

CARSON CITY SHADE TREE COUNCIL
Minutes of the October 7, 2009 Meeting
Page 1

A regular meeting of the Carson City Shade Tree Council was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 7, 2009 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

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

STAFF: Roger Moellendorf, Parks and Recreation Department Director
Jano Barnhurst, 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-Recorder's Office, and available for review during regular business hours.

CALL TO ORDER ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (5:29:50) - Chairperson Keever called the meeting to Order at 5:29 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Member Ozawa arrived after roll call. Member Horvath arrived at 5:42 p.m.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (5:30:24) - None.

1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - (5:31:07) - **Member Brewer moved to accept the minutes of the August 5, 2009 meeting as written. Member Trenoweth seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0-2.**

2. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (5:30:40) - None.

3. AGENDA ITEMS:

3-A. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ABSENCE OF ANY COUNCIL MEMBER FROM THIS MEETING (5:30:29) - None.

3-B. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE 2009 FALL TREE CARE SEMINAR (5:31:41) - Chairperson Keever announced that the seminar will be held on November 20, 2009 in the Sierra Room. Member Brewer advised that she made arrangements for the catering and a head count will be needed by November 17. The cost will be \$19 per person. Chairperson Keever mentioned that the seminar attendance fee has been \$75 per person and inquired whether it should be raised or lowered. Member Brewer suggested decreasing it \$5. Chairperson Keever suggested decreasing it \$5 if registrations are in before a certain date. **Member Brewer moved to decrease the registration fee \$5 if received before a certain date. Member Ozawa seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0-1.**

Chairperson Keever advised that speakers for the Seminar include Susan Stead, who will be speaking on tree selection; Dave Ruf will speak on and participate in a tree planting demonstration; Tom Henderson will give a tree trimming presentation; Chairperson Keever's boss will speak on tax refunds. She has also

CARSON CITY SHADE TREE COUNCIL
Minutes of the October 7, 2009 Meeting
Page 2

communicated with Leslie Allen who may give a presentation on tree selection and planting; and Professor Sady who will present a slideshow on a Waterfall Fire study. She also advised that ISA certifications need to be obtained for continuing education credits. Members Ozawa and Peermann acknowledged they would be available to take photographs. Chairperson Keever advised that she has 'save the date' cards to send out. Member Trenoweth acknowledged he will be at the Sierra Room by 6:30 to set up; and he and Member Brewer will handle registration. Chairperson Keever advised that Molly Sinnott will help out. Member Peermann agreed to contact the ISA regarding the continuing education credits and Member Brewer acknowledged that she will get the gift certificates from Greenhouse Garden Center in the amounts of \$25, \$15 and \$10. Member Ozawa will prepare a multiple choice challenge. After some discussion, Mr. Moellendorf indicated that he will contact Dave Ruf at Greenhouse Garden Center for the gift certificates and that Member Brewer would pick them up. He offered to speak with Juan Guzman, Open Space Manager, about the possibility of making a presentation on the City's reforestation efforts. In response to a comment, Chairperson Keever suggested that Professor Sady may be able to lead a field trip for the STC. She finalized the discussion by reiterating that the Seminar is November 20th and begins at 8:30 a.m.

3-C. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE SHADE TREE COUNCIL'S FALL PRUNING PROGRAM HELD AT THE GREENHOUSE GARDEN CENTER, CARSON CITY, NEVADA, ON SEPTEMBER 13, 2009 (5:42:24) - Chairperson Keever advised that it was a fairly successful event and 22 people attended. Mr. Ruf explained various trees and whether they would grow well in Carson City. A pruning presentation was given by Healthy Trees. She mentioned that about half of the attendees learned of the program from the notice she placed on Craig's List. Member Brewer suggested considering looking at Angie's List as well. Chairperson Keever continued that participants learned a lot and would like to see it done every Fall.

3-D. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A POSSIBLE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE SHADE TREE COUNCIL AND ONE OR MORE LOCAL ART GROUPS TO PRODUCE AN "ART TREE" (5:44:29) - Chairperson Keever advised that if the questions in the agenda packet have not been answered by the next meeting, this item will be indefinitely postponed with the stipulation that it can be brought back at any time. Member Horvath mentioned that he hasn't had the time needed to devote to the project. In response to a question, Mr. Moellendorf replied that the purpose of the STC is broad enough to encompass this type of effort. Vice Chairperson Shirk inquired whether the STC can decide to adopt the project in the sense that it won't immediately cost money but would allow them the authority to start asking for donations and the entire Council could attempt to answer the questions. Member Horvath replied that they need to decide whether they want to endorse it as the STC. The artists he has discussed it with think it's a feasible project but he has not had the opportunity to answer the hard questions regarding finances and the time line. He added that the City should decide the location of the tree. He will have answers regarding the financials at the December meeting at which time they can determine whether to adopt it as a project. Chairperson Keever suggested inviting the Nevada Humanities Commission and Brewery Arts Center (BAC) as they may be able to provide guidance and insight. Member Horvath replied that he has already discussed it with them but between their schedules and a hectic summer, no one was able to attend any of the meetings. In response to a question, Member Horvath replied that inviting other artist groups would be a good idea.

Mr. Moellendorf commented that after more details are determined, they will need the size and dimensions of the artwork and a conceptual rendering which will help determine the site selection. The project should then be taken to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) for their endorsement. In response to a question, Member Horvath replied that an art exhibit in Reno inspired the idea which is using recycled materials from different

CARSON CITY SHADE TREE COUNCIL
Minutes of the October 7, 2009 Meeting
Page 3

Carson City eras. In response to another question, he replied that the fun would be in combining groups of different talents to create a blueprint of the tree. In response to a comment, he offered to invite the people from Reno to the meeting to share their expertise. In response to a question, he replied that the value in art is objective and that one person may interpret it differently from another. The real benefit is an instant focal point of shade and form that doesn't need maintenance. He envisions it as a unique and innovative piece of art which would draw people to Carson City. Member Peermann agreed it should be something unique to attract people to Carson City and suggested inviting the Chamber of Commerce (COC) who may even provide financial resources or volunteers. Member Horvath agreed that it should be a multi-board project. Member Ozawa suggested creating a species name for the tree. Member Horvath envisions showcasing the mining, rail and logging eras of Carson City which would give it a historic, natural, and beauty twist. In response to a suggestion, Member Ozawa agreed to work on a few sketches. Member Horvath commented that artists will be coming in to make their presentations. Chairperson Kever added that they would have a competition to select the winning design. She will contact the COC, Nevada Humanities Commission, BAC, and Member Horvath will contact the Reno tree group. Vice Chairperson Shirk expressed her support of the idea as it promotes conservation of healthy trees. She opined that it will be a big undertaking and they may possibly need to form a subcommittee consisting of members of all the groups. Chairperson Kever reiterated that it will be added to the December agenda.

3-E. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE COUNCIL'S LANDMARK TREE PROGRAM (6:01:31) - Chairperson Kever referred to the agenda materials which are incorporated into the record. She advised that they have found three trees that meet the criteria: the sugar maple on King Street; the cottonwood tree on the corner of Division and Washington Streets; and a hackberry tree on the capital grounds. Mr. Moellendorf also suggested the community Christmas tree planted by George Washington Ferris. Chairperson Kever reviewed some of the criteria for landmark tree status and asked for suggestions on additional or modified criteria. There was discussion on the King Street tree as to whether it was a silver maple or sugar maple and Chairperson Kever said that a sign refers to it as the largest sugar maple in Nevada. She advised that age isn't a factor and any Carson City resident can nominate a tree. Member Brewer suggested that children could make it a class project. In response to a question, Chairperson Kever replied that once a tree has been nominated and accepted, they would photograph it, give it to the newspaper and put it on the website. Mr. Moellendorf suggested adding it to the GIS system because many communities have tree maps and provide free tours. Chairperson Kever said that some communities give tax breaks but Carson City may not be in a position to offer that as an incentive. Mr. Moellendorf suggested that 'with permission of the property owner' be reiterated to ensure that people aren't trespassing. Vice Chairperson Shirk suggested more benefits for incentives so contests would work even if it's just awarding a \$5 gift certificate. Chairperson Kever will make the changes and bring it back for a vote in December.

3-F. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE COUNCIL'S ABILITY TO CONTACT PRIVATE TREE OWNERS IN CARSON CITY REGARDING THE TREES ON THEIR PROPERTY (6:08:20) - Chairperson Kever stated that Member Ozawa is concerned about trees in her neighborhood which may pose a safety hazard and it's unknown as to whether the STC has the authority to contact the property owners. In response to a question, Member Brewer replied that some banks that hold properties in foreclosure are responsible for protecting the property. Member Ozawa showed a photo of a tree and stated that it's not only a fire hazard but also depresses a neighborhood. In response to a question, Mr. Moellendorf replied that members of the STC would not have the authority to contact the property owners, but they could contact Public Works because some are in violation of site and height clearance ordinances. In response to another question, he reiterated that if a tree is in violation of

CARSON CITY SHADE TREE COUNCIL
Minutes of the October 7, 2009 Meeting
Page 4

an ordinance and represents a hazardous condition, it may be under the purview of the City and it would be STC's role to identify the areas and inform the City. He advised that he will schedule a meeting with the DA to get their viewpoint. Chairperson Keever suggested that if it's not within their purview to contact the property owners, they may be able to send a letter of concern to the banks holding the mortgages. She also suggested a news article or involving Dave Morgan. Vice Chairperson Shirk opined that it's a good idea to be concerned and help rejuvenate neighborhoods of dying trees but in most cases, banks won't care about the trees. Chairperson Keever suggested pointing out the property value benefits of healthy trees on a property may get a bank's attention. In response to a question, Mr. Moellendorf replied that they may possibly be able to get the Fire Department involved as they are very concerned about the use of junipers in landscape planning. He will try to have a report at the December meeting and see if they would be willing to attend a meeting. Member Brewer commented that banks don't like bad publicity and the more attention STC brings to it, the more apt the banks are to consider it. Chairperson Keever said a proactive approach may get their attention and they may also want to consider involving the eagle scouts.

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS:

STATUS REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM STAFF (6:16:42) - None.

MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION SPECIFICALLY RELATED TO THE SHADE TREE COUNCIL (6:16:51) - Member Ozawa mentioned that she has been working on the Fall Tree Care Seminar challenge. She is also taking photographs of Fall colors and will put them on a CD. Chairperson Keever suggested placing them around the room for the Seminar. She also mentioned that she spoke with the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) who will be having a ceremonial tree planting in July and would like the STC to attend. The DAR is considering starting a Penny's Trees project wherein they would collect pennies from schoolchildren which they would match to buy trees for the City. They have a DAR tree near the Veterans Memorial and were interested in it being considered for the Landmark Tree Program. Member Brewer offered to collect pennies from her bridge club. In response to a question, Chairperson Keever explained the DAR tree.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (6:16:51) - Member Peermann suggested creating a pamphlet to provide to homeowners regarding what they can do for trees and would like it on the December agenda. Member Brewer would like the website item added to the December agenda.

FINALIZATION OF THE 2009 FALL TREE CARE SEMINAR () - See item 3-B.

PLANNING FOR ARBOR DAY 2010 () - Not addressed.

6. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (6:23:38) - Chairperson Keever entertained a motion to adjourn. Member Brewer moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:23 p.m. Member Ozawa seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The Minutes of the October 7, 2009 Carson City Shade Tree Council meeting are so approved this 2nd day of December, 2009.

LEE-ANN KEEVER, Chair