

CARSON CITY SHADE TREE COUNCIL
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A regular meeting of the Shade Tree Council was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 23, 2008 in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Lee-Ann Keever
Vice Chair Gianna Shirk
Kyle Horvath
Carole Brewer
Terrill Ozawa
Roy Trenoweth

STAFF: Darlene Rubin, Recording Secretary

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

CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM: Chair Lee-Ann Keever called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. Roll was called and there was a quorum.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENIZED ITEMS: (1-017) None.

1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (1-019) None.

2. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA: (1-036) Hold Items 3-A, 3-B, and 3-C for discussion until the end of the meeting to see if Roger Moellendorf arrived.

3. AGENDA ITEMS:

3-A. Discussion and possible action regarding a policy for excused and unexcused absences at Council Meetings. (1-673) Chair Keever said the language had been modified per Roger Moellendorf's request. She added that she was "adamant about people attending meetings." For that reason, she felt there should be tight restrictions. She emailed Roger wording from the legislature on excused and unexcused absences. The district attorney had suggested that the Council begin to implement the process. The language had gone to the DA's office but no word yet on whether it had been approved. It was agreed to wait for the next meeting when Roger Moellendorf was present to take action. There was some discussion about the fact that earlier in the summer there had been talk about changing the meeting night. Carole Brewer thought it had been changed and missed a meeting. Chair Keever said that was considered excused because the City had decided not to change the meeting night until January 2009, and no one informed members.

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3-B. Discussion and possible action regarding the potential vacancy on the Shade Tree Council. (1-719) There was supposed to be a report from Roger Moellendorf about whether Carol Roberts had responded to the certified letter sent to her; as far as Chair Keever knew, Carol had not responded and her 21 days were up. A formal recommendation by the Board of Supervisors had to be made in order to remove her, which Carole Brewer recommended. For one reason because it was sometimes difficult to have a quorum at meetings, if someone was out sick, so the vacancy needed to be filled. Chair Keever asked if members would be available for an emergency meeting if Roger Moellendorf was able to take care of that one item. It could be done by telephone conference. It had to be noticed like a regular meeting and state it would be a conference call. It was agreed that action had to be postponed until the next meeting, or at such time before that when a special emergency meeting could be arranged. It would be good to have someone on board for the January 2009 meeting.

3-C. Discussion and possible action regarding potential applicants for appointment to membership on the Shade Tree Council. Continued to the November 20, 2008 meeting.

3-D. Discussion and possible action regarding the Shade Tree Council's annual Fall Tree Care Seminar. (1-044) Chair Lee-Ann Keever introduced this item. Carole Brewer confirmed that Comma Coffee had agreed to cater the seminar for \$17.00 per person. That price included a cookie for dessert. The caterer would have the set up done by 7:00 a.m. Ms. Brewer would inform the caterer of the final number of attendees by Friday, November 14, at 2:00 p.m. Chair Keever felt that it would be best to allow some "wiggle room" for attendees who registered on the morning of the seminar. The head count plus ten was agreed upon.

Member Carole Brewer reported on the matter of the gifts. She preferred cash or a gift certificate, from Greenhouse Gardens, for example, in amounts of \$25, \$15, and \$10. That was agreed upon by all members. Chair Keever asked Member Brewer to bring in the receipts at the next meeting or turn them into Daria, for reimbursement.

Member Roy Trenoweth asked for confirmation about set up time; it would be by 7:00 a.m. He said he would advise Mitch Ames at the Community Center of the Council's arrival at that time.

Member Kyle Horvath advised he had sent out the article to the *Nevada Appeal*, the Tahoe paper and the *Reno Gazette-Journal*. He also put a notice in all the Calendar sections. He stated he had made the adjustment to the PowerPoint slide inserting the price and so forth, and sent it off to CATV for airing. Chair Keever asked about getting in touch with Dave Morgan, the local newscaster on Channel 10; Kyle said he would do that. (In another discussion both Vice Chair Gianna Shirk and Member Kyle Horvath reported having had unsatisfactory telephone communications with the woman at the CATV station.) Chair Keever also asked Kyle to prepare a press release about the presentation of the proclamation from the Legislature to the Shade Tree Council, for its hard work on behalf of Carson City and its citizens, to take place at the Fall Tree Care Seminar on November 18. Assemblywoman Bonnie Parnell, who was going to make the presentation, would be out of town on that day, and Chair Keever said she was negotiating with

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“Smokey the Bear” to make the presentation. A suggestion was made to contact Senator Mark Amodei in that regard, and Roy Trenoweth said he would do that. The presentation was tentatively scheduled for 8:30 to 8:45 a.m. Chair Keever would email Kyle some copy for the press release. Kyle Horvath also mentioned the “piggy-back” article that they got from the Home & Garden section. He emailed all the information to the editor and she would be devoting that section the seminar.

In general discussion it was agreed for members to meet at the Community Center at 7:00 a.m. They would put up the flag, and all the photographs would be mounted and put on the wall, or, in the case of two series, on the stands. Chair Keever said she would prepare seminar programs. Terrill Ozawa said she had completed the crossword puzzle game for the seminar. Chair Keever said she would like someone besides Terrill to do the photography for the proclamation presentation so that Terrill could appear in the photo. Possibly Dave Morgan would do it.

Vice Chair Shirk was asked about the status of the continuing education units (CEUs) and she reported that the person who was supposed to call her back had not done so. She would follow up on it. Chair Keever noted that this year anyone (of the CEU attendees) who had a published article regarding the seminar would receive additional credits.

All the members agreed to help with set up, and Carole Brewer reported she could not be on hand for the tear down due to her work schedule.

Chair Keever reported on the MC45 Refund Program. If one used diesel or gasoline fuel in a non-highway manner the sales tax would be refunded. She noted that many landscapers who used tree mulchers or weed whackers could benefit from that program. She would bring the appropriate forms to the seminar and make an announcement.

Regarding the demonstrations, Chair Keever said that Tom Henderson would do one. The Parks and Recreation Department, however, was reluctant to speak to large groups and would not be doing a demonstration. There had been little enthusiasm for the tree planting demonstration, primarily because of the weather. It was suggested that a tree planting demonstration on Arbor Day would be better. Roger Moellendorf was getting all the equipment (speakers, etc.) needed. Kyle Horvath had volunteered to pick up and return Paul Grimyser from the airport. Chair Keever noted that Paul Grimyser worked for the City of Las Vegas where they had a successful “Shade Tree Initiative” which had proven to be very popular with homeowners. Additionally, he would speak about protecting and preserving urban forests. She noted, too, that the Division of Forestry had told her Mr. Grimyser was an outstanding speaker, charismatic, and that “you learned a lot” [from him].

Chair Keever said members should wear their imprinted shirts. Kyle did not have one, but Lee-Ann said she would take care of getting one for him. Also members should wear their name tags. Finally, seminar evaluations would be available and they could be reviewed at the November meeting.

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3-E. Discussion and possible action regarding members(s) of the Council attending a grant writing workshop(s). (1-416) Vice Chair Gianna Shirk said she had sent an email to Chair Keever concerning a grant writing workshop taking place on Monday, October 27, at the Community Center. There was a small fee (\$10). Lee-Ann said she believed it was offered a few times a year. Kyle Horvath said he definitely wanted to attend. Chair Keever asked him to report back to the Council at the next meeting. **Member Roy Trenoweth moved to reimburse Kyle Horvath for the workshop fee. Carole Brewer seconded the motion. It carried unanimously.**

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS: (1-454) Carole Brewer said she heard the elm trees were not dying, they were being attacked by a bug. Roy Trenoweth said there had been an article in the newspaper by the Cooperative Extension about two weeks ago. Lee-Ann Keever mentioned a blight up at the lake affecting the sugar pines, and there was general agreement that it had been caused by the drought. There had been some speculation that the second growth of trees had not been as drought resistant or hardy. Roy Trenoweth said the article mentioned they would be planting “drought resistant sugar pines” would be planted in the fall and next spring. Terrill Ozawa said she read that a fungus had attacked the sugar pines but they had found approximately 20 percent were resistant and were selecting seeds from those to insure immunity to the fungus in the next generation.

Kyle Horvath said he was still looking to get in touch Brian Wallace, chair for the Washoe Tribe, in an effort to get to the Washoe historical people, and would continue on in that regard.

Vice Chair Gianna Shirk asked about submission of hours volunteered. Chair Keever said they should be turned in on November 20. She reminded members to keep track of anything done for the Shade Tree Council—such as attending the Fall Tree Care Seminar, the Arbor Day celebration, the grant writing workshop, monthly meetings, etc—and turn that information into Carole Brewer who would calculate it. That work was integral to being awarded the Shade Tree Award annually by Tree City. “We have to show that we are an active part of the community.” Another example, she said, was when she had done a tree planting at work. She would email a time-keeping chart to members.

There was a general discussion about the Council vacancy, and clarification there was only one opening, even though when the notice went out it had indicated three openings; which meant that anyone who applied would have to be interviewed and the most qualified would be chosen.

Chair Keever reported that last January, a nephew of her co-worker had been killed in Iraq (Sgt. David Drockulidge). A collection was taken to purchase a tree. Washoe County then donated the tree, so money was left over. When the co-workers learned the young man’s parents were going up to visit the grave site, they decided to purchase a bench to put under the tree. A bench that met all the Park standards and federal standards would cost about \$1,000, and they had only \$250. However, when the bench company learned what they were doing they donated the bench and it had been installed at Silver Knolls Park, Reno, on the way to Cold Springs. The tree, a sycamore, was doing great.

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5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: (1-574) In general discussion, it was agreed that Arbor Day planning should begin. Then, in January, the Sierra Room would have to be booked for the November (2009) Fall Tree Care Seminar. Chair Keever reported that Genoa and Minden were offering "Cemetery Walks," and asked if that would be a good idea for the Council to do in the Carson cemetery next year. She pointed that the Carson cemetery had beautiful trees and many well-known politicians (five governors, a secretary of state, Abe Curry and Sam Yerington) buried there. She suggested uniting with the Proscenium Players, Brewery Arts Center, or other acting group and split the gate. The admission should be \$5.00, they thought. It would be good PR, she added. She went on to explain the idea was to select some famous people, the players would be costumed appropriately, and then they recreated brief biographies. It was suggested that it would be advantageous to have it on the same day as the "Ghost Walk" since there would already be people in town for that event. There was discussion, too, about the headstone that glowed in the dark. There could also be a concession where hot chocolate could be sold, if desired, and there was a tour guide who carried a lantern from site to site. The cemetery staff could probably determine the best route. All the members agreed it was a great idea for next Halloween season and should be put on the agenda for January 2009. In Genoa and Minden the actors provided their own period costumes and the appropriate research was done for script accuracy.

Finally, Vice Chair Gianna Shirk thanked Chair Keever for the wonderful photographs she had made of the Council members with Governor Gibbons.

6. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT: (1-802) Member Terrill Ozawa moved to adjourn the meeting. Roy Trenoweth seconded the motion and it carried 6-0. Chair Keever adjourned the meeting at 6:13 p.m.

The Minutes of the Shade Tree Council Meeting of October 23, 2008 are so approved this 20th day of November, 2008.

Lee-Ann Keever, Chair