

City of Las Vegas

NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERS FUND BOARD
CITY HALL, 495 S. MAIN STREET
CITY CLERKS 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
CITY OF LAS VEGAS INTERNET ADDRESS: www.lasvegasnevada.gov

MINUTES

June 2, 2014
2:00 PM

ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA MAY BE TAKEN OUT OF THE ORDER PRESENTED; TWO OR MORE AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION MAY BE COMBINED; AND ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA MAY BE REMOVED OR RELATED DISCUSSION MAY BE DELAYED AT ANY TIME. BACKUP MATERIAL FOR THIS AGENDA MAY BE OBTAINED FROM BEVERLY K. BRIDGES, CITY CLERK, AT THE CITY CLERKS OFFICE AT 495 SOUTH MAIN STREET, 2ND FLOOR OR ON THE CITY'S WEBPAGE AT www.lasvegasnevada.gov.

1. [CALL TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

MARIA CASTILLO-COUCH, Sr. Neighborhood Outreach Specialist, called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

PRESENT: MEMBERS TOUSSAINT, THACKSTON, REID (arrived at 2:06 p.m.), MOULTON, SKILBRED, HOLMES, ORTIZ, KIRK, SKOUSON (excused between 2:26-2:34 p.m.), BORYSEWICH (arrived at 2:39 p.m.), GARNESS and POWELL (arrived at 2:11 p.m.)

EXCUSED: MEMBER JACKSON-RENTER

ALSO PRESENT: MARIA CASTILLO-COUCH, Sr. Neighborhood Outreach Specialist, TERI PONTICELLO, Deputy City Attorney, and GABRIELA PORTILLO-BRENNER, Deputy City Clerk

2. [ANNOUNCEMENT RE: COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETING LAW](#)

Minutes:

ANNOUNCEMENT MADE: This meeting has been properly noticed and posted at the following locations: City Hall Plaza, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor, Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway; Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue; City of Las Vegas Development Services Center, 333 North Rancho Drive.

3. [PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THIS PORTION OF THE AGENDA MUST BE LIMITED TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA FOR ACTION. IF YOU WISH TO BE HEARD, GIVE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD. THE AMOUNT OF DISCUSSION, AS WELL AS THE AMOUNT OF TIME ANY SINGLE SPEAKER IS ALLOWED, MAY BE LIMITED](#)

Minutes:

None.

4. [For possible action to approve the Final Minutes by reference of the Regular Meetings of June 6, 2013, June 13, 2013 and June 25, 2013](#)

Motion made by GREG TOUSSAINT to Approve

Passed For: 10; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 3

DEBRA MOULTON, GREG TOUSSAINT, MICHELLE THACKSTON, KIMBERLY REID, SHERESE HOLMES, FELIPE ORTIZ, LANCE KIRK, DARIN GARNESS, VICKY SKILBRED, BECKY SKOUSON; Against-(None); Abstain

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-(None); Did Not Vote-(None); Excused-(AJ POWELL, TANYA JACKSON-RENTER, BETH BORYSEWICH)

Minutes:

MEMBER TOUSSAINT asked how the minutes could be approved when the membership for this Board is different from the previous year and whether it could be done by email. TERI PONTICELLO, Deputy City Attorney, indicated that it cannot be done by email and explained that although the membership is not the same, there is compliance with parliamentary procedure.

5. [Discussion for possible action on the election of Chair and Vice Chair](#)

Motion made by VICKY SKILBRED to Approve the nominations of Greg Toussaint as Chair and Michelle Thackston as Vice Chair

Passed For: 10; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 3

DEBRA MOULTON, GREG TOUSSAINT, MICHELLE THACKSTON, KIMBERLY REID, SHERESE HOLMES, FELIPE ORTIZ, LANCE KIRK, DARIN GARNESS, VICKY SKILBRED, BECKY SKOUSON; Against-(None); Abstain -(None); Did Not Vote-(None); Excused-(AJ POWELL, TANYA JACKSON-RENTER, BETH BORYSEWICH)

Minutes:

After ensuring that MEMBERS TOUSSAINT and THACKSTON were willing to serve again as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, MEMBER SKILBRED made the nominations. She noted that the meetings would move expeditiously, given their experience.

TERI PONTICELLO, Deputy City Attorney, indicated there were three scheduled meetings of the Neighborhood Partners Fund Board in June, as well as the final presentation before the City Council in July.

6. [Review of By-Laws and Responsibilities for the Neighborhood Partners Fund Board pertaining to the project selection process and agenda items](#)

Minutes:

MARIA CASTILLO-COUCH, Sr. Neighborhood Outreach Specialist, encouraged the members to regularly score the applicants on ZoomGrants in case anyone is absent for any of the meetings. She briefly went over the bylaws and indicated the role of this Board is to review, score and make funding recommendations to the City Council.

7. [Review of the Neighborhood Partners Fund Program Guidelines](#)

Minutes:

MARIA CASTILLO-COUCH, Sr. Neighborhood Outreach Specialist, stated that as part of the application review process, she ensures the applicants' requested funding can be matched with cash, in-kind donations or volunteer labor, etc. The guidelines require the applicants to have at least 25 percent in voluntary labor, in addition to the cash. All the applications complied with these guidelines.

MS. CASTILLO-COUCH assured MEMBER SKILBRED that she will make sure Stupak Center is registered before funding is issued.

8. [Report on the FY2014-15 applications Summary Worksheet and Rating Sheet \(evaluation\) criteria](#)

Minutes:

MARIA CASTILLO-COUCH, Sr. Neighborhood Outreach Specialist, indicated the members were provided with the subject sheets for familiarization. The applicants are requesting minimal funding, and the applications with errors were corrected. She noted the \$2,000 request for McNeil Neighborhood Association is correct. Total funding in the amount of \$56,000 is being requested, with only \$55,000 in available funding.

9. [Discussion for possible action regarding Neighborhood Leaders' Presentations Schedule for June 2, 2014 and June 9, 2014](#)

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Minutes:

MARIA CASTILLO-COUCH, Sr. Neighborhood Outreach Specialist, referred to the list of presenters for 6/2 and 6/9/2014 and indicated that all the appointments were confirmed. Each presenter will be allowed ten minutes. If there is any desire on the part of the Board to change the time allowed, it could be considered for the next year.

10. [Report on Neighborhood Partners Fund Board Grant Program Applications submitted by the Stupak Neighborhood Success Team; Admirals Point II HOA; Aventura HOA; Crossroads I HOA; Cultural Corridor Coalition; Eagle Creek Heights HOA; Bonner Elementary School PTA; Huntridge Neighborhood Association; Four Winds HOA; La Mancha, Summerlin; Northwest Area Residents Association; Quail Estates West HOA](#)

Minutes:

CHAIR TOUSSAINT advised each of the presenters that they had ten minutes to make presentations, and then he would open it up for questions by the Board.

Stupak Neighborhood Council - Stupak/PAL's Adventure Club - SHERRY ALEXANDER of the Stupak Community Center, and MICHAEL LEE, Officer with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (Metro), who were joined by three youth, presented.

MS. ALEXANDER explained that they reach out to many youth, including Spanish-speaking children, in the Stupak Neighborhood to try to get them into this program so they can have a more active lifestyle. The Stupak Neighborhood Council brings in cash donations and the board is very active.

OFFICER LEE said the mission is to give youth alternatives to gangs and violence, and he described some of the activities the youth in the program have participated in, while teaching them the importance of discipline, fitness and eating healthy. After achieving each program phase, the children are rewarded.

For MEMBER KIRK, OFFICER LEE and MS. ALEXANDER indicated that they learned from last year's program that the events had to be coordinated with the age groups, that sharing equipment, such as for camping, would save money and to have the older youth help the younger children.

MEMBER ORTIZ supported full funding because the Stupak Neighborhood Council reaches out to children in an area that is constantly changing and teaches them value and commitment. They have also sought funding from other sources.

MEMBER MOULTON discussed with MS. ALEXANDER that the Stupak Center provides programming year-around and only shuts down temporarily for maintenance. They also provide reading programs during the summer months.

CHAIR TOUSSAINT commented that he lived in the area now known as the Stupak Neighborhood, and he made his fun during the summer months by catching toads. He asked how much would be needed for the reward, to which MS. ALEXANDER responded that the children are rewarded for participation with a trip to Wet'n'Wild.

MEMBER SKILBRED confirmed with MS. ALEXANDER that should the Board only be able to grant the minimum requested amount of \$4,400, the Wet'n'Wild trip would be cut because there are other water parks that are more affordable.

Admiral's Point II HOA - PAUL RESTEY and SAM MALEK were present and disseminated a document referred to as the Presentation to the Las Vegas NPF Board, but a copy was not submitted as backup. MR. MALEK indicated this grant will be used to install surveillance equipment to create safe/secure environment for the elderly residents so that they can take advantage of the walkway and amenities available in this community.

MR. MALEK advised MEMBER SKILBRED that the project would get done even if the Board only awarded the minimum requested amount of \$4,000 or less. They will just purchase less-expensive equipment.

As an employee at Jacobson Elementary, MEMBER HOLMES said she is aware of the increase in crime in the area.

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MEMBER GARNESS discussed with MR. MALEK that the lighting throughout the community has been enhanced for the day/night cameras they intend to install, and the cameras will be motion activated with zoom in/out capability and indicate the time of activity. The surveillance signs will be posted on the property.

MR. MALEK indicated to MEMBER BORYSEWICH that suspicious videotape will be kept indefinitely and in the Cloud. All the others will only be kept for seven days.

CHAIR TOUSSAINT discussed with MESSRS. MALEK and RESTEY that the Wi-Fi system will be limited to surveillance for now, to keep costs down. Perhaps it can be used for something else as part of a future phase. The wireless security camera system was put out to bid.

Aventura HOA - FRANK BRUTON, President, stated the project is a safety focus project to replace lighting at the front entrance and extend further into the community, which is 14 years old, for added security. Regular safety meetings will be held with the resident to inform them about security. LED lighting will be used for efficiency, which is less costly than what is currently being used, as it is old.

To MEMBER SKILBRED, MR. BRUTON indicated the project would go forward no matter the amount of funding received, even if the project has to be restricted to address the entrance only and the HOA has to pay for the equipment. He requested that 20 percent of any amount granted from this Board be given to the Stupak Center, because it is a worthwhile project that helps children.

MEMBER HOLMES discussed with MR. BRUTON the fixtures that would have to be replaced. MR. BRUTON added that the focus on safety is ongoing, but this change in equipment is the catalyst for upcoming safety awareness meetings.

Crossroads I Homeowners Association (HOA) - VICTORIA RICHARDS HUTCHINSON, Vice President, and ARMANDO CHAVEZ were present and submitted a thank you card and photos as backup. MS. HUTCHINSON indicated they received a grant last year to replace the lighting and install security cameras, and every homeowner is being encouraged to install motion detector lights. They are trying to beautify the wall to cover the graffiti and have spent almost \$12,000 to improve the community, but the HOA is suffering financially because most of the residents are on Social Security and there are many vacant properties. The improvements that have been made have been done through assistance from other entities.

MEMBER KIRK confirmed with MS. HUTCHINSON that the security cameras project was successful and remarked that he likes that the HOA sought other grant funding. MS. HUTCHINSON indicated that she seeks as many grants as possible because it is a community of elderly residents. She appreciates any help possible.

MEMBER ORTIZ commented that the area has been neglected for many years, even by the police, but this residential community has made significant progress. It is a worthy project as break-ins were attempted even during last year's National Night Out event.

MEMBER REID verified with MS. HUTCHINSON that placing the cameras at the mailbox area has helped.

MEMBER BORYSEWICH asked if anyone in the neighborhood has concern about light emitting into the homes, to which MS. HUTCHINSON replied that all the residents are looking forward to more lighting, even if it is only by replacing the existing lights.

MEMBER THACKSTON verified that the development was constructed in 1981.

CHAIR TOUSSAINT confirmed that the project could be done with minimum funding from this Board.

Cultural Corridor Coalition - PAM THOMAS indicated this is a neighborhood of non-profits and businesses, including the Las Vegas History Museum. These organizations banded together to promote the resources and events, including the December to Remember event and the neighborhood had to increase visitation. She showed a board with pictures of

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different events, noting that volunteers are recruited for the events and that the Cultural Corridor reaches out to ethnic and religious groups for various events. A grant in the amount of \$5,000 was recently received for printing materials and to pay for the installation of December to Remember banners.

MEMBER THACKSTON discussed with MR. THOMAS that any funding awarded by this Board would not go toward the Science Festival. Some of the funding would be used for promotions.

To MEMBER KIRK, MS. THOMAS indicated that it is important to reach out to the community in order to attract visitors.

MEMBER GARNESS discussed with MS. THOMAS that since the president left and she was in charge of social media, contact had not been made with the City of Las Vegas to get on its webpage. She offered to have someone contact the City. MEMBER REID commented that there was already a link on the City's website.

MS. THOMAS advised CHAIR TOUSSAINT that the Design Company mostly prepared digital-type brochures and placed on Facebook. She wanted to ensure the December to Remember banners were put up because this was an important event. Customarily, e-mail blasts were sent to the members and to various institutions.

MEMBER THACKSTON verified that the banners were used yearly; however, MS. THOMAS pointed out to her that they had to be installed yearly as well, which was the reason for requesting this grant, as well for Facebook ads and the website. The social media component was done by a volunteer design company that donated its time.

To MEMBER BETH, MS. THOMAS indicated that banners were already located in the area, but new ones emulating the bridge design would be nice and would make the corridor more complete and uniform. She showed pictures of backup banners that would be used throughout the year. CHAIR TOUSSAINT wondered if the City could help with the installation of the banners, as it had done in previous years, to which MS. THOMAS replied that the Coalition was directed to request this grant in case the City did not have the personnel to install the banners.

MEMBER ORTIZ expressed his support of this grant request, noting there was a need to continue the Cultural Corridor in the City, recognizing that the installation of the banners was expensive and that the City could probably not do it because it was at a premium as well.

MEMBER SKOUSON discussed with MS. THOMAS that the Coalition was working with other downtown partners, such as Downtown Project and the Clark County School District to get the information out.

Eagle Creek Heights Homeowners Association (HOA) MARY LUDWIG, who was accompanied by CHRISTIE MONIHAM, made this presentation. She indicated that 73 homes were owner occupied, with the remaining homes in foreclosure or rented. She went over the types of business owners that lived in the community. The HOA was recently notified that the playground equipment was not in compliance with the Las Vegas Municipal Code (LVMC) and it had to be removed immediately to absolve the HOA of any liability. The removal of the equipment left a big sand area that the HOA would like to fill with new equipment, of which she showed a picture that was not submitted as backup, that would meet the City's specifications for safety. This approximately \$20,000 equipment would be installed with donated man hours to cut costs; however, the grant was being requested because the HOA was short of money. Non-receipt of the full grant request would obligate the HOA to cut back on the pieces. Even though there was a park nearby, this area was the heart of the community and one of the main selling points of this subdivision, which has had its share of crime issues, many because of foreclosures, but MS. LUDWIG regarded this as a tight community worth investing in.

MEMBER GARNESS felt that any project for children was worth funding.

MEMBER SKOUSON was impressed with the presentation because it touched on how the families were all involved. MS. LUDWIG interjected that residents helped her put the project together because they were excited about it and wanted the new playground equipment.

MEMBER THACKSTON said this was an ideal neighborhood, because all the residents knew each other and worked together. She hoped another grant application for more money would be submitted the following year should full funding not be granted for this grant request.

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MEMBER SKILBRED discussed with MS. LUDWIG that woodchips were chosen over rubber because of cost efficiency and LVMC compliance.

MEMBER MOULTON verified with MS. MONIHAM that there was a maintenance plan in place.

Bonner Elementary School PTA PAUL CATANIA, Principal, and CHRISTINA McCOLLUM, Teacher, John W. Bonner Elementary School, presented and submitted as backup a copy of a PowerPoint presentation detailing the project. MR. CATANIA stated that high enrollment had caused safety issues during drop-off and pickup peak hours. The funding requested would be used toward the purchase of the most important pieces of the project, which was to close the bus point and create a second drop-off zone. This would entail the removal of bushes and installation of concrete. MS. McCOLLUM emphasized that the main focus was the safety of the children.

MEMBER SKILBRED stressed that cars were traveling between the buses, which was very unsafe. Part of the project was being done by the City of Las Vegas, so this grant would be used toward the installation of the bollards, the path and the removal of the landscaping and irrigation. She ascertained that the project would be done should full funding not be received. MS. McCOLLUM stated that the PTA was in discussions to cut the cost of the concrete. MR. CATANIA stressed that getting this project done was necessary for the safety of the children.

Huntridge Neighborhood Association KATHLEEN KAHR commented that the Association was reactivated and would like to address the main concerns of the residents relative to litter and maintaining a clean neighborhood, which is essential to attracting new residents. The project was renamed to Huntridge Clean and Green Neighborhood and a club was created that held a clean-up event at the childrens playground over the weekend. More neighborhood cleaning events were being planned and part of the intent for the next cleanup was to provide flyers with tips on keeping the neighborhood clean. The grant request of \$1,300 will cover the cost of the trash cans and having the neighborhoods name engraved on them for location on a neighborhood law firm property. Commitments to provide water and snacks for the event were obtained from several businesses.

MEMBER KIRK indicated that he resides in the area and asked what the upkeep would include. MS. KAHR replied that the residents would clean and maintain the trash cans, which would be secured to the ground.

MEMBER ORTIZ stated the project would help increase the value of the Huntridge community and felt it is a good project.

CHAIR TOUSSAINT asked how the bike project went and MS. KAHR replied that the bike rack was installed and used frequently. She indicated that the trash receptacles would be located on private property, and the hope is that having a place for trash will encourage people to keep the community clean.

Four Winds Homeowners Association MARVIN MINUSHKIN spoke on behalf of 169 homeowners and thanked the City and MARIA CASTILLO COUCH, Sr. Neighborhood Outreach Specialist, for providing assistance to secure funds for the neighborhoods phase three of the park renovation project. In previous years, a project was completed that included lighting and a water conversation program, both of which added to the communitys pride and goals. He went over the various projects and associated costs this neighborhood has completed over the years since 2009. MR. MINUSHKIN indicated that the \$2,500 grant request will complement the \$5,800 total cost of this proposed project, which includes infrared and LED energy-efficient lighting, curb repaving and landscaping and improvement of the security system to provide 24/7 security. He invited everyone to go to the neighborhood to view its accomplishments.

MEMBER GARNESSE regarded this as a great project and noted that this association has used its grant monies well over the years. MEMBER THACKSTON added that this association volunteers a lot on projects to help the community and uses money from the association to help groups in need, such as Safe Nest and veteran organizations.

MEMBER ORTIZ congratulated MR. MINUSHKIN on his formality and how the association leverages funds.

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La Mancha, Summerlin Homeowners Association (HOA) SUSAN BEAR and TED McADAM, President of the Summerlin HOA, were present. MR. McADAM stated that most of the original homeowners still reside in this 22-year-old subdivision. This is the HOAs second application, and last years grant was used to replace two of three automatic gate openers. Recently, an outstanding presentation was made by the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department for the Neighborhood Watch group. MS. BEAR explained that this years requested funding would be used toward the project of replacing faded street signs throughout the neighborhood. She passed out photos of the poles but did not submit a copy. She commented that the street signs would be replaced with the same type of signs in the Taos Estates subdivision. New street signs would provide additional safety by making the street names readable and would be an enhancement to the neighborhood. The project also includes painting the street curbs as part of a painting party.

MEMBER SKILBRED noticed that the proposed poles do not have lights and discussed with MS. BEAR that the same poles and brackets would be used. Only the actual signs would be replaced. The existing poles do have lights.

MEMBER THACKSTON verified with MS. BEAR that the streets are private and that the street signs are green.

CHAIR TOUISSANT observed that since the paint was already secured, the match funding might amount to more than anticipated.

MEMBER KIRK confirmed with MS. BEAR that the project would probably be completed even without full funding from this Board.

Northwest Area Residents Association (NARA) CHARLES BENNETT, President of the San Miguel Community Garden, CHRISTINE MECHAM and TERESA McNALLY were present. MR. BENNETT disseminated a brochure, a copy of which was submitted as backup, regarding the San Miguel Community Garden and explained that the idea was to transform vacant property into a community garden in order to have people interact. The catered grand opening event was held on 2/16/2014, and he showed pictures of the event. NARA representatives were already working with a master gardener on how to deal with the dirt and plan this project. One of the goals was to purchase decomposed granite for the walkways to keep the dust down and to make it more enjoyable for visitors.

MEMBER BETH asked if eventually this would become a for-profit garden and an entrance fee charged, or if it would be strictly free with donations accepted. MR. BENNETT replied that application was made for 501(c)(3) status and the property is being leased yearly for \$1, so the project will remain non-profit.

MEMBER SKOUSON asked if everyone works on the garden boxes, and MR. BENNETT responded that different committees work on them, and they are tasked with stewards. Students from the nearby elementary school have been involved.

MR. BENNETT indicated to CHAIR TOUSSIANT that this project was being funded by the community and water and electrical are provided through the El Jen Convalescent Hospital.

MEMBER THACKSTON verified with MR. BENNETT that the lease agreement is indefinite, given that the El Jen Convalescent Hospital residents greatly benefit from this garden and they have complete access.

Quail Estates West Homeowners Association (HOA) FRANK WALTHALL, President, MAGGIE PHILLIPS, Officer/Manager, and TONY BAILEY, resident, all of whom helped with the preparation of this grant request, were present. MR. WALTHALL stated the community includes approximately 216 units with residents 55 and older. He thanked the Board members for their assistance with the past projects, which he described. This year's project focuses on safety and communications. Mirrors would be installed in certain areas of the neighborhood for greater visibility by the drivers and information will be provided of programs developed, such as Crime Watch, through audio visual equipment, which would be purchased. This would help reach as many residents as possible.

MEMBER REID discussed with MR. WALTHALL that the plants from last year are growing and it was a great project.

MEMBER ORTIZ commented that this is a great project and verified with MR. WALTHALL that both aspects of the project would be done, even if funding would have to be sought from other sources, noting that the HOA does not provide

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funding for any projects.

MR. WALTHALL informed MEMBER GARNESS that the vendor would secure the equipment on a cart.

11. CITIZENS PARTICIPATION: PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THIS PORTION OF THE AGENDA MUST BE LIMITED TO MATTERS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE BOARD. NO SUBJECT MAY BE ACTED UPON BY THE BOARD UNLESS THAT SUBJECT IS ON THE AGENDA AND IS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION. IF YOU WISH TO BE HEARD, GIVE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD. THE AMOUNT OF DISCUSSION ON ANY SINGLE SUBJECT, AS WELL AS THE AMOUNT OF TIME ANY SINGLE SPEAKER IS ALLOWED, MAY BE LIMITED

Minutes:

None.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The meeting was recessed 2:27-2:28, 4:00-4:10 and adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Gabriela Portillo-Brenner, Deputy City Clerk

Maria Castillo-Couch, Sr. Neighborhood Outreach Specialist

Facilities are provided throughout City Hall for the convenience of disabled persons. If you need an accommodation to attend and participate in this meeting, please call the City Clerks office at 229-6311 and advise of your need at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Dial 7-1-1 for Relay Nevada.

THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor
Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway
Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue
City of Las Vegas Development Services Center, 333 North Rancho Drive