

CARSON CITY OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the June 19, 2006 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 19, 2006 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Vice Chairperson Dan Jacquet
Michael Fischer
Wayne Perock
Howard Riedl

STAFF: Juan Guzman, Open Space / Property Manager
Ann Bollinger, Open Space Assistant

NOTE: A tape recording of these proceedings, the committee's agenda materials, and any written comments or documentation provided to staff 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 (1-0013) - Vice Chairperson Jacquet called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was present. Chairperson Hartman and Members Lincoln and Scott were absent.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (1-0021) - None.

1. **ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - April 17, 2006 and May 15, 2006** (1-0023) - Member Fischer moved to approve the minutes. Member Perock seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

2. **MODIFICATION TO THE AGENDA** (1-0031) - None.

3. **AGENDA ITEMS:**

3-A. **ACTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS THE MOST RECENT DRAFT OF THE CARSON RIVER AQUATIC TRAIL PLAN TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE UNIFIED PATHWAYS MASTER PLAN** (1-0032) - Resource Concepts, Inc. Hydrologist/Fluvial Geomorphologist Lynn Zonge provided an overview of the draft aquatic trail plan and map, copies which were included in the agenda materials. She specifically reviewed Section 10.8 of the draft plan, and narrated pertinent slides.

Member Perock thanked Ms. Zonge for the raft trip in early June. He commented on the importance of the project, and expressed support. He noted the correspondence from the Gregorys' attorneys included in the agenda materials, and expressed concern that people will still put in above Mexican Dam. He advised that the Nevada Revised Statutes limit homeowner liability, and expressed the hope that City staff will keep working with the Gregorys with regard to portaging around the dam without trespassing.

Member Riedl expressed appreciation for the agenda materials, and also encouraged City staff to work with the private property owners in developing the project. He expressed the opinion that "more and more people will be using this River stretch even if improvements aren't done." He suggested including language with regard to respecting private properties adjacent to the River. In response to a question, Mr.

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Guzman advised that the Mexican Dam is owned by a corporation, to which the City is a partner. Member Riedl suggested that the City not doing anything to improve the Mexican Dam would be “somewhat irresponsible.” Mr. Guzman noted the ideal solution to accommodate both recreation and continuing the purpose of the dam structure. Member Riedl suggested including language with regard to match funding sources. He thanked Ms. Zonge for her presentation.

The committee members noted typographical errors. Ms. Zonge advised of the Carson River Advisory Committee’s recommendation to include consideration of a camp ground in the draft plan. Vice Chairperson Jacquet called for public comment and, when none was forthcoming, entertained a motion. **Member Perock moved to recommend to the Board of Supervisors the most recent draft of the Carson River Aquatic Trail Plan to be incorporated into the Unified Pathways Master Plan. Member Fischer seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.** Vice Chairperson Jacquet and Mr. Guzman thanked Ms. Zonge for her presentation.

3-B. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE DRAFT DESIGN OF A LODGE STRUCTURE PROPOSED BY MICHAEL FAGEN TO BE CONSTRUCTED WITHIN AN APPROXIMATELY 20-ACRE PORTION OF THE HORSE CREEK RANCH CONSERVATION EASEMENT, LOCATED AT KINGS CANYON ROAD, APN 007-051-78 (1-0289) - Vice Chairperson Jacquet introduced this item, and Mr. Guzman reviewed the staff report. He introduced Michael Fagen, who distributed to the committee members a list of talking points, which he reviewed. In response to a question, he advised of a preference for all-season use of the retreat center which would require access from both Highway 50 and Kings Canyon Road. He reviewed conceptual drawings of the retreat center. The committee members complimented Mr. Fagen on his presentation and on the conceptual drawings.

Member Riedl suggested including the Nevada Department of Transportation in the multi-agency review process. Vice Chairperson Jacquet called for public comment.

(1-0723) In response to an earlier comment, Jon Paul Kiel of the Nevada Division of State Lands advised that the Internal Revenue Code provides for sixty days from completion of appraisal to recording the easement in order to take advantage of tax benefits.

(1-0752) Bill Schultz discussed the importance of closing off access to his property and Mr. Fagen’s property.

Vice Chairperson Jacquet called for additional public comment; however, none was forthcoming. He thanked Mr. Fagen and Mr. Guzman for their presentations.

3-C. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING WEED MANAGEMENT ON THE WESTERN SECTION MEADOW OF THE QUILL RANCH LOCATED AT KINGS CANYON ROAD, APNs 007-061-11 AND 007-061-10 (1-0779) - Ms. Bollinger oriented the committee members to the subject area using a displayed map. She reviewed the staff report. In response to a question, she estimated the cost to be “\$2 to \$4 per head per day.” The contractor estimated 100 goats could eat one acre per day, and there are approximately 13 acres to be grazed. The initial quote was six days at \$19,000; however, Ms. Bollinger anticipates the cost will not actually be that high. She acknowledged that any treatment will have to be repeated over time. She suggested utilizing goats now and again in the fall, and then to use chemical treatment. Russian knapweed has an extensive root system and will be very difficult to control. Ms.

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Bollinger anticipates the Russian knapweed may not be eradicated, but hopes to lessen the impact. She acknowledged the subject patch of knapweed is rather large. One advantage is that perennial grasses are already established. Ms. Bollinger suggested that additional perennial grass seeding may be needed after a couple years of grazing and chemical treatments.

Ms. Bollinger acknowledged she is coordinating efforts with adjacent private property owners. She invited University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Director Joanne Skelly to the meeting table. Ms. Skelly advised that a contractor will be hired to spray chemicals on the adjacent private properties. In response to an earlier question, she advised the subject property has the worst infestation of Russian knapweed in the City. She discussed chemical treatments applied last year and the successful results. In response to a question, Ms. Skelly advised that Waterfall Fire grant funding will be allocated for the project. She responded to additional questions regarding Russian knapweed infestations in adjacent counties and states. Ms. Bollinger discussed the experimental nature of the project. (1-1006) In response to a question, she advised that Russian knapweed, eaten early in the season, will taint the milk of cows and sheep. Russian knapweed is not lethal to cows, sheep, or goats as it is to horses. She responded to additional questions.

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS:

STATUS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM STAFF (1-1017) - Mr. Guzman provided an overview of his and Ms. Bollinger's activities over the past month. He advised of having attended, together with Ms. Bollinger and Vice Chairperson Jacquet, a recent seminar on appraising conservation easements. The person who conducted the seminar has been hired to conduct appraisals along the River. Mr. Guzman advised that the Land Trust Alliance annual meeting is scheduled for October 12th to October 14th in Nashville, Tennessee. He requested the committee members to advise him of their interest in attending. He provided an overview of the course offerings. (1-1101) Mr. Guzman reported on recent projects conducted at the Carson River and Clear Creek. Both groups used the Community Clean-Up Trailer available through the Parks Department. In response to a question, Mr. Guzman provided a status report on the memorandum of understanding between the City and the BLM at the Silver Saddle Ranch.

MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION (1-0985) - Member Perock thanked Mr. Guzman and Ms. Bollinger for conducting a recent field trip in which Vice Chairperson Jacquet also participated. He encouraged the other committee members to participate in field trips as often as possible. (1-1085) Member Riedl expressed appreciation to the Muscle Powered group for the clean up project conducted last Saturday at the Lompa Wetlands.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS - None.

6. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (1-1156) - Member Fischer moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and carried 4-0.

The Minutes of the June 19, 2006 Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee meeting are so approved this 21st day of August, 2006.

STEPHEN D. HARTMAN, Chair