

# City of Las Vegas

SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD  
CITY HALL, 495 S. MAIN STREET  
CITY CLERKS 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM  
CITY OF LAS VEGAS INTERNET ADDRESS: [www.lasvegasnevada.gov](http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov)

## MINUTES

August 3, 2017

1:00 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, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR OR ON THE CITY'S WEBPAGE AT [www.lasvegasnevada.gov](http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov).

1. [CALL TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

CHAIR BATES called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR BATES and MEMBERS OREAR-CAMERON, MARSHALL, PATTARETTU, PERAZZO and WEINSTEIN HALL

EXCUSED: MEMBER OBERLANDER

ALSO PRESENT: KELLY SCHWARZ, Sr. Management Analyst, APRIL DiGIOVANNI, Administrative Secretary, VAL STEED, Chief Deputy City Attorney, JEFF DOROCAR, Deputy City Attorney, and ASHLEY FOSTER, 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, 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:

APRIL DiGIOVANNI introduced ROBERT MARSHALL as the new Member for Ward 6 and introduced the other Members to him.

4. [For possible action to approve the Final Minutes by reference of the Regular Meeting of July 6, 2017](#)

Motion made by JOHN PERAZZO to Approve as corrected

Passed For: 7; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 0

DONALD OBERLANDER, CARMEN BATES, YVETTE WEINSTEIN HALL, ELIZABETH PATTARETTU, JOHN PERAZZO, DEANNE O'REAR-CAMERON, ROBERT MARSHALL; Against-(None); Abstain-(None); Did Not Vote-(None); Excused-(None)

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Minutes:

On Page 3, Item 7, MEMBER PERAZZO corrected that he nominated MEMBER WEINSTEIN HALL as Chairperson and MEMBER O'REAR-CAMERON as Vice Chairperson. MEMBER WEINSTEIN clarified she nominated CHAIR BATES. ASHLEY FOSTER, Deputy City Clerk, stated that she would share this correction with the Deputy City Clerk who attended the meeting.

5. [Presentation by Karen Kelly, Clark County Public Guardian's Office, regarding services and resources available to the community All Wards](#)

Minutes:

KAREN KELLY, Clark County Public Guardian, was appointed last August as Acting Clark County Public Guardian by the Clark County Commissioners and was made permanent in February 2017. She stated that the Clark County Public Guardians Office assists individuals with medical and financial affairs who have been deemed incompetent by a court and may not have family or friends able to serve in a guardian capacity. Currently, the Clark County Public Guardians Office has over 200 cases they manage. Additionally, the office has a Representative Payee program that helps to manage the finances of individuals over 60-years-old who voluntarily go on the program due to being at risk of homelessness, who may have a gambling addiction, or who are looking for a less restrictive alternative than full guardianship. The Representative Payee program is grant funded through the State of Nevada's Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) and currently has about 138 individuals on the program with one case manager.

MS. KELLY explained that often the court will ask a Public Guardian to become involved in a case when an independent, third party is needed. Requests may also be received from the ADSD, Elder Protective Services or law enforcement. Previously, referrals would be received and the Clark County Public Guardians Office would file a petition with the court; however, because the office did not have attorneys on staff, it ended up with a large waiting list of people who needed a guardian. This process was reviewed and changes were made with statute indicating that anyone can request a Public Guardian but must go through the court first.

She emphasized the office's desire to involve family and explained the three types of guardians which include a family guardian, a private guardian and the Clark County Public Guardians Office. Statute requires for private guardians to be the guardian of three or more persons who are not related by blood. The office encourages families to research family guardian options prior to involving the Clark County Public Guardians Office.

MS. KELLY continued that there are different types of guardianship including guardianship of the individual, guardianship of the estate and guardianship of both the individual and the estate. Generally, the Public Guardian manages both; however, there are cases in which only the finances are handled as the individual may only need assistance in managing their assets. Temporary guardianships are a way to obtain guardianship without an initial court hearing and should only be used when someone is in immediate danger. The Clark County Public Guardians Office has tried to refrain from doing a lot of temporary guardianships unless it can be shown that it meets statute requirements.

If family is out of state and would like to become the guardian of someone in Nevada, a registered agent is needed; a list and form are available on the Nevada Secretary of State's website.

She indicated that guardianship compliance exists through the Clark County District Court and gave the guardianship hotline phone number of 702-671-4614. She also welcomed the public to speak with an attorney if needed or to access the Family Law Self-Help Center through the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada. Classes are also held on how to fill out guardianship paperwork and the Clark County Public Guardians Office offers a class for newly appointed guardians; however, their office cannot assist in filling out paperwork.

Once a petition is filed it can take anywhere from 30 to 60 days to obtain a court date. MS. KELLY mentioned the typical cases her office receives and ways to terminate guardianship. Staff at the Clark County Public Guardians Office is available 24 hours a day to answer any questions.

She briefly discussed new verbiage and acknowledged efforts to avoid the need for guardianship. The office encourages individuals to designate a power of attorney before they reach a state in which they are unable to make that decision. There is also a guardianship nomination form.

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She stated that staff was available during office hours at the Clark County Public Guardians Office to answer questions at the phone number of 702-455-4332.

MEMBER PERAZZO expressed concerns regarding isolated senior citizens. MS. KELLY acknowledged his concerns and discussed recent changes made by the Legislature to address guardians isolating individuals whom they serve as guardian for as well as the idea of someone serving as guardian and being of natural affection to the individual.

MEMBER O'REAR-CAMERON thanked MS. KELLY for her work and loved the changes in place. She asked how the ADSD fits in.

MS. KELLY said for an individual over 60-years-old that someone feels is being exploited or neglected, that individual can notify Elder Protective Services. From there, a case worker is assigned to investigate. Once a determination is made that the situation meets the criteria, a petition is prepared by the Attorney General's Office for the Clark County Public Guardians Office. At times, family members will want to be the guardian which can be contentious. The office tries to remain the privacy of its clients. She added that the ADSD also has many great programs.

MEMBER WEINSTEIN HALL wondered if it was a requirement that a guardian be bonded. MS. KELLY confirmed that the Public Guardian is bonded through Clark County and spoke about the creation of the State Guardianship Compliance Office by the Legislature.

MEMBER PATTARETTU asked about evaluations of persons who may need a guardian. MS. KELLY asserted that the Clark County Public Guardians Office does not become involved in any evaluations and that an evaluation must be done by a physician. Referrals can be made to Elder Protective Services or a welfare check can be done through the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department. She stated that she has also visited hospitals to meet with staff to share information.

MEMBER PATTARETTU inquired as to whom fills out the guardian nomination form to which MS. KELLY indicated the individual themselves but that they must be in a competent state of mind.

MS. KELLY confirmed for MEMBER O'REAR-CAMERON that it would be beneficial for the form to be provided to the public.

6. [Presentation by Jocelyn Bluit-Fisher, Senior Neighborhood Outreach Specialist, Office of Community Services, regarding the Homeless Courtyard All Wards](#)

Minutes:

JOCELYN BLUITT-FISHER, Sr. Neighborhood Outreach Specialist, distributed and submitted for the record packets of handouts to the Members and stated that one of her responsibilities with the City is to coordinate programs and services that address homelessness.

Clark County is ranked fifth or sixth for the number of homeless individuals in the community. On any given night, there is a little more than 6,500 homeless individuals in the community; about half of them are considered sheltered homeless in housing-supported programs or living in shelters. The other half are living in places not meant for human habitation. While the City does participate actively with other jurisdictions, the City also focuses on resources and services that address homelessness within the City's boundaries with a particular focus on homelessness in the City's urban core. Staff estimated that of the 3,000 unsheltered homeless individuals in the community, 40 percent are located within the downtown area or the Corridor of Hope.

Staff desired to obtain more information as to why this was happening and commissioned with an outside organization to survey the homeless. Of those surveyed, many had negative perceptions about the shelters and many individuals were dealing with mental health issues. With that information, the City started having community charrettes where discussions were held. It was learned that there is a need for mental health services, medical respite, employment services and basic needs such as restrooms and showers.

MS. BLUITT-FISHER indicated that at the same time the surveys and community charrettes were being conducted, the City had stated to acquire property in the Corridor of Hope which is roughly bounded by Main Street, Las Vegas Boulevard, Owens Avenue and the Union Pacific Railroad. Currently, there are many existing homeless services in that

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area including Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada, The Salvation Army and The Shade Tree which provide a wide array of services. However, even though these services exist, MS. BLUITT-FISHER stressed that there are not enough beds in the community.

She referenced the first map in the packet which was a general overview of the Corridor of Hope. The second map is a zoomed in picture of the properties purchased by the City. Currently, the City owns what used to be the Casa Blanca Ballroom at 1401 Las Vegas Boulevard and the Shannon West Homeless Youth Center at 1417 Las Vegas Boulevard. The City also owns the property at 1425 North Main Street and is in the process of negotiating the purchase of the funeral home that sits in the middle of the property. She stated that the purpose of purchasing those properties is if one is going to bring in additional services want to make an impact, you must have land to do all of that.

Since acquiring the property, staff realized that there are individuals who need resources immediately. Rather than allowing the property to remain vacant, pop-up services are being held at the Casa Blanca Ballroom site. She directed the Members' attention to the handout which illustrated Phase 1 regarding the Courtyard. MS. BLUITT-FISHER explained that at the moment, homeless individuals are told where they cannot be; therefore, staff has envisioned the Courtyard to be a safe place where homeless individuals can be. It is low barrier, open from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and open to anyone who crosses the threshold. In addition to that, the City will provide 24-hour security and porta potties. Staff is working toward having this site open 24/7 and desires to have a day shelter, mobile showers and shade structures. It will also be a place to connect to resources with services providers on site. She asserted that the site will not feed the homeless as free meals are available within the community and food does not address the core of the issue. Limited food will be provided only for those who work during the day or someone who comes to the campus new and has not eaten in a couple of days.

MS. BLUITT-FISHER concluded that the goal is to have the facility open 24/7 by March 1, 2018. Phase 2 will include physical structures constructed onsite in will included legal, medical and mental health services, laundry services and mailboxes. Phase 2's anticipated completion date is October 2019.

MEMBER PERAZZO participated in a charrette in December on Foremaster Lane. MS. BLUITT-FISHER noted that Foremaster Lane is part of the site plan.

MEMBER O'REAR-CAMERON asked about the number of clients being senior citizens and veterans. MS. BLUITT-FISHER did not have that information but directed the Members to the regional website Help Hope Home which is maintained by the Southern Nevada Continuity of Care Association (SNCCA). Every year and in accordance with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) staff conducts a count of the homeless. That information is compiled and submitted as a report to HUD and is available on the SNCCA website.

MAXENE GOLDSTEIN stated that she runs a charity for homeless children and children in shelters. She asked if the Courtyard would have any facilities for homeless teens.

MS. BLUITT-FISHER stressed the goal of getting families with children off of the site immediately and given the high priority. The same is true for homeless youth as there are shelters and facilities designed to house and to treat their unique needs. MS. BLUITT-FISHER added that for most homeless teens, it is more important for them to blend in than to stand out. She also noted that there is an outreach team called the Multi-agency Outreach Resource Engagement (M.O.R.E.) Project which consists of two Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department officers and representatives from four non-profit agencies that service the homeless who encourage individuals to come to the Courtyard to connect to services.

MEMBER PATTARETTU mentioned how most individuals do not want to go to a shelter and would rather go to a hospital. She asked what could be done about this. MS. BLUITT-FISHER explained that the differences between the Courtyard as opposed to a shelter. The Courtyard has basic rules to follow and is very low barrier. She confirmed for MEMBER PATTARETTU that something would be available to give to patients about the Courtyard in March 2018.

CHAIR BATES asked if this model was unique. MS. BLUITT-FISHER stated that it is not and that several similar programs exist in other cities.

7. [Reports by Board Members and discussion for possible action regarding senior issues within their respective Council Wards and at large All Wards](#)

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## Minutes:

CHAIR BATES mentioned her near future plans to meet with COUNCILMAN COFFIN which she will report on in the future. She recognized an indoor garage sale happening concurrently with the Board's meeting as well as the Senior Energy Assistance Expo to be held Saturday, August 5th. On August 31st, there will be a Senior Employment Expo which will be free and open to the public. She wondered if the Members are receiving ward newsletters and asked MEMBER MARSHALL to share information about him.

MEMBER MARSHALL stated that he is originally from San Francisco and has lived in Las Vegas in the Centennial Hills neighborhood for about 15 years. He is a retired Special Agent of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations. In San Francisco he owned his own securities business, sold the company, bought a 50-foot sail boat and sailed the Pacific Ocean with his wife for five years. After a clogged artery, he sold the boat and after discussing it with his wife, they settled in Las Vegas.

MEMBER PERAZZO asked MEMBER O'REAR-CAMERON to clarify her work in Ward 5 that she mentioned at the Board's last meeting. She indicated that her business involves seniors and that she had worked with a chamber in Ward 5. COUNCILMAN BARLOW comes to many of the events that she does; however, her main focus is Ward 4. MEMBER PERAZZO passed around feedback sticks to some of the Members in order to rate his presentation. He also submitted several handouts for the record which he discussed.

MEMBER PERAZZO spoke about a recent class he took on W. EDWARDS DEMING'S book, The New Economics which talks about variance and things that are out of the ordinary. He also passed round the story of Patrick and the School Bus and told a story of an elderly woman who needed accommodations on a recent bus ride.

MEMBER PERAZZO indicated there were no further reports on any community centers, shared a senior housing outreach letter and mentioned a conversation he had with BYRON PETERSON.

He also spoke about a preliminary demographics study he completed for Ward 5 zip codes and shared a list of senior citizen voter demographics by precinct within Clark County ranked by precinct from the most active voters to least active voters. MEMBER PERAZZO further discussed the list and passed around a handout for the Members to review. He asked the Clark County Election Department if they could provide information regarding active voters 55-years-old and older to the City to which he was told it would cost \$130. If that information was valuable, he wished to make a motion to obtain that information.

Lastly, MEMBER PERAZZO discussed the Las Vegas Recovery Center who treated someone over 55-years-old for opioid addiction.

MEMBER WEINSTEIN HALL indicated that she had a meeting scheduled with COUNCILMAN SEROKA and would not have a report to present until then. She also stated that the gardens were up at the Veterans Memorial Center.

MEMBER PATTARETTU was not able to meet with her Councilwoman but had a meeting scheduled. She would also be meeting with COUNCILWOMAN FIORE to determine what could be done for senior citizens within Ward 6.

MEMBER O'REAR-CAMERSON met with her Councilman and staff and had a good discussion. She stated that she would be manning the table at the Sun City Health Fair who has asked her to bring the different resources she has. She also discussed legislation and things she would like to see during the next legislative session with the Councilman. MEMBER O'REAR-CAMERON was requested by the Councilman and his wife to attend more events within their ward as there are a lot of senior citizens who participate. Lastly, she mentioned a function she attended to celebrate COUNCILMEMBERS ANTHONY and FIORE.

MEMBER MARSHALL expressed an interest in discussing senior centers and their dues.

8. [Report by Kelly Schwarz, Senior Management Analyst, Parks and Recreation Department, regarding upcoming department activities All Wards](#)

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Minutes:

KELLY SCHWARZ, Sr. Management Analyst, displayed a flyer for the Senior Energy Assistance Expo and distributed a flyer for the Centennial Hills Active Adult Center 10th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon, which she also submitted for the record. The Center also has a new coordinator, CRISTA MISSICK, Sr. Community Program Specialist. Veterans Memorial Center also has a new coordinator by the name of NICOLE KOERWITZ, Principal Community Program Specialist, who was formally at the Doolittle Community Center.

MS. SCHWARZ gave a copy of the City's activities catalog to MEMBER MARSHALL.

9. [DISCUSSION REGARDING TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS BY THE BOARD. COMMENTS MADE DURING THIS PORTION OF THE AGENDA BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS SHALL REFER SOLELY TO PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND ANY DISCUSSION SHALL BE LIMITED TO WHETHER OR NOT SUCH PROPOSED ITEMS ARE WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF THE BOARD AND/OR WHETHER SUCH PROPOSED ITEMS SHALL BE PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA. NO DISCUSSION REGARDING THE SUBSTANCE OF ANY SUCH PROPOSED TOPIC SHALL OCCUR AND NO ACTION SHALL BE TAKEN.](#)

Minutes:

MEMBER PERAZZO asked if Clark County voter registration statistics for senior citizens was worth paying for. KELLY SCHWARZ, Sr. Management Analyst, informed the Members that they do not have a budget.

MEMBER PATTARETTU asked about donations for the Centennial Hills Active Adult Center 10th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon. MS. SCHWARZ suggested MEMBER PATTARETTU speak to staff at the Center. MEMBER O'REAR-CAMERON offered to provide MEMBER PATTARETTU with information for agencies who may be able to provide additional funding for the event.

CHAIR BATES asked MS. SCHWARZ about sign-ups for the AgeWell Expo. MS. SCHWARZ stated this could be done at the September meeting.

CHAIR BATES remembered a presentation by the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC). She also mentioned reaching out to someone with the University of Las Vegas, Nevada's Division of Educational Outreach - Just for Seniors. MEMBER O'REAR-CAMERON offered to help.

MEMBER MARSHALL requested to discuss senior center dues.

10. [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:

KELLY SCHWARZ, Sr. Management Analyst, confirmed the Board's next meeting date as September 7th.

MEMBER O'REAR-CAMERON distributed and submitted for the record a flyer for CareMore's Togetherness Forum for isolated seniors; it will be a wonderful forum to address the medical and social consequences of senior loneliness. Booths will be available for ward representation.

11. [ADJOURNMENT](#)

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted:

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Ashley Foster, Deputy City Clerk

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Kelly Schwarz, Sr. Management Analyst

Facilities are provided throughout City Hall for the convenience of persons with disabilities. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate persons with disabilities or impairments. 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, 1<sup>st</sup> 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