



Las Vegas

Agenda Item No.: 9.

AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: JUNE 18, 2014

SUBJECT:

PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THIS PORTION OF THE AGENDA MUST BE LIMITED TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION. IF YOU WISH TO BE HEARD, COME TO THE PODIUM AND 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:

ANTHONY HODON, Las Vegas resident, stated he has been attending the City Council meetings since 1991.

JOANN RIORDAN appeared on behalf of the Rainbow Company Childrens Theater, a city-wide program for 38 years, which is now facing serious cut backs. The Rainbow Company was moved from the Reed Whipple Center to the Charleston Heights Arts Center several years ago and there are now only two staff members doing the work of the five previous staff members. They do not have a season set for next year and people have not shown an interest in applying. MS. RIORDAN pointed out that her daughters experience with the Rainbow Company was invaluable and she showed a book her daughter prepared of the Rainbow Company productions she was in over the course of her high school career. She gained experience and went on to have an off-Broadway play called Luck based on her time growing up in Las Vegas. She took her play around the world in countries like Australia. MS. RIORDAN indicated that there are countless children and adults that have benefited from the tour shows. She asked the City Council to consider in their budget money for the Rainbow Company to hire staff with experience in childrens theater. They are in the process of putting together additional information regarding the Rainbow Company. MAYOR GOODMAN recognized the work of the Rainbow Company and asked if MS. RIORDAN had contacted NANCY DEANER, Director of Cultural Affairs. MS. RIORDAN replied that nothing will be decided until after July 1. She pleaded that the City Council keep this program vital and remarked that the Rainbow Company is the first exposure the children have to theater in a professional atmosphere.

DEPUTY CITY MANAGER SCOTT ADAMS added that the Rainbow Company is budgeted for next year in the Office of Cultural Affairs and that there is a position that has not been filled yet, but staff is evaluating how to expand and improve the program. No action will be taken with the Rainbow Company until staff has briefed the City Council, and it is not staffs intent to eliminate the program. MAYOR GOODMAN verified with MS. RIORDAN that the Rainbow Company does not have a board, but they are trying to organize the Friends of the Rainbow Company who are the non-profit that help with education and enrichment programs. MAYOR GOODMAN recommended that MS. RIORDAN provide DEPUTY CITY MANAGER ADAMS with her contact information who will pass it on to MS. DEANER.

COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN stated that the need for greater teaching time and less performances is being considered, and she pointed out that there are things someone learns in

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actual performances that cannot be learned in a class. She emphasized that consideration is made not to cut back the performances. CITY ATTORNEY BRAD JERBIC cautioned the City Council that this portion of the agenda is for an opportunity for individuals to speak on items that are on the agenda that would normally not receive comment. The issue being discussed is not agendaed and that discussion and deliberation could violate the Open Meeting Law.

WENDY MEOZ stated she would provide additional information regarding the Rainbow Company at a later time.

