

CARSON CITY SHADE TREE COUNCIL
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A regular meeting of the Carson City Shade Tree Council was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 26, 2001 in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Sally Zola
Michael Enright
Frieda Ford
Craig Hartman
Isabel Young

STAFF: Scott Fahrenbruch, Parks Superintendent
Kathleen King, Recording Secretary
(STC 04/26/01)

NOTE: Unless indicated otherwise, each item was introduced by Chairperson Zola. A tape recording of these proceedings is on file in the Clerk-Recorder's Office and is available for review and inspection during regular business hours.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL (1-0001) - Chairperson Zola called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present. Vice Chairperson Bondiatt and Member Geisler were absent, and Chairperson Zola explained the reasons. Member Young arrived at 5:40 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - MARCH 22, 2001 (1-0012) - Chairperson Zola noted a correction to Mary Pierczynski's official title under item 7. Member Ford moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Member Enright seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0-3-0. (Member Young arrived at 5:40 p.m.)

3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (1-0035) - Eileen Cohen advised that the speaker for the Carson City Preservation Coalition's April 30th meeting is Susan Stead. Ms. Stead will be presenting the Big Tree Program. The meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. in the Brewery Arts Center conference room. Ms. Cohen discussed additional items agendized for the meeting.

4. REVIEW AND ACTION REGARDING THE CURRY STREET EXTENSION PROJECT AND POSSIBLE IMPACT TO EXISTING TREES (1-0060) - Chairperson Zola advised that she and Member Hartman attended the March Regional Transportation Commission ("RTC") meeting. Chairperson Zola presented the letter previously distributed to the Council, and related her comments to the RTC. Following the meeting, she and Member Hartman had a lengthy discussion with Transportation Manager John Flansberg regarding negotiations between the City and the Nevada Division of Forestry. She referred to an April 16, 2001 Nevada *Appeal* article regarding the Division of Forestry's application to include the white house in the National Register of Historic Places. She advised of conversations with City officials and staff with regard to the same, and indicated that the matter is presently being negotiated. Mr. Flansberg is attempting to schedule a meeting for May 3rd or 4th, and Chairperson Zola offered to attend, if requested. She related portions of a conversation with Principal Planner Rob Joiner regarding development of a small park in the area, and Mr. Fahrenbruch acknowledged that the Council could coordinate this with the Parks Department. Chairperson Zola advised that the next RTC meeting is scheduled for May 9th at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Center Sierra Room.

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Discussion took place regarding the proposed route of the extension, the recommendation provided to the RTC, and the possibility of providing a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. **Member Hartman moved that the Council advise the Board of Supervisors to recommend to the RTC that they not remove the trees in the Stewart Street extension until the restriping of South Carson Street has a chance to work.** Discussion took place regarding the wording of the motion, and Mr. Fahrenbruch provided the following suggestion: **A motion to recommend that the Board of Supervisors not approve any project on the Curry Street extension that eliminates trees; and further that the Board give the Carson Street restriping project a chance to alleviate traffic problems prior to commencing the Curry Street extension project. Member Hartman withdrew his first motion and so moved. Member Young seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0-2-0.** Chairperson Zola advised that if Member Hartman will provide a draft letter, she will finalize it and forward it to the Board of Supervisors.

5. REVIEW AND ACTION ON TREE SELECTION GUIDE FOR CARSON CITY AND 6. REVIEW OF 2001 NEVADA DIVISION OF FORESTRY/URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION (1-0335) - Chairperson Zola commended Member Ford on the grant application, and reviewed the printing costs reflected therein. She provided background information on the Tree Selection Guide. Member Ford clarified that the previous Tree Selection Guide is not being revised, but that the Council is publishing a new Tree Selection Guide. Member Enright reviewed the printing cost estimates, and discussion took place with regard to the same. In response to a question, Chairperson Zola advised that there has not yet been any word on the grant award. No formal action was taken.

7. REVIEW OF "VOTE FOR AMERICA'S NATIONAL TREE" PROGRAM, SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION (1-0435) - Chairperson Zola advised that Member Geisler presented this program to the school district to solicit their involvement. Member Enright displayed an official ballot and reviewed the list of leading candidates. Chairperson Zola indicated that Member Geisler never received any feedback from the school district and today was the last day to cast votes.

8. UPDATE ON STREET TREE PROGRAM FOR CARSON CITY (1-0495) - Mr. Fahrenbruch reported that City staff has been meeting on this project. He provided an overview of the last meeting, and advised that a final draft of the brochure will be presented to the Council at their May meeting. In the meantime, the trees will be bid and the landscape contractor will be hired. Mr. Fahrenbruch reviewed the process for requesting a tree, and advised that the program will be geared toward a fall planting this year and a spring planting next year. He reviewed the marketing time frames for each planting period, and discussed seeking additional funding as the program grows. In response to a question, Mr. Fahrenbruch reviewed the program funding allocations, and acknowledged that the program is underway. In response to a further question, he advised that eligibility for the program will depend upon the tree being planted within a designated City right-of-way. He indicated that, as part of the program, staff will visit the residence to determine the location of the right-of-way.

9. REVIEW AND ACTION REGARDING SHADE TREE COUNCIL OFFICE SUPPLIES (1-0612) - Member Enright discussed the existing logo and the cost of separating its two elements. He suggested using one color for the logo, and discussed the resulting difference in cost. At the request of Chairperson Zola, Member Enright reviewed the various bids for letterhead and envelopes. He displayed

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various paper stock selections, and Chairperson Zola suggested deferring action on this item until later in the meeting. In the meantime, the Council members reviewed the paper stock selections.

(1-2560) Discussion took place regarding the paper stock selections, the color, the amount to order, and the logo color. **Member Hartman moved to get new stationery, one color for envelopes and letterhead; and to order a minimum of 1000, at the price bid from Monarch Direct. Member Ford seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0-3-0.** Mr. Fahrenbruch provided a purchase order number to Member Enright and requested him to have the vendor write it on the invoice.

10. REVIEW AND ACTION REGARDING THE POSSIBLE RELOCATION OF FUJI PARK AND THE ISSUE OF EXISTING TREES AT THE SITE (1-0740) - Member Enright requested a "Concerned Citizens to Save Fuji Park and the Fairgrounds" button. Chairperson Zola referred to this matter as reflected in her report during the last meeting, and opened the meeting for public comment.

(1-0775) Vivian Kuhn inquired as to the type of action the Council intends to take at this meeting. Chairperson Zola explained the purpose of the Shade Tree Council to advise the Board of Supervisors with regard to Carson City's urban forest. She acknowledged that any recommendation would be based on the possibility of the park being relocated, as no decision has been made to sell the land.

(1-0801) Susan Hoffman inquired as to whether the Council could recommend to the Board of Supervisors to not allow the park to be relocated because of the damage it would cause to the trees. Chairperson Zola acknowledged that this would be a possibility. Ms. Hoffman referred to the conceptual plan, which was displayed, and indicated that the "brown area" represented is the existing park "with all the trees." She advised that there are fifty trees in the area which would have to be removed to accomplish the conceptual plan. The "green area" depicted is presently dirt which would have to be made into a new park.

At the request of Chairperson Zola, Mr. Fahrenbruch reviewed the conceptual plan. He noted that the Parks and Recreation Department is not promoting the conceptual plan; it was presented as an additional option for consideration. In response to a question regarding the number of trees at Fuji Park, Mr. Fahrenbruch referred to a displayed aerial photograph and pointed out the existing trees which would be saved. He pointed out the existing riparian area and discussed the proposed re-routing of Clear Creek. He indicated the areas in which turf and trees would be planted, and pointed out the existing exhibit hall, the gazebo, the picnic area, the caretaker's residence, the horse barns, the outside arena, and the park boundaries. Discussion took place regarding the Army Corps of Engineers proposed re-routing of Clear Creek, developer options, and the purpose for developing the conceptual plan. In response to a question, Mr. Fahrenbruch advised that there has been no action by any policymaker in the City to sell Fuji Park.

(1-1038) Ms. Hoffman commented that she considers the wetlands and the Creek part of Fuji Park. She acknowledged that she considers the Fairgrounds a part of Fuji Park as well.

(1-1055) Vivian Kuhn advised that a City official has taken action, in the form of an offer to Wal-Mart, to sell the park. She advised that a Wal-Mart spokesperson called to inform her that Wal-Mart rejected the offer. Mr. Fahrenbruch clarified his earlier statement that any formal offer to sell the park would have had to be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for action. There has been no formal action taken by any committee, commission, or the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Fahrenbruch discussed the purpose of the

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feasibility study currently being conducted and advised that the result could be a determining factor for future commercial development. Member Young suggested waiting for the results of the feasibility study.

In response to a question, Mr. Fahrenbruch advised of the existence of a Fuji Park/Fairgrounds master plan for which funding has already been allocated. He indicated that staff will not move forward with improvements until the feasibility study is complete. In response to a further question, Mr. Fahrenbruch advised that Lumos & Associates is conducting the feasibility study and that a draft was presented to the Fuji Park Users Coalition (the "Users Coalition") on Monday, April 23rd. At the request of Chairperson Zola, Ms. Hoffman discussed the preliminary findings of the feasibility study. In response to a question, Ms. Hoffman advised that costs associated with the study will be presented in approximately a month. (Member Young left the meeting at 6:38 p.m. A quorum was still present.)

Mr. Fahrenbruch advised that City staff and members of the Parks and Recreation Commission have been meeting with members of the Users Coalition for 14 months. The purpose of the April 23rd meeting was to determine the preference of the Users Coalition prior to moving forward with cost determinations. He provided an overview of the preliminary results presented, and advised that the same presentation will be made at the May 15, 2001 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission. The goal is to have a site selected and utility costs determined by June 1, 2001. Once this is accomplished, a determination will have to be made as to whether relocating the park is actually feasible. Mr. Fahrenbruch explained the Parks and Recreation Department is involved because of its responsibility to provide for the possible relocation of the users. Discussion took place regarding the reasons for not moving forward with the Fuji Park/Fairgrounds master plan, the surrounding properties, the Council's purview with regard to this item, expenses associated with relocating Clear Creek, differing opinions on the willow/wetlands area, and users' issues associated with relocating the park/fairgrounds. In response to a question, Mr. Fahrenbruch discussed the status of the trees at Fuji Park.

(1-1355) Vivian Kuhn inquired as to the time table for determining the utility costs. Mr. Fahrenbruch advised that staff hopes the Parks and Recreation Commission, together with the Users Coalition, will determine 1-2 preferred sites with the goal of taking that information and determining utility costs for the site. Ms. Kuhn expressed a concern that the Parks and Recreation Commission would take action on a feasibility study which doesn't include all the costs. Mr. Fahrenbruch advised that the item agendaized for the May 1st Parks and Recreation Commission is agendaized as discussion only. He explained the process upon which the cost determinations will be based. In response to a question, Mr. Fahrenbruch reviewed the alternative sites being studied. In response to a further question regarding the portion of the park/fairgrounds which will be moved, Mr. Fahrenbruch discussed various scenarios which could play out depending upon the outcome of the feasibility study.

(1-1468) Eileen Cohen discussed the value of the trees at Fuji Park. In response to a question, Mr. Fahrenbruch indicated that the trees at Fuji Park are not diseased. Ms. Cohen provided information on the groups which planted many of the trees over the years. In response to a question by Chairperson Zola, the citizens present acknowledged that they were all Fuji Park users. Ms. Cohen listed the various reasons she has used the park over the years, and commented that she and her grandson miss the playground equipment.

(1-1515) Marilyn Potter expressed the opinion that it is impossible to relocate Fuji Park. Mr. Fahrenbruch responded to questions regarding the number of trees which would be removed in the conceptual plan, the

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amount of time necessary to achieve the size of the existing trees, the amount of Question #18 funding which has been earmarked for specific improvements to the park, and the dollar figure representing the sale proceeds from Costco. He acknowledged that the Costco funds are in an account and that they have not yet been designated for any project. He advised that the Users Coalition has requested that the money be allocated to the park, whether it is relocated or improved in its current location. Ms. Potter suggested that the \$2.3 million should be enough to purchase another park and make improvements to the existing park. She related comments from the participants of the rabbit show, and inquired as to whether it would be possible for the Council to take action to recommend protecting the trees. She commented that wetlands are usually not considered based on their quality.

(1-1807) Reta Hanks inquired as to whether relocating the creek would cause it to be in Douglas County. She advised that Parks and Recreation Director Steve Kastens had answered “yes” to the same question. Mr. Fahrenbruch concurred, and advised that part of the existing Fairgrounds is located in Douglas County. Ms. Hanks inquired as to whether discussions have taken place with Douglas County representatives regarding moving the creek into their county. Mr. Fahrenbruch indicated there are “a lot of hoops to jump” before any changes could be made. Member Enright discussed a reciprocal agreement between Carson City and Douglas County with regard to use of the land. Mr. Fahrenbruch advised that staff will not invest a great deal of time and effort into the conceptual plan until it is necessary to do so. He discussed anticipated costs for the utility study on the alternative site, and reiterated that the purpose of the conceptual plan is to provide an option. Ms. Hanks inquired as to the large cottonwood tree depicted on the conceptual plan, and Mr. Fahrenbruch advised that it would remain on City property. He acknowledged that the City would resurvey the parcel. Ms. Hanks requested the Council to consider making a recommendation to save all the trees at Fuji Park and the Fairgrounds.

(1-1925) Isabel Espinoza encouraged the Council to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the park, with all its trees, be saved.

(1-1935) Marilyn Potter suggested that Mr. Woon did not specify covenants and restrictions on his gift parcel because, back then, no one would have considered the current situation.

Member Hartman commented that no one should be “messing with the park.” He expressed the opinion that the buildings can be replaced, and that additional commercial development should take place in existing commercial locations. **Member Ford moved that the Shade Tree Council recommend to the Board of Supervisors and the Parks and Recreation Commission that Fuji Park not be moved in any manner and that any possible money be spent improving Fuji Park and the Fairgrounds pursuant to the master plan. Member Enright seconded the motion.** Mr. Fahrenbruch suggested amending the motion based upon the purview of the Council to deal with urban forestry matters. He suggested wording it in such a way as to indicate that the purpose is to protect the existing trees at the site. **Member Ford amended her motion to save all the existing trees. Member Enright continued his second.** Chairperson Zola discussed her experience at Fuji Park over the years and expressed opposition to moving the park in any manner whatsoever. She indicated that if it becomes necessary to move the park beyond the Council’s recommendation, the conceptual plan is a viable option. She called for additional comments and, when none were offered, a vote on the pending motion. **Motion carried 4-0-3-0.** Member Ford agreed to work with Chairperson Zola on the draft recommendation. Chairperson Zola thanked the citizens for their attendance and participation. Mr. Fahrenbruch acknowledged that the Council’s recommendation

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would be forwarded to the Parks and Recreation Commission and to the Board of Supervisors. Ms. Cohen commended the Parks and Recreation Department on the excellent maintenance and management of Fuji Park.

(1-2121) Marilyn Potter inquired as to some way to designate the trees as protected. Mr. Fahrenbruch advised that the action taken is all that can be done within the Council's purview. He explained that there is no mechanism to designate a City tree as protected. He advised that if the park is relocated, the City will have an opportunity to impose conditions upon the developer. The Council could recommend protecting the trees at that time. Mr. Fahrenbruch pointed out that if the City moves forward with the relocation, the public hearing process has only just begun.

11. REVIEW AND ACTION ON 2001 ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION (1-2237) - Chairperson Zola displayed the Arbor Day flyer which was distributed prior to the start of the meeting. She commended Member Enright on his efforts. She displayed an article from today's Nevada *Appeal*, and commended Vice Chairperson Bondiott on her efforts in coordinating the event. She expressed appreciation for the Council members' hard work. Member Hartman acknowledged that the George Washington Ferris Award has been ordered and will be presented to Richard Wipfli by Michael Tanchek. Chairperson Zola and Member Enright reviewed the Celebration agenda. Chairperson Zola reminded the Council members to wear their new shirts and name tags. She advised of a conversation with Pam Graber who has ordered various shades of green and white balloons for the Celebration. Mr. Fahrenbruch advised of a meeting with Ms. Graber this afternoon, and that bleachers will be brought to the site. He conveyed regrets from Supervisor Robin Williamson who will be unable to attend. He advised that Urban Forester Consultant Molly Sinnott has put a great deal of time and effort into the event as well.

12. REPORTS: PARKS SUPERINTENDENT (1-2792) - Member Enright commended Mr. Fahrenbruch on the way he interacted with the citizens present for item 10. Mr. Fahrenbruch reported that Street Department Intern Andrew Young is progressing well on the Tree Inventory Program. Mr. Young will be marketing the Street Tree Program as a part of his responsibilities for the Tree Inventory Program. Mr. Fahrenbruch advised of tree damage from the last storm; no trees were lost, however. In response to a question, Mr. Fahrenbruch advised the GIS Division staff is working with Mr. Young on the Tree Inventory Program and will be able to pick up where he leaves off. Mr. Fahrenbruch discussed the responsibilities of Carson River Intern John Warpeha.

13. REPORTS: CHAIRPERSON (1-2875) - Chairperson Zola requested the Council members to turn in their volunteer hours to Member Ford. She advised of a May 15th GROW meeting scheduled at the Carson City Library to present the latest information on the bypass landscaping and the multi-purpose path. A guest speaker will be announced and the new brochure will be reviewed. A drinking water open house at the Quill Ranch is scheduled for May 12th. Chairperson Zola advised that several volunteer positions are available with GROW. She reported that Member Geisler has talked to some Kiwanis Club members regarding a tree planting project. She read an e-mail from Member Geisler into the record. Discussion took place regarding the Earth Day Celebration.

14. ADJOURNMENT (1-3045) - Member Hartman moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Ford seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

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The Minutes of the April 26, 2001 meeting of the Carson City Shade Tree Council are so approved this _____ day of May, 2001.

SALLY ZOLA, Chairperson