



Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

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

PRESENT: VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ and COMMISSIONERS SHERMAN (via teleconference), BECKER, NEIGER (via teleconference and excused until 4:02 p.m.), ASSELIN, HOWARD (excused from 4:05 p.m. to 4:11 p.m., 4:13 p.m to 4:21 p.m., and 4:48 p.m. to 4:51 p.m.), KELLER, JOHNSON, MARTIN and ZAMORA

EXCUSED: CHAIR WHITE and COMMISSIONERS McCURDY, ARMENIAN, GEBRE and BRIARE

ALSO PRESENT: STEVE FORD, Acting Director of Parks and Recreation, KIM KLEIN, Administrative Secretary, JOHN RIDILLA, Deputy City Attorney, and BRIAN CARROLL, 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 in accordance with the noticing standards as outlined in NRS 241.020: City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor; The City of Las Vegas website – www.lasvegasnevada.gov; and The Nevada Public Notice Website – notice.nv.gov.

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 December 7, 2021

Motion made by Richard Becker to Approve

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

For-Larry Schultz, Lisa Sherman, Richard Becker, Steven Neiger, Audrey Asselin, Melody Howard, Micaela Keller, Almendra Johnson, Russell Martin, Rudy Zamora; Excused-Malcolm D. White, William McCurdy, Adroushan Armenian, Elizabeth Gebre, Bob Briare;

5. Report by the Department of Public Safety regarding issues at City facilities and parks – All Wards

Minutes:

LIEUTENANT JOHN GUILLEN, Department of Public Safety, provided statistics from the January Deputy City Marshals Report, which was submitted and is attached as backup. He reported a total of 18 arrests including two felony arrests, 25 misdemeanor criminal citations, two traffic citations, and 9 juvenile arrests or citations issued during the month of January. LIEUTENANT GUILLEN stated there were no arrests in Ward 1, 2, 4, or 6, and read park arrest locations for Wards 3 and 5 from the report. He provided misdemeanor and traffic citations for Wards 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 with no citations for Ward 6. There were no feeding violations in the month of January. LIEUTENANT GUILLEN reported the top enforcement location to be Lorenzi Park, and noted park violations were the most enforced violation.

COMMISSIONER KELLER noticed there were 21 park violations and asked which violations led to an arrest. LIEUTENANT GUILLEN stated most arrests involve park closure, alcohol prohibition, or misuse of park amenities.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ asked if there were any trends or concerns outside of the report. LIEUTENANT GUILLEN advised it was a typical January and he expected the volume to increase in the summer months.

6. Report by Steve Glimp, Superintendent of Parks, regarding park maintenance updates – All Wards

Minutes:

STEVE GLIMP, Superintendent of Parks, provided an update on park projects broken down by ward.

Ward 1 – The Fitness Court at Woofert Family Park is underway and is expected to be completed on March 15th. Playground surfacing replacement at All American Park and the Fitness Court at Rainbow Family Park are in the preliminary planning stages.

Ward 2 – Water/play equipment replacement at Bruce Trent Park will be started this week with completion expected in 60 days, and a VIP tree planting project will start in March, which will consist of 18 trees. The parking lot will be reslurried after the water/play area is complete and additional shade structures are added.

Ward 3 – The field perimeter will be refreshed by in-house staff at Mike Morgan Park starting in late February, which will address erosion concerns. The mini-pitch courts at Freedom Park will be restarted in late March, when temperatures rise enough to place the court surfacing. The bocce ball court rehab at Leavitt & Jaycee Community Park will begin in the near future, after the scope has been determined .

Ward 4 – Pickleball court shade constructions are in the planning stage at Durango Hills Park and Police Memorial Park. All playgrounds at W. Wayne Bunker Family Park will be replaced this year. The east playground is in design and is part of a FOX5 Super Build, while the central and west playgrounds' scope are being developed.

Ward 5 – The permanent shade structures and bleachers are complete at the Shaq Courts at Doolittle Community Center, and it will remain on a weekly maintenance cleaning schedule. Two of the four playgrounds at Children's Memorial Park will be replaced this year, and a landscape architect was contracted to design them.

Ward 6 – Stand-alone adaptive play features have been ordered for Teton Trails Park, Thunderbird-Raptor Play Park and Centennial Hills Park, and MR. GLIMP expects these to arrive in six to eight weeks and be installed by late 4th quarter. Centennial Hills Park will also have butterfly shades installed by the end of the month. A nature playground, which contains recycled wood materials and boulders and no metal or plastic, will be installed at Floyd Lamb Park in the near future.

COMMISSIONER KELLER noticed graffiti on the whale slide at Bob Baskin Park, and asked how the public would notify the Parks and Recreation Department. MR. GLIMP stated there was a significant rise in graffiti in parks and recommended the public use the GOVegas mobile application to report issues. VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ asked if they were coordinating with the Department of Public Safety to abate the graffiti offenders. MR. GLIMP confirmed they worked with Public Safety and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department on gang-related graffiti, and was satisfied with their response efforts.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON asked if the fitness equipment being installed at Woofter Family Park was similar to the equipment at Bill Briare Park, and MR. GLIMP confirmed they were identical.

COMMISSIONER MARTIN asked if there were plans to replace the rusted 55-gallon drums being used as trash receptacles at Kellogg Zaher Sports Complex. MR. GLIMP stated they have a system-wide approach to replace these with concrete cans, and they are replacing 24-48 each quarter, or 100-150 per year.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ questioned if there were any additional concerns, and MR. GLIMP reiterated graffiti as a leading concern.

7. Discussion for possible action to rename Charleston Heights Park located at 2221 Maverick Street – Ward 5

Minutes:

STEVE FORD, Acting Director of Parks and Recreation, stated the park renaming request came from COUNCILMAN CREAR after speaking with Ernest and Betty Becker. MR. FORD explained that the Becker family owned a construction company called Charleston Heights Construction Company that donated to the City of Las Vegas for the creation of the Charleston Heights Park. He noted reasons COUNCILMAN CREAR wanted the park renamed: the park's cross streets are Smoke Ranch Road and Torrey Pines Drive, which are not near Charleston Boulevard; there are other areas named Charleston such as Charleston Heights Art Center, Charleston Heights Preservation Park, and the Charleston Heights Park; and he reiterated the donation from the Becker family. With the rehabilitation of the Charleston Heights Park and the new community center, MR. FORD recommended the park be renamed to the Ernest and Betty Becker Family Technology Recreation Park.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ asked for details on the technology aspect in the proposed name. MR. FORD explained the community center idea came from COUNCILMAN CREAR during the park rehabilitation planning phase, and later evolved to include technology-based programs such as podcast studios, robotics teams, 3D printing classes, and an Esports area. This would be the only technology-based community center within the City of Las Vegas. VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ asked for the square footage of the community center, if this would be a new building, and if they have a bill of material equipment list. MR. FORD confirmed it will be a brand new structure estimated to be 6,000-7,000 square feet, and they do have the equipment list. VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ further inquired if existing Parks and Recreation staff have the skill set required for the stated programs. MR. FORD advised they plan to work with community partners such as the College of Southern Nevada, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and the Clark County School District to bring volunteers and tutors to help with the programs.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ asked for a summary plan that identifies the objective, timeline, scope, and net benefits and recommended this be provided at a future Commission meeting. He offered volunteer assistance from himself and the Commission, and confirmed MR. FORD recommended the park be renamed.

COMMISSIONER SHERMAN noted a tremendous amount of backlash from the Jaycees 13 years ago when renaming the Justice Myron E. Leavitt & Jaycee Community Park. She recommended COUNCILMAN CREAR involve the Charleston Heights Neighborhood Society in the renaming process, since they were very active 15 years ago. COMMISSIONER SHERMAN noted the Charleston Neighborhood Preservation Park, Charleston Heights Arts Center, and Mirabelli Community Center were all culturally based projects, and thought the seniors in the community might be offended if they were not included. She also asked that the park name be shortened for publication purposes. MR. FORD was unaware of the Charleston Heights Neighborhood Society, or if COUNCILMAN CREAR reached out to them, but stated this could be researched.

COMMISSIONER BECKER disclosed he was not related to the Becker family. He recommended an abbreviated name, such as Becker Park, be placed in parenthesis next to the full park name. He noted the University of Nevada, Las Vegas uses the acronym UNLV, while March of Dimes uses their full name.

COMMISSIONER ASSELIN confirmed with MR. FORD that the park was located on Smoke Ranch Road, and questioned if it was within the Charleston Heights area. MR. FORD stated he was unaware of the boundaries, but the Becker's construction company developed much residential and commercial in the area, which is why the land was donated. COMMISSIONER ASSELIN recommended Becker Technology Park as the shortened name, and suggested working with technical high schools in the area since they would benefit from

the amenities. MR. FORD confirmed they intend to reach out to the College of Southern Nevada, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and Clark County School District and include magnet schools.

COMMISSIONER BECKER suggested public outreach to notify the community about the reasoning behind the upcoming name change, and recommended the park's history be included.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ called for a vote to accept the staff recommendation to rename the park as proposed. COMMISSIONER SHERMAN stated she would abstain from the vote, and DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY JOHN RIDILLA asked for her reason for abstention. She believed the neighborhood should be canvassed first to ensure there was no backlash. MR. RIDILLA advised she instead oppose the vote. COMMISSIONER HOWARD then opposed the vote, stating there are too many things to discuss. COMMISSIONER BECKER suggested the vote be tabled, since he was unclear of the motion they were voting. VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ asked MR. FORD if he was comfortable deferring the vote for a month, due to uncertainty and other Commission members' recommendations. MR. FORD conjectured it would be fine to abey.

Motion made by Larry Schultz to Hold in Abeyance to the next meeting

NOTE: An initial motion made by Vice Chair Schultz to approve was superseded by his subsequent motion to hold the item in Abeyance.

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

For-Larry Schultz, Lisa Sherman, Richard Becker, Steven Neiger, Audrey Asselin, Melody Howard, Micaela Keller, Almendra Johnson, Russell Martin, Rudy Zamora; Excused-Malcolm D. White, William McCurdy, Adroushan Armenian, Elizabeth Gebre, Bob Briare;

8. Report by Steve Ford, Acting Director of Parks and Recreation, regarding emerging issues related to the Department of Parks and Recreation – All Wards

Minutes:

STEVE FORD, Acting Director of Parks and Recreation, reported on the expected timeline for recruitment of the permanent Director of Parks and Recreation. He stated the position has been advertised since January 31st, will end on February 22nd, and expects the position to be ratified at the April 20th or May 4th City Council meeting after they have processed applications and completed interviews.

MR. FORD requested that all City of Las Vegas Senior Centers be rebranded to Active Adult Centers, which is a national trend to be more inclusive and descriptive of programs that have been added. He stated renaming both the Doolittle and Howard Lieburn Senior Centers would be advantageous from a marketing standpoint, and would also be consistent with the original name given to the Centennial Hills Active Adult Center. MR. FORD noted this would be added as an Agenda Item to a future Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission meeting, and if approved, would move to City Council for final approval.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ liked the proposed change, and always wondered why wards named their centers differently.

MR. FORD advised that the Department of Parks and Recreation will send a resolution to the City Council to designate Stupak and Mayfair Place Parks as children's parks, per the request of COUNCILWOMAN DIAZ. The parks will be intended for the use of children ages 12 and under and adults accompanying these children. He stated this will allow these parks to be better utilized and increase safety.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ believed Las Vegas Fire & Rescue ran drills at Mayfair Place Park, but MR. FORD said he does not believe those are happening any longer.

MR. FORD then provided the following updates on upcoming projects:

Ward 2 – MR. FORD is working with COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN on the Regional Aquatics Center at the Pavilion Center Pool. This project received an \$8.9 million grant from SNPLMA (Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act), and is still in the design phase.

Ward 3 – The Harris Marion Park received official notice to proceed on January 31st. Equestrian Base Park is expected to be completed in the 4th quarter of 2022, and will include a horse arena and equestrian themed children's playground. The rehabilitation of East Las Vegas Community Center will begin in April, and will include flooring, casework, paint, roof rehabilitation, and HVAC upgrades.

Ward 4 – The Regional Pickleball Complex will be moving locations, and MR. FORD is working with the Bureau of Land Management to ensure the funding grant received through SNPLMA will not be affected by the move.

Ward 5 – Charleston Heights Park is expected to be completed later this year.

Ward 6 – The developer of the Igor Soldo Memorial Park expects construction to begin within the next 12 to 18 months, which is sooner than anticipated. This park is being developed to honor Officer Igor Soldo, who was killed in the line of duty with his partner, Officer Alyn Beck. Floyd Lamb Park's hay barn should be completed in the summer; the pump house is out of the ground and the walls are up.

MR. FORD referenced the question VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ asked STEVE GLIMP, Superintendent of Parks, regarding potential concerns, and he noted supply chain issues, shipment times and price increases, were affecting all construction projects. He stated some materials are expected to take three to six months to arrive that previously took three to six weeks, and certain roof trusses have a one year lead time. MR. FORD mentioned the Health and Wellness Center project on Main Street was awarded last month, but he is unsure of the timeline due to shipment delays, and expects other construction projects to also be delayed.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ confirmed with MR. FORD that there are some instances of unfirm delivery commitments, and asked if the City of Las Vegas had a program similar to the Federal Government's Defense Priority Act. MR. FORD was not aware of a similar program and confirmed the City of Las Vegas receives no preferential treatment from vendors.

COMMISSIONER BECKER confirmed with MR. FORD that construction companies they work with are experiencing a labor shortage.

COMMISSIONER SHERMAN asked if Igor Soldo Memorial Park will have a grand opening ceremony similar to the one at Alyn Beck Memorial Park. MR. FORD expected construction to be completed in two years and pandemic conditions to be resolved by then, which would allow for a special grand opening ceremony.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON asked if rebranding to a children's park has been done at other parks and what has changed with them. MR. FORD advised there are four existing children's parks: Heritage Park, James Gay Park, Huntridge Circle Park and Baker Park. The rebranding will allow the Las Vegas City Marshals to enforce vagrancy issues and stop other unsavory behavior. COMMISSIONER JOHNSON asked if the community was involved in rebranding Mayfair Place Park, and MR. FORD noted COUNCILWOMAN DIAZ had a community meeting at a fire station, but he was not aware of similar efforts for Stupak Park.

MR. FORD announced there are other projects in the design process, and he will report back when milestones are achieved.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ asked that the Commission remain informed on any parks being renamed, ground breaking events, new facilities being opened, and specifically asked to attend the final walkthrough inspection of Floyd Lamb Park's hay barn. He wanted to ensure Commissioners are invited to these significant events, and also wanted to present renaming details to the City Council for approval. He thanked MR. FORD for his candor on the supply chain issue.

9. Report by Commission members regarding parks issues and events within their respective Council Wards and at large – All Wards

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER BECKER announced the Breakfast Buzz event with COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN will take place on February 5, 2022 between 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., and will be held at Rachel's Kitchen, located at 9691 Trailwood Drive. Ward 2 RSVP details can be found on the website at www.LasVegasNevada.gov. The

Art in the Park event is returning to Bruce Trent Park on April 23, 2022, and he will provide more details at a future Commission meeting.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON stated there will be a cleanup event with COUNCILWOMAN KNUDSEN on the Bonanza Trail at Bill Briare Park on February 5, 2022.

COMMISSIONER MARTIN wished everyone a happy Lunar New Year and stated it was the year of the tiger.

10. **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, 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.

11. **Adjournment**

Minutes:
The meeting was adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Brian Carroll, Deputy City Clerk

Steve Ford, Acting Director of Parks and Recreation

THIS MEETING WAS PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NOTICING STANDARDS AS OUTLINED IN NRS 241.020:

The City of Las Vegas website – www.lasvegasnevada.gov
The Nevada Public Notice website – notice.nv.gov
City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor