

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, November 20, 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: Roger Moellendorf, Parks and Recreation Department Director
Darlene Rubin, Recording Secretary
(1-0005)

NOTE: A recording of these proceedings, the council'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.

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON NON-AGENIZED ITEMS: None

1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Terrill Ozawa to approve the minutes of September 25, 2009. It was seconded by Roy Trenoweth, and carried 5-0 with one abstention (Brewer). A motion was made by Carole Brewer to approve the minutes of October 23, 2008. It was seconded by Terrill Ozawa and carried 6-0.

2. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (1-0030): Chair Keever requested to hold Items 3-A, 3-B, and 3-C until Roger Moellendorf arrived to get his input.

3. AGENDA ITEMS:

3-A. Discussion and possible action regarding a policy for excused and unexcused absences at Council meetings. (1-298) Chair Keever referred to the attachment to the agenda item 3-A, attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference, and asked the members if they agreed with the wording, which they did. There was general discussion about the record-keeping aspect of absence data, and Chair Keever determined that because information was public record it would be available upon request. Mr. Moellendorf said that when his office received a copy of the minutes they could keep a tally of any absences and requests for that information could be obtained from Stella Hyatt. **Roy Trenoweth motioned to approve the definitions of excused and unexcused absences and that the record-keeping**

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of the absence data would be kept by Mr. Moellendorf's office. It was seconded by Carole Brewer and carried unanimously.

3-B. Discussion and possible action regarding the potential vacancy on the Shade Tree

Council. (1-373) Roger Moellendorf reported that the vacancy had been advertised and will continue until filled. There had been no responses.

3-C. Discussion and possible action regarding potential applicants for appointment to the

Shade Tree Council. (1-400) Mr. Moellendorf noted that three members of the current council (Trenoweth, Brewer, Ozawa) had asked to be reappointed at the end of their current term. Those individuals said they needed new oaths and they would go to Alan Glover's office after the first of the year. Mr. Moellendorf noted that before that could be done, the reappointment would have to go before the Board of Supervisors at the December 4, 2008 meeting. **A motion was made by Vice Chair Gianna Shirk to reappoint Roy Trenoweth, Carole Brewer, and Terrill Ozawa for another term on the Shade Tree Council, at the expiration of their current term. The motion was seconded by Kyle Horvath and carried 3-0. (Trenoweth, Brewer, and Ozawa abstaining.)**

There was some general discussion about Carol Roberts, a former Council member, who had moved to Texas without notice to the Council.

3-D. Discussion and possible action regarding the Shade Tree Council's annual Fall Tree

Care Seminar. (1-0047) Chair Keever asked for members' comments on the seminar on November 18, 2008. Members' were unanimous in their praise of Chair Keever's outstanding leadership in the successful seminar presentation. They were especially complimentary about the "amazing" video/CD that Ms. Keever's son had produced. Roger Moellendorf felt it was equal to a Ken Burns [a well-known PBS documentarian] production in quality and content.

Chair Keever reported she had received a call from a professor at the [Western Nevada] college who informed her people had been calling him about that video and they requested a copy to include in their history program. She said there were a few small glitches which her son was editing out. Also, the City of Las Vegas' Paul Grimyser liked the photo display so much that he wanted to have his staff work with the history department at UNLV to produce a similar project. He was also impressed with the Council's Legislative Proclamation and photograph with Governor Gibbons. It seemed to give him an idea of just what could be accomplished.

Next, Chair Keever presented a handout, attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference, of the tallied evaluation results of the Seminar's questionnaire. Fifty people had registered to attend, with 47 actual attendees, and 28 of those completing the questionnaire. The results were extremely favorable, with just one person commenting negatively about the price and the food. Council members again were in agreement that the Seminar had been hugely successful and looked forward to expanding the activities next year to include an actual tree planting demonstration. One respondent listed the name of Craig Witt as a

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potential speaker for next year. Roy Trenoweth identified Mr. Witt as being from Gardnerville and an expert on composting. Member Horvath said he was with Full Circle Composting, near the Gardnerville Airport. Mr. Horvath also mentioned that there were three girls from UNR's Agriculture School present; one was working with the City of Reno to do a statewide composting program whereby restaurants and private individuals could take their compostable materials to a community composting location, as well as pick up compost for their own use. He added they were trying to get casinos involved as well and they would separate their compostable product from other waste.

Returning to the subject of the Seminar, Roger Moellendorf felt that John Christofferson had done an excellent job, as did Molly Sinnott, who stepped in and filled up some holes to such a degree that the presentations appeared "seamless." The members agreed they owed Molly a lunch or a gift to acknowledge her contribution. Mr. Moellendorf said there had been one observation that they wished there had been more content on actual tree care rules, and he felt Molly had filled in that gap; had she not been there that may have been a more valid observation. There had been some loss of interest in Tom Henderson's presentation on pruning because he spoke so softly that it had been difficult to hear him.

Chair Keever said that Stella Hyatt had suggested having the seminar at Fuji Park next year; there was a large facility with a kitchen. Also, the recently planted trees by next year would need pruning. Mr. Moellendorf suggested that by using a different park every year all the trees would benefit from pruning. Terrill Ozawa noted that the ground was not frozen, as it was feared might be the case, so perhaps they could plan on a planting demonstration for next year.

Carole Brewer asked how the prizes for the crossword puzzle winners were disseminated. She noted that there was some "cheating" going on by a few attendees. Chair Keever said next year there should be a rule that cell phones could not be used to look up answers. The names of those who had the correct answers were put into a box for a drawing; only five people got all correct answers. Carole Brewer donated the \$50 prize money, and everyone seemed to agree that cash prizes were a good idea. Terrill Ozawa said she had received compliments on the crossword puzzle.

Chair Keever spoke about booking a room for next year's seminar as soon as possible, perhaps at the first meeting in 2009, which would be in February, at the Community Center-Sierra Room, where it and all subsequent meetings would be televised. Mr. Moellendorf said Molly Sinnott had left a message on his phone asking if the Shade Tree Council would be interested in joining with her Desert Green ISA Conference next year, as it would be held in Carson City. He would try to find out when her conference was scheduled. He also suggested that next year they try to bring in someone from Denver to talk about their "Green Program," or Sacramento, where there was a similar program. Ms. Keever said they should research potential speakers, especially because they did have money to allocate for speakers. Another attendee suggested to Mr. Moellendorf to bring in someone from Elko; it was uncertain whether there was a Shade Tree Council in Elko, but it was a "Tree City USA" city.

Returning to the subject of Molly Sinnott, Chair Keever asked if a gift card would be appropriate. There

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was general agreement that a \$50 card would be fine, perhaps to a restaurant. Mr. Moellendorf said he would check into that. **Carole Brewer motioned to give Molly Sinnott a gift certificate to a restaurant for \$50.00 for her great help in the seminar. Roy Trenoweth seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

3-E. Discussion and possible action regarding the grant writing workshop attended by Council member Kyle Horvath on October 27, 2008. (1-434) Kyle Horvath reported that the workshop had been presented by the Nevada Arts Council and therefore totally focused on grant writing for the arts. The woman who presented the workshop was from Gunnison, Colorado, and she spoke about Carson City's urban setting versus her more rural setting, and they had around 27 art endeavors ongoing and they regularly received grants. He felt the workshop had been very informative, in fact, when he wrote the grant for the tree function he had written something similar. What he especially gained was the information on all the grants the Nevada Art Council was doing this year, and some very good ideas, which he presented. Currently in Reno there was an exhibit called the "Mangrove" located downtown by the river. It consisted of five tree sculptures by artists from various areas. The trees were made from all kinds of recycled materials with different artistic qualities, and were lighted at night. Those "trees" stood in an otherwise vacant lot and now people could walk there, have picnics, and so forth. Mr. Horvath provided photographs. The project was sponsored by Black Rocks Arts Foundation. He said he would like to consider putting together a side commission with Nevada Arts Council, STC, Downtown Planing Commission, and come up with a tree sculpture idea for Carson City, in the vein of something that honored the history of Carson City. He felt the CD (that Chair Keever's son produced for the seminar) really spoke about the city's history and he wanted to replicate that in the tree sculpture. He hoped to share some ideas and do some grant writing and get the funds to get an artist to sculpt a tree out of recycled materials that would incorporate the history of Carson City.

Chair Keever asked Kyle to research that during the break and return at the February 2009 meeting with suggestions of artists, sites around town where what he described could be located—look for the most visible. Kyle felt this would probably be a two-year project—2010 Arbor Day—besides planting a tree, an artist would be commissioned. The benefits to such an idea would be many; instant shade, instant beauty and no need to water, and it was a focal point for people to visit to learn about the city's history. Kyle drew a semblance of his idea on the blackboard—the roots would represent past history and old mining tools could be used to construct the base and roots. Next, the current period—what was the current industry—gaming, and that would be the center or trunk which could be constructed with gaming chips, etc., then the branches above that represented the future—alternative energy might be a good choice. Perhaps wind or solar companies could donate panels to be used as branches with movement so there was motion to emulate a real tree. At night all the solar panels would light up the little lights in the tree.

Chair Keever said he would be on the February agenda to report the results of his research. There was some general discussion about forming a team to work together. Mr. Moellendorf suggested that Kyle consider contacting the new Carson City Cultural Commission to get on their agenda to talk about the idea as it might be a joint project between the two groups. Chair Keever said to wait until after the February

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meeting when it would be voted on whether to proceed.

3-F. Discussion and possible action regarding the Shade Tree Council's application to the National Arbor Day Foundation for renewing its Tree City USA status. (1-573): Chair Keever asked for members to submit their hours for the year. Roy Trenoweth reported that the "Tree City USA" sign at the south end of town had been a graffiti victim. Mr. Moellendorf said they had something that would take off the paint. Chair Keever said that should be taken up during the staff report segment.

Chair Keever said Terry had given her all the photos, she still needed press releases (she would print from the internet), there was a story in the paper on Saturday about the seminar, and those things along with a list of all their activities (tree planting, the seminar, Kyle's workshop) for the year would be submitted. The hours members submitted should include everything done regarding trees—writing press releases or articles, or ads. Terry asked about attending a GROW meeting, which counted also. Chair Keever noted their many accomplishments during the year and all would be included in their submission, including the CD made for the seminar. She asked Kyle to work with Daria to put everything together for submission. Chair Keever said they needed to make up their scrapbook.

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS: (1-668) Status reports and comments from staff: Mr. Moellendorf said again that the Council did a very good job on the Seminar. There were a few challenges but everyone pulled together and it worked. He next reported that other commissions were undertaking a Workshop project that might be of benefit to the STC. Parks and Recreation and Carson River Advisory had done it so far, where they set aside a Saturday to have a goal-setting workshop. It was a place to come up with ideas (like the tree sculpture Kyle mentioned), and he felt that it would be a good idea if they wanted to do that. It was an opportunity for self-assessment and setting goals and directions for the future. He felt he could provide a neutral facilitator—someone from outside—and there could be food and so on. Chair Keever asked if the workshop would be open to the public, which Mr. Moellendorf said it would be. It had to be noticed like any other meeting. But, he added, no one from outside attended, although all agreed the public would be welcome, would be a possible source for new ideas, and if their interest was great enough, as potential Council members. They all agreed the idea should be agendaized for the next meeting, and possible action.

Members' announcements and requests for information: Kyle Horvath asked if they could get "Tree City USA" stickers from the Arbor Day Foundation. Chair Keever thought they could be ordered. Maybe they could hand them out at the next seminar or on Arbor Day if they were not too costly. She asked Kyle to research the cost and availability and report back in February.

Mr. Moellendorf said he had name tags for Gianna, Kyle and Roy.

Terry said that there had not "been a bump in the road" at the seminar. People were expressing how happy they were with what was taking place.

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There was discussion about ordering more “Tree City USA” signs.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: (1-792) Chair Keever said they needed to begin planning for Arbor Day 2009. She said they had earlier decided they wanted to have an Arbor Day planting at the new park off Arrowhead–Ronald G. Wilson Park. They now had irrigation and water for the tree site, so they would vote on that at next meeting. They also needed to look for presenters, check on tree donations, and decide what they wanted to do as far as a program; tying it in with school children had not worked in the past, so perhaps adult art would be better and would enable them to expand the media used. She asked for members to think about it and come with ideas. She also felt invitations should be sent to all legislators. The supervisors and the mayor had always been supportive.

The T-shirts needed to be replaced. Chair Keever said there was a surplus of money so they needed to discuss the type of shirt–male for men and female for women–and the color. Kyle would bring a catalog but they would have to follow the City’s ordering protocol. Carole suggested dark green color, which all agreed with.

6. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT: Carole Brewer made a motion to adjourn, it was seconded by Gianni Shirk, and carried unanimously.

Chair Keever adjourned the meeting at 6:18 p.m.

The minutes of the Shade Tree Council meeting of November 20, 2008 are so approved this 4th day of February, 2009.

Lee-Ann Keever, Chair