



Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

PRESENT: VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ and COMMISSIONERS SHERMAN (via teleconference), McCURDY (excused until 4:09 p.m.), ARMENIAN, BECKER, GEBRE, NEIGER, BRIARE, ASSELIN, HOWARD, KELLER, JOHNSON, MARTIN and ZAMORA (via teleconference)

EXCUSED: CHAIR WHITE

ALSO PRESENT: STEVE FORD, 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 June 7, 2022

Minutes:

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ asked the Commissioners if anyone had corrections to the minutes and confirmed with BRIAN CARROLL, Deputy City Clerk, that motions do not require a second.

Motion made by Richard Becker to Approve

Passed For: 13; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 2

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

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 (DPS), provided statistics from the July Deputy City Marshals Report, a copy of which was submitted for the record. He reported a total of 36 arrests, 65 misdemeanor citations, three traffic citations, three felony arrests, and one juvenile arrest/citation issued during the month of July. He stated the four graffiti and malicious destruction incident reports accounted for about four percent of total incident reports, and he believed the decrease was due to the Criminal Investigations Section giving citations throughout the last few months. The Lieutenant explained the circumstances of a significant felony arrest involving battery and substantial bodily harm at Heers Park. Further, a Criminal Investigations Detective spoke with the school to arrest a subject responsible for that crime, and the victim's father expressed appreciation for the response.

LIEUTENANT GUILLEN advised that 57 percent of arrests or citations occurred in Ward 5, and 33 percent occurred in Ward 3. He reported the top enforcement location to be Lorenzi Park and noted park violations were the most enforced violation. He stated there was a community policing event held at Rafael Rivera Park. Additionally, DPS is redeploying Enduro motorcycles to park trails during day shift hours mostly on Sunday through Wednesday. He opined that officers will have more access than patrol cars and be able to engage with the public in a different level. The Lieutenant announced that they've partnered with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, the Clark County School District Police Department, and other agencies for the School Violence Initiative that starts next week. Further, their role is to watch the parks for amassing children wanting to fight and call in additional resources as needed.

COMMISSIONER SHERMAN congratulated the Marshals on addressing the prevention of violence. She asked if the recently passed Clark County ordinance stopping convicted criminals from being on the Las Vegas Strip corridor would impact the Marshals. LIEUTENANT GUILLEN clarified that they do not have the ordinance on their books at this time for the areas they respond to, which includes the Fremont Street Experience.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ confirmed with LIEUTENANT GUILLEN that Enduro motorcycles would be deployed at Floyd Lamb Park.

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

Minutes:

STEVE GLIMP, Superintendent of Parks, utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to provide an update on storm response from the past weekend. He advised that the storm mostly affected Ward 6 in the northwest on Thursday night and Ward 3 in the east on Friday night. Several branches fell from trees and one large tree was lost at Floyd Lamb Park, and two trees were lost at Centennial Hills Park. Several trees were lost at Justice Leavitt Community Park, and a contractor was called out for tree removal. MR. GLIMP noted the playground shade was unscathed, and there was minor flood damage affecting the skate park, which was cleaned out by staff. There were 13 trees lost on East Sahara Avenue mainly due to wind damage. Mayfair Place Park had significant flood damage that involved six to eight inches of debris flow that covered about 50 percent of the park. Further, three staff members were called in and worked overtime the next day to clean the park.

COMMISSIONER HOWARD asked if there were plans to redirect water flow for some of the more damaged parks. MR. GLIMP noted Mayfair Place Park was the only park that was really affected, and that Streets and Sanitation were looking into where that water goes.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY reported that there are homeless people camping on the walking track at Doolittle Park, and he believed additional cleanup efforts were needed there and at the Doolittle Active Adult Center. He requested MR. GLIMP'S telephone number and the cleanup schedule for Doolittle Park, and MR. GLIMP advised that he would provide them.

COMMISSIONER KELLER confirmed with MR. GLIMP that trees removed from the storm have been marked as removed, and they would be replaced in the fall as part of the tree inventory. VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ clarified with MR. GLIMP that the replacement trees would be three- to four-inch caliper, and that equates to a

36-inch box tree or a 45-gallon container. Further, the replacement trees will take years to reach the same stage of maturity.

COMMISSIONER SHERMAN congratulated the Department of Parks and Recreation and various staff for Las Vegas being named the best city for recreation with the most parks per square foot. She asked if the department was still doing the memorial tree program. MR. GLIMP confirmed that it is now through the Mayor's Fund for Las Vegas LIFE and all memorial applications go through that website.

7. 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 the Director of the Office of Cultural Affairs resigned, and the City Manager decided to merge that department with the Department of Parks and Recreation as of July 1, 2022. The new name for the department is Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, and MAGGIE PLASTER, Deputy Cultural Affairs Director, will oversee the Cultural Affairs division. MR. FORD opined that the merger would allow the department to provide more complete programming opportunities to the community. He utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to provide an update on current capital improvement projects broken down by ward in pre-design, design, or construction as requested by the Commission at their June 7, 2022 meeting. He noted that some projects were only funded for the design level in order to maximize cash flow, and the construction would be funded the following year.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ clarified with MR. FORD that they have the design for Cragin Park Soccer Field, and it has been submitted for funding through SNPLMA (Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act) Round 19. MR. FORD noted they will not be able to provide an estimated completion date until they receive the funding determination. The Vice Chair confirmed with MR. FORD that the SNPLMA funding was provided through the BLM (Bureau of Land Management), and it can take up to two years to receive funding. MR. FORD expected to receive the funding determination towards the end of the year, and then they would work on getting the agreements through the BLM process. Further, these projects may not begin construction until 2025.

MR. FORD advised that they have received funding for synthetic turf replacements for certain soccer fields in Wards 1 and 2, and he expected the turf to last about eight years. He noted they will be using the site cycle created by STEVE GLIMP, Superintendent of Parks, and his crew. They have also received funding for the conceptual design of a 10-court expansion at Darling Tennis Center, and this may be submitted to SNPLMA for construction funding. The restroom upgrade and front entry change at Veterans Memorial Community Center is in the design phase, and they will change the front entry to be more customer friendly and usable for staff.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ asked how the Regional Aquatic Center at Pavilion Pool had an estimated completion date when there is SNPLMA funding pending. MR. FORD clarified that they have been approved for funding through SNPLMA Round 18, and it can take up to one year for the agreements to be approved before receiving funding.

MR. FORD reported that the consultant for the Chuck Minker Sports Complex Master Plan has submitted three designs to renovate, add on to, or replace the facility, and the department is evaluating the designs. The consultant for Huntridge Circle Park is working with the Ward 3 office to provide three conceptual designs, and MR. FORD noted there has been a large neighborhood meeting in regards to the park. The Martinez and Hall Pool Lifeguard Building is in design to add a roof and HVAC (Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning) system. The interior rehabilitation is nearly complete for the East Las Vegas Community Center, and there will be a large mural on the north wall of the building. The East Las Vegas Dog Park will have three cells and is currently in design, and the Harris Marion Park is currently under construction.

COMMISSIONER NEIGER clarified with MR. FORD the location of the Harris Marion Park. MR. FORD noted they were working with the Ward 3 office to determine the new name of that park, and he expected to bring that recommendation to the Commission for approval at the next meeting.

MR. FORD advised that they would be removing and replacing the fence at Durango Hills Golf Course, and they have funding to rehabilitate the fields at Majestic Park. He stated that the Regional Pickleball Complex in

Ward 2 was incorrectly listed as Ward 4, and they are awaiting the SNPLMA decision to keep it at W. Wayne Bunker Family Park or move it to a new location on Centennial Parkway. Police Memorial Park is currently in design, and MR. FORD reported they met with COUNCILMAN STAVROS ANTHONY to finalize the scope of the rehabilitation. Further, the Police K9 Memorial will be installed and was funded by donations from the Southern Nevada Law Enforcement group.

COMMISSIONER BECKER asked if a flag pole could be installed at the Majestic Park softball fields, and MR. FORD affirmed. The Commissioner clarified with MR. FORD that there were only softball fields at that park.

MR. FORD reported that he was working with the Council office to determine the scope of the Heers Park upgrades. The design for court expansion at Lorenzi Park has been funded and has also been submitted for SNPLMA funding. The water well at Lorenzi Park is being replaced since the existing water well failed. Potable water is currently being used to water the grass, but MR. FORD conceded that is neither advisable under current conditions nor cost effective. Issues were discovered after construction began at Doolittle Pool, and the condition assessment is nearly finished. There is currently an RFP (Request for Proposals) to master plan and program the Historical Westside Museum and Performing Arts Center.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY clarified with MR. FORD that the Historical Westside Museum and Performing Arts Center would be a new building, but the location has not been determined. The Commissioner asked if it would be part of the same area near the Doolittle complex. MR. FORD did not believe the Historical Westside Museum and Performing Arts Center would be in the same area where the new library will be built, nor did he believe it was included in the Doolittle Master Plan. COMMISSIONER McCURDY asked which locations were being considered, and MR. FORD said he would get back to the Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER GEBRE asked what upgrades were being considered for Heers Park. MR. FORD explained that a community survey was completed, and there were almost 500 responses from the community. He advised that he was working with the Ward 5 office to put together conceptual plans, and he believed COUNCILMAN CEDRIC CREAR would have a neighborhood meeting or online poll to present to the community. MR. FORD advised that a walking path, fitness court, and a splash pad ranked high on the community survey, and said he would get back to the Commissioner after having further discussions with COUNCILMAN CREAR.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY confirmed with MR. FORD that the estimated \$750,000 Doolittle Pool rehabilitation would not include a roof.

MR. FORD advised that the well feeding the ponds at Floyd Lamb Park is on the verge of failing, and it is being replaced. VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ asked if metering equipment was used to make this determination. MR. FORD clarified that they can check the well's flow rate, how much silt is being produced, and the sheathing by sending a camera down the well. He noted the potable well was installed at roughly the same time, and they were being proactive since it was recently replaced. The Vice Chair confirmed with MR. FORD that there are roughly 10 irrigation wells at City parks, and these wells are inspected on a routine basis. COMMISSIONER NEIGER asked if the wells were failing due to equipment or if they were drawing up the groundwater tables, and MR. FORD said the screen on the inside and side walls were collapsing due to age.

MR. FORD noted the Floyd Lamb Park Shooting Range remediation is an ongoing, long-term project. VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ confirmed with MR. FORD that the shotgun range is a legacy facility and it has been in operation since the 1950s. It was one of the premier shooting ranges in the southwest with hookups spaces for 15 to 20 RVs (recreational vehicles) and held national shooting competitions. The City took it over from the State of Nevada around 2009 and agreed to close the shooting range when the Clark County Shooting Complex opened shortly thereafter. There is a soil treatment action plan with the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection to remove the polyisocyanates caused by clay pigeons. MR. FORD clarified that the shooting range's prior operator would mine the lead about every year.

MR. FORD reported that the BMX Bike Park at Centennial Hills Park is in design. He said Phase 1A of the Northwest Regional Park has \$24 million pending in SNPLMA Round 19 funding. It has made it past the local first round, and it will go to the federal second round for funding. MR. FORD briefed this with the SNPLMA

Executive Committee and the State Director for the BLM in Nevada, and he noted the old railroad maintenance yard would be the basis for the park. Further, they applied for a lease of 160 acres.

COMMISSIONER ASSELIN clarified with MR. FORD that SNPLMA Round 18 funding was locked in and approved for the Regional Pickleball Complex, but they were waiting for the Executive Committee's decision on changing the location. The Commissioner believed wells close to an entity that provides water were not supposed to be re-drilled. MR. FORD clarified that they had water rights and permission from the State Engineer.

MR. FORD said there would be ongoing lighting upgrades at sports fields and park areas, as well as ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) upgrades across all wards.

COMMISSIONER HOWARD expressed concern regarding the high cost for dog parks and asked what that cost would include. MR. FORD explained that the Oakey/Rancho Dog Park in Ward 1 would be a walking destination similar to a plaza and would include artwork. He noted there would be a lot of dirt work and utilities for the dog park at East Las Vegas Family Park in Ward 3. Further, the cost does not include the price of the land.

COMMISSIONER NEIGER said he was aware of issues regarding synthetic turf, and he wondered which types of sport fields could use it. MR. FORD believed that nearly any field sport can be played on synthetic turf, and he advised that the replacement he reported on earlier was replacing existing synthetic turf. He said there are not many natural turf fields left, and they are not yet being replaced. He reported that a substantial amount of non-functional turf was being removed from Police Memorial Park, and they are working on a general MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with the Las Vegas Valley Water District to expedite removal of other non-functional turf.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ confirmed with MR. FORD that the presentation represented about 99 percent of the capital improvement projects. MR. FORD explained that each Councilmember received \$1 million in FY23 (Fiscal Year 2023) to spend as they see fit, and a lot of that came in as park projects. He did not list those in the presentation since he does not have the full scope of those projects in the pre-design phase.

COMMISSIONER ASSELIN said the previous Director mentioned a database for condition assessments on park assets and the backlog of deferred maintenance. She noted the report does not compare deferred maintenance to capital improvements, and she believed deferred maintenance needed to come before building new assets. Further, she wondered how projects were scored and selected. MR. FORD advised that the development of new projects usually comes from the Councilmembers. He said there was an assessment program, and over the last couple of years they have received capital asset replacement funding to replace things like shade structures, playgrounds, and walking paths. He explained that assets are recommended to the Council as a project if they think the cost will go beyond the replacement cost. Further, Majestic Park has not had a full field rehabilitation since it was constructed. COMMISSIONER ASSELIN confirmed with MR. FORD that there was an asset replacement list for capital projects, and MR. FORD advised that they perform a five-year look-ahead for replacements. The Commissioner opined that the Commission may want that list so they know there are more projects than listed on the report.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ asked the Commissioners how often they think they should receive this report. COMMISSIONER BECKER requested staff input to decide when they felt the report would be worthwhile for the Commission. MR. FORD recommended the report be given annually at the beginning of the fiscal year in July or August after capital improvement projects have been approved by the Council. Further, he could provide updates on his monthly report. COMMISSIONER BECKER suggested that the monthly report be tethered back to the capital improvement projects report. COMMISSIONER BRIARE agreed with the annual recommendation. VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ believed the consensus of the Commission was an annual report, and he asked that any material changes in the scope of a project be reported to the Commission.

MR. FORD reported that due to the recent department merger and changes in leadership, there was no direct work occurring on CAPRA (Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies) accreditation. He advised that TRAVIS BUELL, Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation, was well versed in the CAPRA process,

and he would assist in setting up the program. He noted the self-assessment portion of the CAPRA process requires things be in place for a period of time, and some of these things are not currently in place. MR. FORD believed staff time should be spent reimagining the Department and focusing on the short-term goal of getting people back into community centers, parks, and sports programs.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY agreed with MR. FORD'S assessment, and he believed reimagining the Department was the correct priority. COMMISSIONER SHERMAN supported MR. FORD'S decision to leverage the Department's resources, and she noted the accreditation was not required. VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ clarified with MR. FORD that he planned for the accreditation to be restarted in about 12 months. The Vice Chair advised that some Commissioners had previously volunteered to assist with the assessment, and he requested an update in six months.

MR. FORD reported that Centennial Hills Active Adult Center will be conducting a five-week memory care seminar starting on September 9, 2022. The seminar may expand to other facilities depending upon availability and scheduling. VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ advised that he was included in the six-week pilot program, and he noted each session would be 1.5 hours. He explained that the program was meant to help people exercise their brain and prevent dementia, and he listed the description for each class. He suggested that Commissioners attend one of the classes as a representative of the Commission, and he clarified that the instructor was informed that the program was not to be viewed as a business development opportunity. COMMISSIONER KELLER clarified with VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ that the class would run from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

In conclusion, MR. FORD defined his five priorities and department goals for the next 12 months: increase attendance by at least 15 percent in community center programs through program evaluation and targeted marketing; increase and develop working relationships with local pro and semi-pro sports teams and have at least four community events sponsored by a pro or semi-pro team; apply for and hopefully receive ORLP (Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership) or SNPLMA funding for a minimum of three projects in the next round of funding opportunities; develop maintenance plans for all City regional parks that are followed up by maintenance plans for the neighborhood and smaller pocket parks; and create a high-performing organization where people can be entrusted to do their best, feel fulfilled by their chosen career field, and exemplify the City's values of being Kind, Committed, and Smart. VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ confirmed with BRIAN CARROLL, Deputy City Clerk, that these goals would be included in the meeting minutes. The Vice Chair requested a six-month progress update, and MR. FORD agreed to provide it.

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

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER BECKER announced that COUNCILWOMAN VICTORIA SEAMAN'S Breakfast Buzz will take place on August 6, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at Rachel's Kitchen, located at 9691 Trailwood Drive. The Art in the Park event will take place on October 15, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Bruce Trent Park, and they are currently soliciting for artists. The Commissioner noted that he and his daughter participated last spring as authors and artists, and he encouraged artists to visit the small, well attended event. He advised that setup takes place in the first hour, and he believed the Department of Parks and Recreation does an outstanding job of spreading everybody out.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY noted homeless activity at Doolittle Park in the mornings. He asked for video cameras to be installed at all City parks to protect the citizens and help City Marshals. He suggested applying to the federal government for funding.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ advised that the previous Director discussed the SMART Parks Initiative, which included surveillance, and he asked STEVE FORD, Director of Parks and Recreation, if that was something that could be considered. MR. FORD clarified that they were working with the Department of Information Technology and the Department of Public Safety to deploy cameras at various parks and facilities. He noted the initial priority was swimming pools due to incidents, and he advised that there are requests from the Council offices for certain facilities. He reported that there are cameras at the Shaq Courts at Doolittle Community Center. MR. FORD explained that a lot of the infrastructure was in place, but they are still waiting for cameras that were ordered in November.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY opined that cameras should be placed outside of park bathrooms to protect citizens from sexual assault and protect the City from lawsuits. COMMISSIONER BECKER wondered if the cameras would be connected to a Wi-Fi network, and he recommended the network be made available to youth sports groups so their games can be broadcasted. He noted some organizations offered to help finance the network.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ reported that he met with the leader of the Centennial Hills Active Adult Center on July 12, 2022, and he was impressed with their desire to serve the citizens. He noted the programs were being restarted after being subdued due to COVID-19, and he believed there was a pent-up demand for social activities in the Ward 6 community. He recommended that Commissioners update themselves on programming with the leadership of active adult centers in their ward.

9. **Citizens Participation:** Public comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters within the jurisdiction of the Commission. No subject may be acted upon by the Commission unless that subject is on the agenda and is scheduled for action. If you wish to be heard, 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 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Brian Carroll, Deputy City Clerk

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

The Nevada Public Notice website – notice.nv.gov

City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor