

## **CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **Minutes of the June 2, 2004 Meeting**

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A regular meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 2, 2004 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Charles Zimmerman  
Vice Chairperson Paul Pugsley  
Tom Farrer  
Dan Greytak  
Randy Pahl  
Keith Wills

**STAFF:** Vern Krahn, Park Planner  
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 during regular business hours.

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL** - Chairperson Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present. Member McCubbin was absent.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (1-0007)** - None.

**1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - May 5, 2004 (1-0013)** - Member Greytak moved to approve the minutes. Vice Chairperson Pugsley seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

**2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (1-0025)** - None.

**3. AGENDA ITEMS:**

**3-A. ACTION REGARDING THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL ON YOUTH'S "YOUTH AT THE TABLE" PROGRAM PROPOSAL TO INVOLVE CARSON CITY YOUTH AS ACTIVE VOICES AND PARTICIPANTS IN THE COMMITTEE'S ISSUES AND ACTIVITIES (1-0027)** - Pauline Kiser, of the Community Council on Youth ("CCOY"), introduced Rosa Laurie, a Volunteer in Service to America ("VISTA") who is serving the CCOY during the next year. Ms. Laurie distributed CCOY brochures to the Committee members and staff. Ms. Kiser provided background information on this item, and she and Ms. Laurie provided an overview of the "Youth at the Table" program. In response to a question, Ms. Kiser described the interactive relationship between the committee liaison and the youth participant. She reviewed elements of the training to be provided to the committee liaison by CCOY through the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension. In response to a question, Ms. Laurie advised that CCOY staff will attempt to match students based on their interest in the purpose and vision of each of the participating committees. She discussed the benefits of involving young people in advisory committee meetings and activities. Ms. Kiser advised that the CCOY will not dictate to the participating advisory committees how to involve the youth.

In response to a question, Mr. Krahn advised that City staff will not be pursuing changes in membership criteria for any advisory committee at this time. He explained that City staff is considering the proposed program from the standpoint of having a youth participate as an ad hoc committee member. The young

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people will not be appointed by the Board of Supervisors, nor will they have voting privileges. Mr. Krahn expressed support for the program, and advised that the Committee would have to assume the responsibility of working with the youth participant. Member Farrer offered to provide transportation, but advised that he did not feel qualified to serve as the mentor/tutor. Chairperson Zimmerman commented that the program blends well with the Committee's goal to get more involved in education.

In response to a question, Ms. Kiser advised that CCOY is looking into the possibility of providing school credit to the youth participant. She listed other benefits such as the opportunity to participate with an advisory board, to fulfill community service requirements, to include in college applications, and to introduce young people to community service activities. In response to a question, Ms. Kiser advised that the CCOY goal is to involve sophomores and juniors in the program to provide the opportunity to serve longer than one year before graduation. She responded to further questions regarding the involvement of the UNR Cooperative Extension. In response to a question, Ms. Kiser advised that the CCOY has liability insurance coverage for volunteers. She will check into whether it extends to the youth participants.

Member Greytak commented that the match will be critical. Ms. Kiser agreed and suggested that the Committee could interview the youth candidates. Vice Chairperson Pugsley commended the CCOY on the proposal, and agreed with conducting interviews. He discussed Carson High School teacher Julie Koop's class projects at the River, and suggested approaching her for recommendations. Member Pahl agreed with some of the concerns regarding liability, and suggested that participation in the program could evolve into a senior project. In response to a question, Ms. Kiser advised that the youth will be required to commit to the Committee year-round. Member Farrer expressed support for the program, and reiterated a concern regarding how it will mesh with the Committee. Mr. Krahn suggested waiting until a future meeting to designate a mentor and to work out interview details.

Chairperson Zimmerman thanked Ms. Kiser and Ms. Laurie for their presentation. In response to a question, Ms. Kiser advised that commencement of the program will coincide with the beginning of the next school year. **Vice Chairperson Pugsley moved to proceed with structuring some manner in which a youth could participate with the Committee, that the Committee conduct an interview process to select the student, and that the Committee provide full support within the scope of the program as presented at this meeting. Member Pahl seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.**

**3-B. PRESENTATION ONLY BY THE GREAT BASIN BIRD OBSERVATORY REGARDING BIRD SURVEY/COUNTS AND RELATED HABITAT ISSUES ALONG THE CARSON RIVER (1-0499)** - Great Basin Bird Observatory Science Director Elizabeth Ammon provided background information on the Great Basin Bird Observatory, and narrated a slide presentation. She advised that one of the explicit functions of the Great Basin Bird Observatory is to provide information to organizations such as this Committee. She advised that a report and species list is available through Otis Bay Company. She acknowledged that the survey was done in conjunction with the recent geomorphology/biology study by Otis Bay Company. The information is part of the Great Basin Bird Observatory statewide data base. Member Greytak thanked Ms. Ammon for her presentation, and provided background information on the habitat conservation plan. In response to a comment, Ms. Ammon advised that good inventory data will take several years to compile. She noted the preliminary indication that the drought is having a significant effect on the bird populations, and that long-term monitoring is critical. Chairperson Zimmerman thanked Ms. Ammon for her presentation.

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### **3-C. ACTION REGARDING THE CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S ROLE IN ASSISTING THE CARSON RIVER COALITION'S EDUCATION WORKING GROUP AND THE CARSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT TO ENCOURAGE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PUBLIC AND STUDENTS ALONG THE CARSON RIVER (1-0983)**

- Mr. Krahn introduced Carson Water Subconservancy District Watershed Coordinator Genie Azad, and provided background information on this item. Member Pahl provided an overview of the initial meeting, and advised that the educators need ready, "packaged" curriculum, resources to conduct field trips, sufficient and appropriate timing for field trips, etc. Ms. Azad agreed, and advised that having the support of different agencies and committees is helpful to the faculty when presenting programs to the school district board. She advised that the "Explore Your Watershed" program was developed in an effort to provide a "ready-made package" to educators. She discussed providing resources and working with teachers to develop lesson plans which meet school district curriculum standards. Mr. Krahn reviewed other ideas discussed, such as helping to arrange classroom speakers. He discussed the importance of having school children learn about their local ecosystems in addition to those in foreign lands. He suggested that many of the Committee members would be qualified to serve as guest lecturers.

Chairperson Zimmerman requested Mr. Krahn to describe the future direction of the Committee's working group based on what was discussed at the meeting. Mr. Krahn suggested a meeting with the Carson River Coalition's education working group to develop, over the summer, more alternatives "to fill in the holes." He suggested that it would be most appropriate for the Committee's working group to come alongside the Coalition's education working group. Ms. Azad suggested that the Committee's working group could serve as a partner. She explained that the Coalition's education working group is considering the entire watershed, but each program should be tailored to each community. She related details of a conversation with Dan Kaffer, who suggested scheduling a work day during the week which could be dedicated to the kids. She suggested that the Committee's working group could help with the logistics and ensuring support from the local school district. Mr. Krahn referred to the many summer programs sponsored by the Carson City Recreation Department, and suggested working with Recreation Superintendent Barbara Singer to develop a program for the summer of 2005. He discussed the Outdoor Education Program developed by John Warpeha and Laura Leuders, two former Parks and Recreation Department interns. He advised that Ms. Leuders implemented the program in conjunction with Recreation Department programs, and that it was successful. He suggested that the education component should be considered from a long-term perspective in terms of planning and implementation.

Ms. Azad discussed the Carson City Utilities Department First Annual Water Festival, and Mary Kay Riedl's Project WET program. She reiterated the need for support of ongoing programs. In response to a question, Ms. Azad provided background information on the origin of the River Wranglers program. She acknowledged that the program is integrated with the schools. Vice Chairperson Pugsley provided additional information, and clarified that the program is associated with the schools as a separate, non-profit organization. Chairperson Zimmerman suggested that the education working group continue to interface with the Carson River Coalition and, once school is back in session, with the educators. Vice Chairperson Pugsley commented that the Committee's education working group was pleasantly surprised to learn of the many ongoing programs. He agreed that the Committee should keep in touch with regard to understanding the programs, and be prepared to offer support and assistance whenever possible. Member Farrer agreed, and proposed scheduling another meeting of the Committee's and Coalition's education working groups, prior to the August Committee meeting, to discuss specific programs to assist the Coalition and the educators. Ms. Azad suggested pooling resources, and advised that Mary Kay Riedl has proposed, with

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regard to Project WET, to meet with the principals and faculty on a monthly basis to present ongoing programs of which they may not be aware. Mr. Krahn advised that he would request Management Assistant Stella Hyatt to schedule a meeting between the Committee's and the Coalition's working groups. Member Farrer volunteered to assist in setting up the meeting. Chairperson Zimmerman thanked Mr. Krahn and Ms. Azad for their presentation.

**3-D. UPDATE ONLY REGARDING PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CARSON CITY BICYCLE SYSTEM PLAN ALONG THE CARSON RIVER WITHIN CARSON CITY (1-1336)** - Mr. Krahn reviewed the staff report and the proposed changes as designated on displayed maps. In response to a question, he described the differences between a bicycle path, a multi-use path, a bicycle lane, and a shared road facility. He advised that the existing "bicycle path" designations will be changed to indicate "multi-use" paths which are open to pedestrians, bicyclists, other non-motorized uses and, in some cases, equestrians. The Mexican Ditch Trail and the linear park which starts at Saliman Road and goes east through the freeway corridor will accommodate equestrian use. Mr. Krahn advised that multi-use path etiquette will have to be developed at some point in the future. He acknowledged that all multi-use trails will exclude motorized traffic with the exception of service vehicles. In response to a further question, he discussed the signage which has been installed to designate the type of uses allowed. Chairperson Zimmerman thanked Mr. Krahn for his presentation.

**3-E. UPDATE ONLY REGARDING THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S PLAN TO CONSTRUCT A NEW BRIDGE OVER THE CARSON RIVER AT DEER RUN ROAD (1-1604)** - Mr. Krahn provided background information on this item, and thanked Vice Chairperson Pugsley for advising him of this project. He also thanked Robert Kvam, NDOT Consultant Manager, who provided the documentation included in the agenda materials. He referred to the Frequently Asked Questions and advised that the project is now 100% designed. NDOT has received preliminary drawings, and is targeting late summer of 2005 to begin construction. Mr. Krahn reviewed the project costs and bridge dimensions, and advised that the new structure will be downstream of the existing bridge. He discussed road improvements, and advised that they will include appropriate striping and signage. He referred to the May 27, 2004 e-mail from Development Services Director Andrew Burnham, and reviewed funding mechanisms for the project. Mr. Krahn referred to the "Description of Activities Within the Carson River," together with a plan depicting the new road and bridge alignments and design elevations.

Vice Chairperson Pugsley pointed out that NDOT is working much further upstream than ever before. The work to be done will be within the scope of the high water mark, which creates a concern with regard to protecting the bank above. Vice Chairperson Pugsley was encouraged to see that NDOT is increasing the bridge span. He reviewed details of the dewatering aspect of the project which will take place during low flow.

Mr. Krahn advised that Mr. Kvam informed him that all necessary Army Corps of Engineers permits have been or will be in place prior to beginning construction. Member Greytak commented that the project is a surprise, and suggested that the area residents will be concerned about the bridge creating a different type of use on Pinion Hills Drive and Deer Run Road. He inquired as to whether the "zero shoulder" will create a concern regarding the trail system. He suggested that the old bridge may be a great public access site, and that there may have been an opportunity to construct a portage site which doesn't appear to have been considered by NDOT representatives. He discussed the possibility of a fish stocking station, and requested

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the opportunity to present some of these suggestions. Mr. Krahn advised that he would contact Deputy City Engineer John Flansberg and report back to the Committee. Vice Chairperson Pugsley discussed the project time table. Member Pahl requested Mr. Krahn to verify the construction start date. Chairperson Zimmerman thanked Mr. Krahn for his presentation.

**3-F. ACTION TO APPROVE THE CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S VOLUNTEER RIPARIAN HABITAT GROUP'S DRAFT GOALS FOR A HABITAT MANAGEMENT PLAN ALONG THE CARSON RIVER WITHIN CARSON CITY (1-1877)** - Member Greytak provided background information on the Mission and Vision Statements included in the Meeting Notes. At Mr. Krahn's request, Member Greytak read the Mission and Vision Statements and goals into the record. In response to a question, Mr. Krahn requested the Committee to consider approving the mission and vision statements and goals as a working draft. The volunteer working group could then return at the August Committee meeting with a revised draft. Discussion took place regarding the wording of the mission and vision statements. **Vice Chairperson Pugsley moved to endorse the direction of the working group. Member Pahl seconded the motion.** Additional discussion took place regarding the mission statement, and Chairperson Zimmerman called for a vote on the pending motion. **Motion carried 6-0.** Chairperson Zimmerman thanked Member Greytak for his work.

**3-G. UPDATE ONLY REGARDING THE CARSON CITY COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN AND PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN SCOPES OF WORK (1-2188)** - Mr. Krahn referred to the scope of work included in the agenda materials, and advised that the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Planning Commission approved it at a joint meeting on May 26, 2004. He advised that the process for updating the comprehensive and parks and recreation master plans is underway. Both this Committee and the Open Space Advisory Committee will be involved in the process, together with the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mr. Krahn provided an overview of the proposed scope of work (Exhibit A). Member Greytak suggested that the Street Department should be included as a partner with the Parks and Recreation Department. In response to a question, Mr. Krahn advised that City staff is still considering whether the BLM Urban Interface Plan should be included in the scope of work. Planning and Community Development Director Walter Sullivan and his staff are working with BLM representatives. Mr. Krahn acknowledged that the Urban Interface Plan is a very important part of the process. In response to a further question, Mr. Krahn advised that once the comprehensive master plan moves forward and larger land use goals and objectives have been identified, NDOT will become involved in revisions to the transportation master plan. Chairperson Zimmerman thanked Mr. Krahn for his presentation.

**3-H. ACTION REGARDING THE CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S 2004 CARSON RIVER AWARDS (1-2458)** - Mr. Krahn provided background information on this item and, in response to a question, provided contact information for anyone interested in submitting a nomination. Supervisor Williamson suggested publishing the nomination form on the City's website. Mr. Krahn acknowledged that the nomination form would again be published in the local newspapers. He advised that he would bring the nominations forward to the Committee at the September meeting.

#### **4. NON-ACTION ITEMS:**

**STATUS REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS (1-2592)** - None.

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**STATUS REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM STAFF** (1-2601) - Mr. Krahn reviewed the “FYI” items included in the agenda materials.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS** (1-2645) - Chairperson Zimmerman suggested inviting a knowledgeable person to make a presentation at the next Committee meeting regarding the current drought and its effect on the Carson River. Mr. Krahn advised that the Pine Nut Mountains Plan Amendment is nearly ready for public review.

**5. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT** (1-2692) - Member Pahl moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m. Vice Chairperson Pugsley seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

The Minutes of the June 2, 2004 meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee are so approved this 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2004.

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CHARLES ZIMMERMAN, Chair