

City of Las Vegas

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
CITY HALL, 495 S. MAIN STREET
CITY CLERKS 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
CITY OF LAS VEGAS INTERNET ADDRESS: www.lasvegasnevada.gov

MINUTES

December 1, 2015

4:00 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 LUANN D. HOLMES, 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:

VICE CHAIR BASTIAN called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR WHITE (excused until 4:02 p.m.), VICE CHAIR BASTIAN and COMMISSIONERS ARMENIAN (excused until 4:10 p.m.), AKER, LOPEZ, SHERMAN (excused until 4:07 p.m.), McCURDY, THOMSON, BECKER, ELIASON, GEBRE and NEIGER

EXCUSED: COMMISSIONERS LEE, TABOR and T. WHITE

ALSO PRESENT: TIM HACKER, Director of Parks and Recreation, KELLY SCHWARZ, Senior Management Analyst, BOB SYLVAIN, Deputy City Attorney, and ANGELA CROLLI and ASHLEY FOSTER, Deputy City Clerks

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

Minutes:

ANNOUNCEMENT MADE - Meeting noticed and posted at the following locations: City Hall, 495 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 Meeting of November 3, 2015](#)

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Motion made by WILLIAM McCURDY to Approve

Passed For: 10; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 5

MICHAEL R. AKER SR., BILLIE BASTIAN, DAVID ALEXANDER LOPEZ, MALCOLM WHITE, WILLIAM McCURDY, JEFFERY R. THOMSON, RICHARD R. BECKER, ANGELA ELIASON, ELIZABETH GEBRE, STEVEN NEIGER; Against-(None); Abstain-(None); Did Not Vote-(None); Excused-ADROUSHAN ARMENIAN, HARRY LEE, LISA B. SHERMAN, AMY TABOR, THOMAS WHITE

5. [Report by Detention and Enforcement staff regarding issues at City facilities and parks All Wards](#)

Minutes:

DEPUTY CITY MARSHAL NANCY WEBER distributed handouts to the Commission regarding criminal issues at City facilities and parks. Through the handouts, she gave a report on the various types of crimes recently committed at City facilities and informed the Commission of an increase in copper wire robberies. These, she believed, were from individuals from outside the City as the stolen copper has not been found in any Las Vegas recycling facilities. DEPUTY CITY MARSHAL WEBER, in response to CHAIR WHITE'S question regarding the recycling of copper wire to City facilities, explained that each copper wire has the City of Las Vegas' name branded on the wire itself and that individuals turning in copper wire to recycling facilities must show a form of identification. The recycling facilities then contact the City Marshals who then dispatch a special unit to identify if any recycled copper wire has been stolen from property within the City limits.

DEPUTY CITY MARSHAL WEBER answered questions from COMMISSIONERS LOPEZ and AKER in regards to increases in crime and batteries in City detention facilities.

CHAIR WHITE verified that staff would be providing a full year report regarding crimes in City facilities.

6. [Report by Don Fabbi, Master Gardener, and Michelle Yaras, Community Program Specialist of Parks and Recreation, regarding the Community Garden project and recent award received Ward 5](#)

Minutes:

TIM HACKER, Director of Parks and Recreation, introduced DON FABBI, Master Gardener, who reported on the Community Garden Project.

MR. FABBI spoke on the growth of the Doolittle Community Garden from 18 planting beds to 51 and outlined the different foods grown, including rice, quinoa and various others. The garden also provides educational opportunities for children, garden parties and demonstrations. He noted the various affiliations and awards the Doolittle Community Garden has received and that the garden is affiliated with the project Plant a Row for the Hungry, which donates fresh garden fruits and vegetables to the homeless.

MR. FABBI added that among the many awards they had been given, they also received one from the Southern Nevada Water Authority for community gardens sponsored by LYNN MILLS, late friend of MR. FABBI. He acknowledged the Commission for building the garden to be handicap accessible and especially accessible to people in wheelchairs. He was proud to say that the community garden also received 1st place award from the National Garden Club out of all community gardens east of the Mississippi River and showed a letter sent from First Lady MICHELLE OBAMA on the community garden.

MR. FABBI pointed out that he is also active with other gardens throughout Las Vegas, including: the East Las Vegas, Centennial Hills, Derfelt and Las Vegas Senior Center community gardens; all are socially diverse and no two are alike. He finished by saying that three things are needed to have a community garden: interest, support and dedication and that support from the City of Las Vegas is important for allowing staff to help with the heavy lifting.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY expressed his gratitude and compassion for community gardens. COMMISSIONER SHERMAN added that she has visited the Doolittle Community Center garden and indicated how beautiful the garden was,

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which was something the City could be proud of.

MR. FABBI remarked that although people have grown gardens in the past as a hobby, there is now a growing concern to know where food comes from and to be prepared for emergencies; therefore, people have begun to grow gardens for these reasons as well.

MR. FABBI replied to a question from CHAIR WHITE about how popcorn is grown in the garden and stated that the garden will soon have a taco bed, which features almost all of the ingredients to make tacos. CHAIR WHITE introduced MICHELLE YARAS, Community Program Specialist of Parks and Recreation, who commended MR. FABBI for his time and friendship.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY asked MS. YARAS if an award from the City of Las Vegas could be presented to MR. FABBI for his accomplishments as Master Gardener. MR. HACKER replied that an acknowledgement had been presented to MR. FABBI at a previous City Council meeting.

MR. HACKER and VICE CHAIR BASTIAN also conveyed their gratitude for MR. FABBI.

7. [Report by Parks and Recreation staff regarding department overview All Wards](#)

Minutes:

KELLY SCHWARZ, Senior Management Analyst of Parks and Recreation, through a PowerPoint presentation, gave an overview on the Parks and Recreation Department. She stated that once a month, department facility staff would come speak and provide additional information to the Commission. The presentation included information on the number of facilities within the City of Las Vegas including: parks, soccer fields, pools, community centers and two sports complexes. She discussed the history of Lorenzi and Floyd Lamb Parks, as well as the adaptive recreation programs put on by the City. Lastly, she spoke on the Corporate Challenge event held annually.

CHAIR WHITE asked if COMMISSIONER McCURDY'S concern about covering the Doolittle Community Center pool were ever resolved. COMMISSIONER McCURDY replied that he was informed that due to the way the Doolittle Community Center is constructed, the pool could not be covered. However, the Municipal Pool is located in Ward 5 and is covered.

COMMISSIONER BECKER requested a copy of the presentation.

COMMISSIONER GEBRE stated that she and COMMISSIONER McCURDY had visited parks within the City and found them to be closed. MS. SCHWARZ explained that there was only one park, which was in Ward 5 that should be partially closed. COMMISSIONER McCURDY added that COMMISSIONER GEBRE was referring to a park near the Neon Museum. MS. SCHWARZ said that that park was run by the Office of Cultural Affairs specifically for special events only through the Cultural Affairs office.

CHAIR WHITE encouraged all of the Commissioners to visit the parks within their respective wards.

COMMISSIONER SHERMAN asked for clarification on staff restructuring and activity changes within the Parks and Recreation Department, as well as additional information on the SafeKey program.

MS. SCHWARZ and MR. HACKER answered that core staff positions will be restored which included full-time staff positions at the Pavilion Pool, customer service representatives at both senior centers, and additional staff where needed. MS. SCHWARZ explained that the SafeKey program was now a part of the Office of Community Services.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY felt that the SafeKey program should be under the purview of the Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department. MR. HACKER mentioned that the reason for SafeKey and Batteries Included programs to stay within the Neighborhood Services side of the Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services split was because of an educational component that was being undertaken within Neighborhood Services. He added that according

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to a recent informational report by the City Manager, which had also been seen by the Mayor and City Council, in January of 2016, there would be a new department by the name of Youth Development and Social Innovation, and the SafeKey and Batteries Included programs, along with other educational and youth initiatives, would be under this new department.

COMMISSIONER BASTIAN verified with MS. SCHWARZ that the four golf courses within the City are also third party vendors with operations and maintenance overseen by the City of Las Vegas; this information would be included in the PowerPoint presentation copy, which MS. SCHWARZ will provide for the Commissioners.

8. [Report by Parks and Recreation Director regarding department announcements All Wards](#)

Minutes:

TIM HACKER, Director of Parks and Recreation, reported that the City has been working on the City's Northwest Interlocal agreement with Clark County. He announced that JERRY WALKER was appointed as the new Director of Operations and Maintenance and will oversee the Parks and Recreation Department, as well. MR. HACKER anticipates a standing item on the agenda in which Operations and Maintenance staff will be available to answer questions the Commission may have. MR. HACKER also announced a new customer service initiative within the Parks and Recreation Department; a committee of staff was formed to develop the program. He then spoke on the Huntridge Circle Park bathrooms and that COUNCILMAN COFFIN asked that they be opened on a permanent basis. The reason for the closure was due to inappropriate activities occurring within the bathrooms; the bathrooms will be modified to resemble a beach-like bathroom to provide a safer environment for park visitors.

MR. HACKER, in response to a question from COMMISSIONER LOPEZ, stated that the Operations and Maintenance Department will meet with COUNCILMAN COFFIN to discuss the Huntridge Circle Park bathroom modifications. CHAIR WHITE asked for staff to provide a report once this is finalized and discussion has been held with COUNCILMAN COFFIN.

MR. HACKER and CHAIR WHITE discussed a possible gathering to celebrate the holiday season. COMMISSIONER McCURDY was pleased with the idea.

COMMISSIONER NEIGER introduced himself to the Commission.

9. [CITIZENS PARTICIPATION: PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THIS PORTION OF THE AGENDA MUST BE LIMITED TO MATTERS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE COMMISSION. NO SUBJECT MAY BE ACTED UPON BY THE COMMISSION 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:

COMMISSIONER BASTIAN gave kudos to TIM HACKER, Director of Parks and Recreation, for the beautiful tree decorated at Opportunity Village on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Department.

10. [ADJOURNMENT](#)

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

City of Las Vegas

Ashley Foster, Deputy City Clerk

Tim Hacker, Director, Parks and Recreation

Facilities are provided throughout City Hall for the convenience of disabled persons. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate physically handicapped persons. If you need an accommodation to attend and participate in this meeting, please call the City Clerks office at 702-229-6311 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