



## 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), McCURDY (excused until 4:01 p.m.), ARMENIAN, GEBRE, NEIGER (excused until 4:04 p.m.), BRIARE, ASSELIN, KELLER, JOHNSON, MARTIN and ZAMORA (via teleconference and excused until 4:03 p.m. and from 4:04 p.m to 4:05 p.m.)

EXCUSED: CHAIR WHITE and COMMISSIONERS BECKER and HOWARD

ALSO PRESENT: STEVE FORD, Director of Parks and Recreation, KIM KLEIN, Administrative Secretary, JOHN RIDILLA (excused at 5:30 p.m.), 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](http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov); and The Nevada Public Notice Website – [notice.nv.gov](http://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 March 1, 2022

Motion made by Russell Martin to Approve

Passed For: 12; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 3

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

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

Minutes:

LIEUTENANT MARK McCOY, Department of Public Safety (DPS), provided statistics from the May Deputy City Marshals Report, a copy of which was submitted for the record. He reported a total of 26 arrests, 66 misdemeanor citations, two traffic citations, one felony arrest, and six juvenile arrests or citations issued during the month of May. He read park arrest and citation statistics for each Ward from the report, and he noted 40 percent of arrests/citations occurred in Ward 5 and 38 percent occurred in Ward 3. LIEUTENANT McCOY advised that a total of 11 incident reports for graffiti and malicious destruction of property accounted for about 12 percent of total reports. He reported the top enforcement location to be Heritage Park, and noted park violations were the most enforced violation. Further, a Bike Safety Pop-Up Fair was held on May 18, 2022 in Ward 1.

COMMISSIONER BRIARE clarified with LIEUTENANT McCOY that a majority of the violations and arrests are committed by the homeless population, and that the top violations were park closure, being in children's play areas, and lodging violations.

COMMISSIONER GEBRE confirmed with LIEUTENANT McCOY that Charleston Heights Park was fenced off and under construction, and the homeless trespasser either squeezed through an opening or jumped the fence.

COMMISSIONER KELLER requested additional information regarding the increased violations at Mayfair Place Park so that she could inform the neighbors. LIEUTENANT McCOY advised the violations were primarily committed by homeless individuals, and he stated new signs were posted that show it is now a children's only park. He explained the citations are usually for different individuals, and they move on after being contacted.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY noted homeless activity and marijuana use at Lubertha Johnson Park, and he asked if any signage could be put up. LIEUTENANT McCOY was not aware of any available signage specific to marijuana, and he stated that park was patrolled as well as Ethel Pearson Park and Fitzgerald Tot Lot Park.

COMMISSIONER SHERMAN congratulated LIEUTENANT McCOY for the progress made on Huntridge Circle Park, and she asked if repeat homeless offenders were offered evaluations. LIEUTENANT McCOY advised there are MORE (Multi-Agency Outreach Resource Engagement) Teams in place that evaluate and offer services to the homeless, though he noted they are only able to force services if the individual is a danger to themselves or others.

COMMISSIONER KELLER appreciated LIEUTENANT McCOY and his team for offering services to the homeless and clearing them from green spaces, but she did not believe they wanted any help.

COMMISSIONER NEIGER asked if there has been a spike in the homeless population due to affordable housing issues, and if there have been any directive changes in how DPS deals with the homeless. LIEUTENANT McCOY advised in the last 12 months they have stepped up enforcement of violations, and he did not feel qualified to respond to the homeless population question.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ asked if there were any upcoming trends or concerns for the upcoming summer months. LIEUTENANT McCOY noted children were out of school and he expected an increase in juvenile citations such as being in parks after curfew and underage drinking. Further, he expected things to get busier since people want to be out when it is hot outside. VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ confirmed with the Lieutenant that his department was ready to deal with the challenge.

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

Minutes:

STEVE GLIMP, Superintendent of Parks, utilized a PowerPoint presentation, which was included in the backup, to provide an update on park projects broken down by ward.

Ward 1 – The Fitness Court at Woofter Family Park has been completed and is in use. There are supply chain issues for the Fitness Court at Rainbow Family Park, though it should still be completed by the end of the month.

Ward 2 – A parking lot survey was performed at Kellogg Zaher Sports Complex, and ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) upgrades were completed to install handicap stalls. The south playground is being resurfaced at All American Park.

Ward 3 – The mini-pitch courts at Freedom Park have been completed, though bleachers and shade structures still need to be added. Quotes are being gathered for painting at Douglas A. Selby Park, which will include the bridge.

Ward 4 – An emergency overseed was previously performed at Trigo Hills Park due to an equipment failure, and the grass has filled in with no issues. The east playground at W. Wayne Bunker Family Park will be replaced and it is part of a FOX5 Super Build.

Ward 5 – Thirty-six trees were planted at Lorenzi Park with Howard University and the help of about 30 volunteers. New sidewalks are being poured to improve access to the Shaq Courts at Doolittle Community Center.

Ward 6 – In partnership with Get Outdoors Nevada, a pollinator garden was installed at Centennial Hills Park. Quotes are being gathered for new features at the mountain bike course and a shade structure at the pump track.

COMMISSIONER NEIGER confirmed with MR. GLIMP that abatement measures were in place to handle bird waste, and MR. GLIMP explained they've had pushback from the public regarding noise making equipment. He noted additional attention is needed at the picnic areas at Floyd Lamb Park.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ asked how much park maintenance was performed by outside contractors and if MR. GLIMP felt adequately staffed to monitor them. MR. GLIMP explained that construction of new park features is contracted out, while existing feature improvements are mostly handled by in-house staff. He advised that staff was needed in certain sections and they were otherwise adequately staffed. Further, he advised they have enough staff to monitor outside contractors. The Vice Chair appreciated the photos in the presentation, and he confirmed with MR. GLIMP that the overhead photos were taken by a drone.

7. Report by Jana Bruner and Trisha Cain, Recreation Managers, regarding recreation updates – All Wards

Minutes:

STEVE FORD, Director of Parks and Recreation, believed the recreation side of the department had never been discussed at the Commission. He introduced JANA BRUNER and TRISHA CAIN, Recreation Managers, to provide updates on the recreational programs offered.

MS. BRUNER advised that her goal was to bring youth into their indoor centers and get them involved in the community. She utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to explain the units she oversees, which include Adaptive Recreation, Las Vegas City Sports, and Special Events, which includes City Council and park special events. Adaptive Recreation offers programs for people of all ages, ability levels and disabilities, and these programs include Outdoor Adventures, Cycling, Beyond Recreation, New Age, and Internships. MS. BRUNER explained Outdoor Adventures are held throughout the year and a new staff member was recently added that has experience in outdoor recreation. The Cycling program is held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays at W. Wayne Bunker Family Park. Beyond Recreation is an after school youth program that runs year-round and includes an adaptive summer camp. Further, the program is offered to people up to the age of 21, and that is in line with how CCSD (Clark County School District) runs their education system. NO BAKE Dessert Nights and Game Night! are two new social engagement classes that MS. BRUNER is looking to expand. The Beyond Recreation program transitions into New Age, which is an adult program held at Centennial Hills Park. The Internship program is offered through universities and targets Therapeutic Recreation graduates, who are required to do an internship with a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS). There are three CTRS on staff and all current Adaptive Recreation staff members started as an intern. MS. BRUNER noted a new Veterans Recreation Program that is held out of Dula Community Center, and she explained the low cost Veterans Introductory Pass and the Disabled Veterans Program, which is funded through a grant from the VA (Veterans Affairs).

Special Events is operated by three City staff members and they focus on outreach to the community and business owners to ensure they are aware of events that may impact them. They issued 303 permits in Fiscal Year 2021 for park events and ongoing events such as First Friday, Life is Beautiful, the Great Santa Run, and parades. Referencing COVID-19, MS. BRUNER expected over 400 permits to be issued this year. The City operates the Las Vegas Days Parade and assists with others parades such as the Summerlin Parade Council. City Council Special Events is operated by three different City staff members, and they work directly with the City Council to handle over 300 events per year. MS. BRUNER displayed the list of events happening in June, and she explained that they try to have an event for each Ward every month.

MS. BRUNER listed the senior centers that were renamed to active adult centers. Derfelt Active Adult Center is now operated as a teen center through YDSI (Youth Development and Social Innovation), though Parks and Recreation still operates Mother Hubbard's Cupboard for food distribution about four times per year. Further, the next drive-through food distribution will be on July 22, 2022 in partnership with Three Square. East Las Vegas Active Adult Center is being remodeled and their programs have been distributed to Dula Community Center, Chuck Minker Sports Complex, and Stupak Park. She explained the luncheon schedule, programs, and support groups offered at Centennial Hills Active Adult Center, and she noted a large increase in program membership was causing them to grow beyond the building. MS. BRUNER clarified that the facility was operated in collaboration with YMCA, and the Rhythm and Beats program was in collaboration with the Adaptive Recreation Unit. She reported an upcoming remodel to Doolittle Active Adult Center, and she provided dates for various luncheons and events. She said the facility has an award winning community garden that is creating sustainability. She stated Lieburn Active Adult Center hosts lectures series to educate the community, and they also host field trips.

Las Vegas City Sports handles league allocation for all of the sporting fields, and they are also responsible for external tournaments such as the Las Vegas Mayor's Cup and Showcase. MS. BRUNER advised that they have outgrown their facilities for adult sports. She reported registration for softball and pickleball was currently open, though there is a waitlist for the latter. Further, she noted basketball, soccer, and flag football leagues each have over 400 people. The Shaq Courts at Doolittle Community Center has a free program on Thursday nights that focuses on skill building, and will run through August 4, 2022. MS. BRUNER stated they are activating middle school aged children by going into their schools and pulling them into sports leagues.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ clarified with MS. BRUNER that the FAME adaptive music program was still in operation at the East Las Vegas Active Adult Center, and that the list of upcoming events was available online. The Vice Chair invited the Commissioners to attend some of these events, and MS. BRUNER noted a need for volunteers.

COMMISSIONER GEBRE said she attended the Kizuna Japanese Spring Festival within Sammy Davis Jr. Festival Plaza at Lorenzi Park, and she noted it was a very crowded event. She asked if vendors could have been moved to the park. MS. BRUNER advised that the plaza was run by the Office of Cultural Affairs, but she agreed that vendors could have been moved outside of the plaza or the number of them decreased. She believed event numbers have increased since coming out of the pandemic, and she planned to better utilize the space with their Day of the Dead event. COMMISSIONER GEBRE clarified with MS. BRUNER that growers at the various community gardens pay for their gardening space, and each grower gets to decide what to do with their produce. Further, some of the produce is used for luncheons at that community center.

COMMISSIONER KELLER asked if there was a community need for classes specific to children aged two to four. MS. BRUNER said Mirabelli Community Center has a tot program, and staff at each community center pivot programming based on the needs of the community.

COMMISSIONER ARMENIAN questioned how much annual revenue was generated through special events, and if all programs were free of charge. MS. BRUNER explained that not all programs were free and there was funding from FAF (Financial Aid Fund) and the Mayor's Fund for Las Vegas LIFE to help breakdown financial barriers. She advised that sport league fees were used to increase participation, and special events were meant to engage the community. She noted City Council Special Events utilize the General Fund budget to provide free events such as Movie in the Park. Further, special event income goes to various City departments in licensing fees, and she would get back to the Commissioner with the annual revenue.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ requested this presentation be provided annually, and COMMISSIONER KELLER believed it should be done quarterly.

MS. CAIN utilized a PowerPoint presentation to review summer camp opportunities at various community centers for different age ranges. Summer camp hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and are available from May 31, 2022 to August 5, 2022 while the Clark County School District is closed. She explained there were specialty camps available within the Kids Camp, and children in the Teen Camp have an opportunity to travel three days per week to partake in activities such as biking, hiking, and swimming. MS. CAIN described the STEAM Day special event that would take place at Doolittle Community Center and would include participants in the Kids Camp, Teen Camp and Adaptive Camp. Further, organizations such as The Children's Museum and Discovery Museum partner with the City to provide sessions for the event. The All Camp Challenge will take place at Veterans Memorial Community Center, and it will bring all of the camps together to play games, dance, and have competitions. The Counselor in Training program is open to anyone that is 15 years old, and the Junior Lifeguard Camp is open to ages 11 through 14. Both of these programs provide an opportunity to learn by working side by side with City counselors and lifeguards.

MS. CAIN advised that the Kindness is Contagious program started in 2018, and she displayed a video to showcase the opportunities the program provides to children. The program teaches a new attribute to the children every week, and she invited the Commissioners to take the Kindness is Contagious Pledge. She listed the six pool facilities within the city of Las Vegas, and she noted the Doolittle Pool was under construction and should be reopened before the end of summer. MS. CAIN reported a national lifeguard shortage is attributed to various reasons including the pandemic and certification requirements, and she noted they were working with the Office of Communications and news organizations to spread the word that the City needs lifeguards. She explained the certifications required and the roles for part-time aquatic staff positions, and she listed various upcoming aquatic special events and splash-tivities. Further, she advised that the pools remain open for all summer holidays.

COMMISSIONER SHERMAN clarified with MS. CAIN that the City has increased the pay for lifeguards to help compete with the private sector. MS. CAIN noted the pay structure is on the higher end when compared to Clark County and the City of Henderson, and she reported those entities were in a worse staffing position. She advised that there is also a bonus available to lifeguards that stay for a certain period of time.

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

Minutes:

STEVE FORD, Director of Parks and Recreation, reported that he has been ratified by the City Council as the permanent Director of Parks and Recreation, and he has agreed to become the Interim Director of Cultural affairs since the previous Director left the City of Las Vegas. His focus will be getting people back into the community centers and parks, and he believed this could be done through programming and marketing. He explained the candidate selection process for the Director position, and he welcomed TRAVIS BUELL who was hired as Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation. MR. BUELL noted there was a learning curve and he expressed excitement to work alongside MR. FORD and the Parks and Recreation team. He said his goal was to bring staff together to write programming and in turn bring the community back to the parks. He advised that he came from the Johnson County Parks and Recreation District in Kansas City, Kansas, and they operated about 12,000 acres of park land.

MR. FORD utilized a PowerPoint presentation, which was included in the backup, to provide park project updates. The grading has been completed at Harris Marion Park and utilities will be installed. He worked with COUNCILWOMAN DIAZ regarding renaming the park, and he expected to bring this to the Commission for approval prior to final approval by the City Council. He reported the Becker Technology Park construction should be completed later in the year, and he noted the roof was installed and basketball courts would be going in. The East Las Vegas Active Adult Center is going through renovations, and COUNCILWOMAN DIAZ asked to be included when developing the multi-generational park programming. The hay barn at Floyd Lamb Park should be completed sometime in July, and MR. FORD explained that new doors had to be added for exiting purposes. The fire suppression system, structural upgrades, and fire pump house have all been built and

approved by the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office. He had previously considered using the nearby pond as the fire suppression system, but a tank was built instead due to lower cost.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY clarified with MR. FORD that the pool at Doolittle Community Center was leaking water due to one side of the pool sinking. The pool is going to be re-plastered and the deck will be re-done. The Commissioner asked if a shade shelter can be built, and MR. FORD advised they discussed this with a consultant and found structural concerns and the cost to be prohibitive. He noted the June 15, 2022 City Council meeting has an agenda item contract to Master Plan the Doolittle complex, and he said COUNCILMAN CREAR is passionate about getting Doolittle re-done. COMMISSIONER McCURDY expressed concern regarding the lack of funding and indoor pools in Historic West Las Vegas, and he recalled land being available near the park that has since been developed into housing.

MR. FORD read from the Commission's bylaws, and he proposed that they meet quarterly instead of monthly and call additional meetings as needed. He believed this would be more efficient, and he advised that the Commission would receive updates on important events.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ expressed opposition to the proposal, and he believed the monthly conversations between staff and Commissioners was in the best interest of the City. He noted the Commission does not meet monthly due to lack of quorum or other issues, and he thought moving to four meetings a year was unacceptable.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY advised that he has sat on the Commission for over 20 years, and he did not think any other Commission met quarterly. He expressed opposition to the proposal, and he believed Commissioners that were unable to attend monthly meetings should resign.

COMMISSIONER SHERMAN advised that she has sat on the Commission for 30 years. She recalled that the Commission used to meet eight times per year, and they moved to monthly meetings due to tremendous growth in the city of Las Vegas. She recommended checking with other boards and commissions to see how often they meet.

COMMISSIONER ARMENIAN clarified with MR. FORD that the proposal did not require a vote by the Commission.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ believed the decision should rest with the Commission.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON expressed support for the proposal, and she believed quarterly reports would be more comprehensive than the current monthly project updates. She thought quarterly meetings would be a better use of staff's time.

COMMISSIONER BRIARE thanked COMMISSIONERS McCURDY and SHERMAN for their time on the Commission. He thought monthly updates could be sent via electronic email and the Commission could meet quarterly for agenda items requiring a vote.

COMMISSIONER KELLER requested the Director wait six months before making the decision, and she appreciated the opportunity to meet with Commissioners after each monthly meeting.

COMMISSIONER MARTIN believed moving to quarterly meetings would be more cost effective and a better use of staff's time. He opined that the Commission would be able to call a meeting at any time if something came up requiring their attention.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ listed several items that had been previously discussed at the Commission, and he requested the following be discussed at the next meeting: top ten strategic goals for Parks and Recreation in 2022 and 2023, the Capital Improvement Program for 2022 through 2024, and an update on everything related to CAPRA (Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies).

COMMISSIONER McCURDY opined that the Director should meet with the Commission monthly in order to meet with the constituency of the City of Las Vegas' Councilmembers.

COMMISSIONER ASSELIN noted that the Bus Bench Committee (Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada's Bus Shelter and Bench Advisory Committee) she sits on meets every other month, and she suggested adopting that schedule would be a compromise.

COMMISSIONER GEBRE reported that she often visits parks and recreation centers and she reports improvements to the Commission. She expressed opposition to the proposal.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY said he would check with Councilmembers to hear their opinion on the proposal.

COMMISSIONER KELLER thanked MR. FORD for allowing the Commission to discuss the proposal.

COMMISSIONER NEIGER believed there was cause for more conversation, and he suggested that the conversation be continued at the next Commission meeting.

MR. FORD said they would continue to meet monthly since that is what a majority of Commissioners wanted.

9. Discussion regarding the potential of Silverado Nexus Memory Care giving presentations regarding their program at various City of Las Vegas Active Adult Center locations – All Wards

Minutes:

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ reported that he met with memory care representatives from Silverado Lives Enriched during April's Senior Health Fair event at Centennial Hills Active Adult Center. He explained that memory care is a treatment to slow down dementia and other illnesses in seniors, and he suggested running a pilot program for their services at one or two of the active adult centers. A brief video related to Nexus at Silverado was displayed to the Commission via YouTube.com.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY recommended the Department of Parks and Recreation add this service to their programming.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ recommended initiating an introductory seminar program at two of the active adult centers, and then add a hybrid program to provide assistive therapies.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY opined that the City Attorney's Office would need to be involved to confirm the City's liability, and he suggested the department look into the service.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ clarified that his recommendation was an instructional seminar, and he compared it to a City class he took at Centennial Hills Active Adult Center in 2016 or 2017. He did not believe legal liability needed to be considered unless they went into applying therapies. He confirmed with JANA BRUNER, Recreation Manager, that components of memory care are taught in several of the community centers. She advised they do not allow organizations to promote their business, and that she could look into starting an educational pilot seminar regarding dementia and memory care.

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

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER KELLER announced a neighborhood meeting regarding Huntridge Circle Park would take place at the Mesquite Club on June 15, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ expressed interest in attending and he requested the Commissioner send him the specifics.

COMMISSIONER GEBRE congratulated COUNCILMAN CREAR for his vision regarding the Historic Westside Legacy Park, COMMISSIONER McCURDY for being honored, and STEVE FORD, Director of Parks and Recreation, for his new director position and the Historic Preservation Award he received from the Historic Preservation Commission.

MR. FORD felt honored to receive the award.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY thanked those that recommended his inauguration at the park including COMMISSIONER GEBRE, and he said he has been involved in community events since 1965. Further, he thanked the Commission for their support.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ requested with staff that TRAVIS BUELL'S, Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation, contact information be sent to him. He announced that he represented the Commission at the April 6, 2022 City Council meeting regarding renaming the Charleston Heights Park to the Becker Family Technology Park. He advised that the Council approved renaming the park.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON announced the end of season volunteer appreciation event would take place at Floyd Lamb Park on June 18, 2022 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. She noted about 900 volunteers have been hosted by the Volunteers in Parks program this season.

11. **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:

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ commented on the length of the meeting and felt they received insightful information regarding recreation programs. He noted the next meeting would be held in July.

12. **Adjournment**

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Brian Carroll, Deputy City Clerk

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Steve Ford, 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](http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov)

The Nevada Public Notice website – [notice.nv.gov](http://notice.nv.gov)

City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor