seasons. Vice Chairperson Shirk complimented NV Energy for their educational brochure about tree pruning, and suggested handing them out to the residents during the initial contact. Mr. Young suggested that the Council escalate their replacement requests to the company’s corporate communications officer. Chairperson Horvath thanked Mr. Young, and invited him to speak at the next Fall Tree Care Seminar, who accepted the invitation. Chairperson Horvath also entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

D. DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION ON A TREE INVENTORY AND PLAN FOR THE TREE PLANTINGS AT THE FREEWAY INTERCHANGES AND GRADE SEPARATIONS. (6:32:31) – Chairperson Horvath introduced the item. Mr. Moellendorf referred to the landscape drawings in the members’ packets and incorporated into the record, and outlined the project areas. He noted that 356 trees would be planted during this project. He also presented a Freeway Landscaping Project tree inventory, incorporated into the record, by horticultural variety. Chairperson Horvath commented that “this was by far the most trees that have gone into a city in one sitting” and suggested presenting an Arbor Day award or recognize the efforts of the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT). Mr. Moellendorf suggested also considering GROW, the organization working with NDOT, for the award.

E. REPORTS ONLY – NO DISCUSSION AMONG MEMBERS OR WITH STAFF WILL TAKE PLACE ON THESE ITEMS.

5. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (6:38:15)** – There were no additional future agenda items.
6. **CITIZEN COMMENTS (6:38:22)** – Chairperson Horvath entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.
7. **ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (6:38:26)** – Chairperson Horvath entertained a motion for adjournment. **Member Trenoweth moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Member Ozawa. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.**

The Minutes of the August 1, 2012 Carson City Shade Tree Council meeting are so approved this 3rd day of October, 2012.

KYLE HORVATH, Chair