



Citizens Advisory Committee to the Redevelopment Agency Minutes

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 Office of the City Clerk, 495 South Main Street, 2nd Floor or on the city's webpage at www.lasvegasnevada.gov.

1. Call to Order

Minutes:

CHAIR MATHIS called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR MATHIS and MEMBERS MACK, JONES, CLARKE, PALACIOS and HILL (excused until 4:06 p.m.)

EXCUSED: MEMBERS SYLVAIN and DYKES

ALSO PRESENT: JEFF McGEACHY, Sr. Economic Development Specialist, BILL ARENT, Director of Economic and Urban Development, TERA ANDERSON, Redevelopment Manager, BRYAN SCOTT, Assistant City Attorney, and DEBRA A. OUTLAND, Deputy City Clerk

2. Announcement Regarding: 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: Comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters on the agenda for action. If you wish to be heard, come forward 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:

None.

4. For possible action to approve the Final Minutes by reference of the Regular Meeting of July 24, 2018

Motion made by Steven Clarke to Approve

Passed For: 6; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 2

For-Beverly Mathis, Lois Mack, Asha L Jones, Steven Clarke, Craig Palacios, Daniel Hill; Excused-Mark Sylvain, Jermaine Dykes;

5. Presentation by Bill Arent, Director of Economic and Urban Development, regarding an overview of the Las Vegas Redevelopment Agency Employment Plan Policy

Minutes:

BILL ARENT, Director of Economic and Urban Development, appreciated the opportunity to present to this Committee. Because there are a lot of pending construction projects in the downtown area, some of which involve the Las Vegas Redevelopment Agency (RDA), he thought it an appropriate time to reintroduce the RDA Employment Plan Policy which is a requirement of the redevelopment statute; a copy of the plan was submitted for the record.

MR. ARENT noted this policy dates back to 2014 with a goal of focusing on employment for communities specifically cited in the statute. In accordance with the policy, private developers and build-to-suit owners are required to hire residents within the redevelopment project area and are encouraged to hire economically disadvantaged contractors/residents, members of racial minorities, women, the disabled or veterans which are outlined in state law. He noted this item was to provide information, and if the members had further questions, a future agenda item could be scheduled.

MR. ARENT explained staff realized as a city, they can, and should, do more to make these employment opportunities available for persons in the community. DR. LISA MORRIS HIBBLER, Director, Youth Development and Social Innovation, and her department are focused on doing this. Working with COUNCILMAN CREAR, DR. MORRIS HIBBLER developed a program called Ward 5 Works. MR. ARENT read the goal of the program into the record, adding that if the program is successful, staff would like to expand it to cover all the redevelopment areas, which would include Wards 1, 3 and 5.

He noted the strategic actions in the plan are for the City of Las Vegas to serve as a workforce intermediary, to use community navigators to engage the community one on one and to make connections and build relationships using the Housing and Employment Navigator model established by the Department of Labor Workforce Innovation Fund. Additionally, a closer look would be given to analyzing talent work flow and expanding education and training center opportunities. Work is being done on a workforce development center that would provide training in three main industries – gaming and hospitality, construction, and information technology.

To build a strong workforce for today, work is being done to build a tech studio at the Westside School to provide employment training and career pathways training for youth ages 16 to 24 in the areas of coding, app development, Esports, video game production and cybersecurity, as well as a strong future youth employment program focusing on workforce readiness and the soft skills youth need to be competitive in the workplace.

A lot of this is being done through the City of Las Vegas' own resources, but RDA staff believe this to be a great opportunity to partner with the City and the resources it already has in connecting the dots to make sure that the workforce in the community is aware of these opportunities.

MR. ARENT spoke of several upcoming construction projects, some of which received RDA funding. The Las Vegas Downtown Expo at World Market Center project will start in the spring. There are also two housing projects in Symphony Park that did not receive RDA funding, but are in need of labor. Additionally, there are three different hotel projects moving forward with construction – Boyd Gaming's Fremont Hotel, the Downtown Grand and Circa; all which require labor.

The goal is to stay ahead of the anticipated construction labor shortage by working with various labor training programs such as apprenticeship programs. Rather than having each project sponsor and developer do this on their own, the idea is to provide more support as a city to get a pipeline of workers ready for these large projects. This will include community meetings and job hiring events where workers are prescreened to make sure they are ready when the opportunities arise.

Staff is working on rolling this out as a platform, working with DR. MORRIS HIBBLER and her department as well as community partners to ensure there is a deeper penetration to the community. Historically, City staff has relied too much on private partners, but believes more can be done to make sure workers have an opportunity and enough lead time to take advantage of those opportunities.

MR. ARENT reiterated this item is not scheduled for formal action, but he wanted to introduce the information to the members and get their feedback. He confirmed for CHAIR MATHIS that Ward 5 Works is not yet up and running; the program is being built and they are starting to connect the necessary resources with what they are trying to accomplish. He noted the City is in the budget process, so they are trying to identify a funding source to hire community navigators. MR. ARENT stated he and DR. MORRIS HIBBLER recently spoke to Workforce Connections as part of the process of rolling the information out.

What he explained was an advance preview, but over the next two months they would like to be ready for pre-screening and job hiring events and to engage the community. He specifically noted the job hiring events would be scheduled for when the construction projects actually need the labor.

MEMBER JONES asked if there were any reports since the program started. MR. ARENT confirmed the policy, as well as statute, require such. Not a lot of large projects have been done in the last 12 to 18 months since it is cyclical, but Employment Plan Reports are done for each project. He provided an example involving a company that makes video games that moved one of their branches from California to downtown Las Vegas. The City helped with the physical space, and that company was required to provide a detailed report regarding who they hired; some goals they met, and some they did not, so some of the incentive provided to them by the City was held back. He offered to provide an overall view of all of the projects and reports at a future meeting.

CHAIR MATHIS thought this was amazing and asked that staff keep this Committee informed. She asked how people could find out about all of the opportunities that may come up in the next couple of months. MR. ARENT explained instead of just posting it on a website, the City will be out in the neighborhoods, knocking on doors, going to town halls and community events. Additionally, it will be organized so that those interested in these opportunities will have enough lead time.

6. Presentation by Gina Venglass, Engineering Project Manager, regarding upcoming Public Works projects on Las Vegas Boulevard

Minutes:

GINA VENGLASS stated she is an Engineering Project Manager with the City of Las Vegas' Public Works Department and appreciated the opportunity to present to this Committee one of her current projects – the Las Vegas Boulevard Improvements project between Stewart Avenue and Washington Avenue. She explained this project is a substantial widening project. The existing two lanes along this corridor will be expanded to three lanes, and the sidewalks will be widened to 20 feet, which is different than other streets downtown. There will also be a very large median ranging from 38 to 58 feet with a nice landscaping palette. A rendering was displayed, but was not submitted for the record. Bike lanes will also be incorporated in order to include all modes of transportation within the corridor. The existing banners and sidewalk embellishments that were installed as part of the cultural corridor years ago will be retained. The project will also include new streetlights, new traffic signal infrastructure, smart-city infrastructure technology and new utility lines.

This portion of Las Vegas Boulevard was a Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) road, but was turned over to the City in 2002. As such, the utility lines under the street are old and do not meet current City standards. The water line was built in the early 1950s so the Las Vegas Valley Water District has partnered with the City and the County to replace the water line from Washington Avenue through and into the County limits. She believed the County is currently in the process of awarding a contract for south of Sahara Avenue.

MS. VENGLASS noted the Las Vegas Boulevard Improvements project is at 30 percent, and the main funding source at this time is the Regional Transportation Commission with other funding sources anticipated as time progresses. The total project cost for this portion is approximately \$40 million for design, right-of-way acquisition and construction, making it a huge investment. The design engineer is the Louis Berger Group, and a public outreach specialist by the name of ANNE SMITH CULP, Smith Culp Consulting, has been hired. MS. CULP will assist with coordination meetings with the community as well as utility companies and other public entities in town. Reiterating that the project is only at 30 percent, MS. VENGLASS stated they have not yet reached the point where a lot of outreach is needed.

MEMBER JONES asked about the timeline. MS. VENGLASS explained the construction timeline has not been established in detail yet, but construction is not expected to start until late 2021 or 2022, with a one-year construction timeline anticipated. Staff is trying to time this project with the associated disruptions from the Las

Vegas Boulevard improvements that will be occurring south of Stewart Avenue. She indicated she would continue to provide updates as it progresses through the design process.

MEMBER PALACIOS asked if the widening would involve private land. MS. VENGLASS explained the right-of-way process is just kicking off, and an item would be going before the Council in April to request permission to acquire right-of-way along this corridor.

MEMBER MACK asked what MS. VENGLASS' reference to "smart city" meant. MS. VENGLASS explained the City has a new smart city element that is being implemented downtown. It is a series of fiber optic lines that communicate on the streets, particularly at traffic signal locations, that can help with communication of such things as air quality, traffic count data and installation of cameras in crime areas. Since it is a newer program, exactly what they want to do has not yet been identified, but the infrastructure will be in place, so when they receive funding, projects and ideas, they will be able to keep up with other big cities.

MS. VENGLASS explained for MEMBER HILL the project as it relates to south of U.S. 95, specifically, the Las Vegas Boulevard exit off of U.S. 95 heading into downtown. MS. VENGLASS stated NDOT is currently doing the design for that interchange to try to improve its traffic and flow. The consultant hired by the City is working for the State as well so the City will be aware of what is going on. Heading southbound, the median width will be similar to what is there currently. Staff is also looking at ways to enhance the lighting and feel underneath U.S. 95 to make it more conducive for walking.

MEMBER PALACIOS thought some areas seemed easy to widen, but in other areas, there were hotel rooms along the sidewalk, and he asked how that process worked. MS. VENGLASS explained with right-of-ways that are acquired, appraisals are done and negotiations take place with the property owners. Other times, staff opts to do a workaround in order to make it work as best as they can with the neighbors and the community in the corridor. She gave the example of working around the Reed Whipple Building and the Neon Museum buildings.

MEMBER PALACIOS thought what was described would be a definite improvement.

BILL ARENT, Director of Economic and Urban Development, asked about the funding source. MS. VENGLASS explained the funding source is the RTC Fuel Revenue Indexing, but other funding sources are anticipated to be added over time as the design develops.

MEMBER HILL asked what could be expected as far as lane and road closures coming south off of U.S. 95 trying to get downtown. MS. VENGLASS stated with all construction projects, traffic control is always a very big issue. South of Stewart Avenue, three lanes will be maintained in each direction – one northbound, one southbound and a center turn lane. She guessed a similar course of action would be followed. She restated the anticipated start date for MEMBER HILL and the timeline for construction for CHAIR MATHIS.

Noting that MS. VENGLASS stated earlier that the banners would be integrated into the project, MEMBER PALACIOS asked about an art program or if anything else was being done. MS. VENGLASS stated they are working with the Office of Cultural Affairs to establish that and if the members had any ideas or wished to participate, they should let her know. MEMBER PALACIOS stated he and MEMBER CLARKE worked on the art program with the light rail. They were funded by the Urban Land Institute to make sure there was a place for respite for people and public art, and they just accepted and commissioned their first piece of art. He offered their help in explaining how that process worked. MS. VENGLASS suggested the best option would be to contact the Office of Cultural Affairs to see what is coming down the pipe as far as art as this project is not to that point yet.

7. Discussion for possible action regarding election of officers for 2019

Minutes:

Subsequent to MEMBER HILL making a motion for things to remain status quo, CHAIR MATHIS explained she would be termed out in November 2019. JEFF McGEACHY, Sr. Economic Development Specialist, also announced MEMBER SYLVAIN, who was the Vice Chair, was no longer on the Committee.

CHAIR MATHIS asked for nominations for Chair of which MEMBER HILL nominated MEMBER PALACIOS. However, after asking how the process works, MEMBER PALACIOS indicated he travels a great deal with his job so he may not be the best candidate for Chair. As such, he declined the nomination.

ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY BRYAN SCOTT advised since MEMBER PALACIOS declined the nomination for Chair, the floor should be opened for more nominations. MEMBER CLARKE accepted the nomination by MEMBER HILL for Chair.

CHAIR MATHIS clarified for MEMBER MACK what was voted on and then opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair.

MEMBER PALACIOS asked if the current Vice Chair was also termed out or if that person was still eligible. After being told the Vice Chair was no longer on the Committee, MEMBER PALACIOS stated MEMBER HILL is a person of action and nominated him if interested. MEMBER HILL accepted the nomination.

Subsequent to the vote, CHAIR MATHIS congratulated MEMBERS CLARKE and HILL.

MR. SCOTT stated someone also needed to be elected as Secretary. MEMBER PALACIOS asked what the role of the Secretary was of which MR. McGEACHY read into the record. CHAIR MATHIS added that the Deputy City Clerk usually ensures the recorded minutes are in place, the Secretary reads them to confirm they are correct and the Chair signs them.

MEMBER HILL suggested MEMBER DYKES, but CHAIR MATHIS wished to only consider the members that were currently present. She opened the floor for nominations. MR. SCOTT advised the members could nominate themselves if they wished. MEMBER HILL nominated MEMBER PALACIOS as Secretary who accepted.

MEMBER PALACIOS wondered if discussion should take place regarding getting additional members due to problems obtaining a quorum. MR. SCOTT thought this would best be discussed under Item 12 and asked MR. McGEACHY to provide information on the Committee members terms, etc.

MR. McGEACHY stated the Committee currently has two vacancies; one from the term expiration of MEMBER SYLVAIN and one that has not been able to be filled. The roles related to this Committee are very specific making it challenging to fill some of the vacancies. He noted the process involves the Clerk's Office, but staff is actively engaged in trying to find individuals that might be interested. He welcomed any input from the Committee members. He read from the Bylaws the Committee composition related to the two vacancies.

Since one of the vacancies has to be selected by the Ward 1 Councilperson, MR. SCOTT pointed out there is an upcoming election to replace COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN who is finishing her last term and suggested waiting until after the election to see who the new Ward 1 Councilperson would be.

MEMBER HILL knows a real estate agent who is interested and asked where that information should be sent. MR. McGEACHY stated he could assist, but the application process is done through the City Clerk's Office. He indicated he would provide the necessary information to the members. CHAIR MATHIS emphasized any responses should be sent solely to MR. McGEACHY and not to the full board.

Motion made by Daniel Hill to Elect Steven Clarke as Chair

Passed For: 6; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 2

For-Beverly Mathis, Lois Mack, Asha L Jones, Steven Clarke, Craig Palacios, Daniel Hill; Excused-Mark Sylvain, Jermaine Dykes;

Motion made by Craig Palacios to Elect Daniel Hill as Vice Chair

Passed For: 6; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 2

For-Beverly Mathis, Lois Mack, Asha L Jones, Steven Clarke, Craig Palacios, Daniel Hill; Excused-Mark Sylvain, Jermaine Dykes;

Motion made by Daniel Hill to Elect Craig Palacios as Secretary

Passed For: 6; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 2

For-Beverly Mathis, Lois Mack, Asha L Jones, Steven Clarke, Craig Palacios, Daniel Hill; Excused-Mark Sylvain, Jermaine Dykes;

8. **Discussion regarding topics for future agenda items.** 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 Committee 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:

CHAIR MATHIS referred to the list of possible meeting topics distributed by JEFF McGEACHY, Sr. Economic Development Specialist, a copy of which is included in the backup. She asked that the members contact MR. McGEACHY with any topics they may have.

MR. McGEACHY stated the list has not been updated in some time. Items have been removed as they have been addressed, but the bottom four have not been prioritized. The members establish the priorities, and he is working through the list as requested. CHAIR MATHIS asked that the members contact MR. McGEACHY with any priorities they may have.

9. **Citizens Participation:** Public comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee. No subject may be acted upon by the Committee unless that subject is on the agenda and is scheduled for action. If you wish to be heard, come forward and 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.

10. **Adjournment**

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Debra A. Outland, Deputy City Clerk

Beverly Mathis, Chair

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 Clerk's 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