



Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

ACTING CHAIR BECKER called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: ACTING CHAIR BECKER and COMMISSIONERS SHERMAN (via teleconference), NEIGER, BRIARE, ASSELIN, HOWARD (via teleconference), KELLER, JOHNSON (excused until 4:03 p.m.), MARTIN and ZAMORA

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

ALSO PRESENT: PATRICK VAUGHN, Park Maintenance Manager; TRISHA CAIN, Recreation Manager; KIM KLEIN, Administrative Secretary; JOHN RIDILLA, Deputy 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 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 August 3, 2021

Motion made by Audrey Asselin to Approve

Passed For: 9; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 6

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

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, presented the August 2021 Deputy City Marshals Report, a copy of which is included in the backup. He reported six of the top 10 calls for service were located at either parks or community centers, which he named. Calls for service, arrests, misdemeanor citations and traffic

citations increased from the prior month of July. These included six gross misdemeanor arrests and 28 felony charges. He noted of the top three violations in each Ward, at least one included a park violation of some sort. He also noted they saw an increased number of violations in other areas they patrol, such as Fremont Street.

COMMISSIONER MARTIN asked if the Marshals patrol parks 24/7 or only during park hours. LIEUTENANT GUILLEN confirmed the Deputy City Marshals patrol 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

ACTING CHAIR BECKER stated he appreciated the report.

6. Report by Priscilla Scott, Recreation Coordinator and President of Nevada Recreation & Park Society (NRPS), regarding NRPS and the 2021 Annual Conference – All Wards

Minutes:

PRISCILLA SCOTT, Recreation Coordinator and President of the Nevada Recreation and Park Society (NRPS), presented using the PowerPoint presentation included in the backup. She stated NRPS works to strengthen the profession of parks and recreation throughout the state, to include northern Nevada, Southern Nevada and rural Nevada. While it has been a trying year, a few things went very well. Her Presidency is a three-year term, and as she gets ready to pass into her next role as past President, she said she will be working on state advocacy efforts.

MS. SCOTT stated they were prepared to hold the 2020 NRPS Conference on March 30, 2020, but that was shut down very abruptly when the State mandated shutdowns due to COVID-19. As such, they used that time to regroup and reorganize their efforts to provide support to the Directors throughout the state. Generally, a Directors Forum is held once a year as part of their Leadership Institute. Last year, they reunited Directors throughout the entire state so they would all interpret the State mandates the same. This proved to be very beneficial in southern Nevada, as they were able to launch child care efforts following very similar guidelines and pricing structures within the five jurisdictions in this area. The efforts up north were a little different because they had some agencies with in-person schooling. Different agencies focused on emergency child care and food distribution to seniors and anyone struggling during the pandemic. They also coordinated block parties to liven up communities and bring back some recreation, since the recreation facilities were not open. She also touched on park cleanups with park usage up significantly last year. She thought their COVID-19 response was a true team effort, which involved agencies sharing funding and documentation.

MS. SCOTT stated the Leadership Institute was created in response to the State of Nevada no longer offering a degree of higher education for recreation professions. This program focuses on teaching leadership skills, alliance, development and excellence to parks and recreation professionals to start to prepare them for whatever is next with their careers. During the first year, mentees are partnered one-on-one with mentors. They try to match mentees/mentors from the south together and mentees/mentors from the north together to provide more consistency. Once mentees successfully complete that program, they meet the qualifications to become a mentor. There is also a mentor advisory committee that sets the curriculum and keeps everyone on track. A lot of the curriculum is done virtually, but there are also some in-person activities.

MS. SCOTT went on to report that this year with everything the professionals were handling, it was very difficult to expect them to also engage in a rigorous leadership program, so they held off bringing in the incoming class, but will start back up again in October. Everything was converted so that it could be done virtually, and improvements were made to some of the requirements where they found individuals were struggling. This year, they are also providing mentor training to teach the graduates how to transition from working on their own development to guiding both young and seasoned professionals.

The 2021 Conference is approximately six weeks out and will take place at MEET Las Vegas, which is the old Bank of America building on Fourth Street. This event kick-off is scheduled for Monday, October 18, 2021, with a welcome social, followed by educational sessions on October 19 and 20, 2021. The incoming class of the Leadership Institute will kick off on October 21, 2021. She noted the rewards program will be done differently this year. In the past, agencies were able to submit for Program of Excellence awards as well as Park Projects and Legacy awards for the parks throughout the state, but because so many of the professionals have focused their efforts entirely on COVID-19, there is limited programming available. As such, at this year's ceremony, previous winners will be honored, and there will be President's awards handed out that are unique and specific to some of the agencies that excelled working together with all of the partners throughout the state. She noted at the time everything was shut down in 2020, they already had registrants for the 2020 Conference, and

everything was fully paid for, so they rolled everything (registrants, partners and vendors) over into the October 2021 Conference. They had strong support from most individuals, with minimal refunds. There also are some incoming and outgoing board members upcoming.

MS. SCOTT stated currently, they are working towards strengthening their community partnerships. They have been welcoming interns to the program that came to them from Dixie State University or who are working in an alternative pathway to get into the parks and recreation field. She said they have several opportunities to get involved and are always looking for individuals to host their interns and to provide help by presenting at their conferences and introducing them to key relationships and sponsors they can work with.

MS. SCOTT noted over the past year, they saw the passing of DUNDEE JONES, who was very influential with NRPS and the first Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Henderson. She said they are very grateful to MR. JONES and the legacy he's left behind, and she ended her presentation with a quote from him.

In response to the question from COMMISSIONER MARTIN regarding how to contact this organization, MS. SCOTT stated they all are volunteers that currently work for parks and recreation agencies, so they have a generic email of NRPS@live.com or she can be contacted via the City directory.

COMMISSIONER NEIGER asked if anyone other than the parks and recreation departments throughout the state could attend the conference and what the top two or three issues were that they planned to address at the conference. MS. SCOTT stated they are a state affiliate with the National Parks and Recreation Association, but primarily serve individuals from the state of Nevada. They also get a lot of support from the Utah Parks and Recreation Association and have partnered with California's District 10 because of their proximity to Reno, Nevada. The two main areas of focus will be how to move forward because all agencies are trying to reinvent themselves and are looking at viable programs because what is essential for the community has changed with COVID-19. They will also be looking at topics surrounding homelessness since it is a rising concern in parks.

COMMISSIONER BECKER asked if NRPS still publishes the magazine they used to put out. MS. SCOTT confirmed, stating they did take a break during COVID-19, but brought it back in August. The Commissioner asked if the City could help in setting up a subscription because many years ago, he wrote for the publication, and he thought it would be of benefit to the Commissioners. MS. SCOTT stated she would work with KIM KLEIN, Administrative Secretary, to get the Commissioners on the distribution list.

COMMISSIONER KELLER asked if MS. SCOTT would be willing to report back to the Commission after the Conference as to how it went and on any action items. MS. SCOTT agreed to come back.

7. Report by Steve Glimp, Superintendent of Parks, regarding park maintenance updates and emerging issues related to the Department of Parks and Recreation – All Wards

Minutes:

PATRICK VAUGHN, Park Maintenance Manager, presented in lieu of STEVE GLIMP, Superintendent of Parks. He welcomed KIM KLEIN, who joined the Department of Parks and Recreation team as their new Administrative Secretary. He said she came from Gillette, Wyoming, where she was the Executive Secretary for their Public Works Department.

MR. VAUGHN provided the following updates:

Ward 1 – All American Park – The fence repainting, replacement and repair project is currently underway, with an anticipated completion date around October 7, 2021.

Ward 2 – Angel Park – Staff is currently awaiting delivery to complete the playground replacement project. The delivery date was pushed out, but is now hopefully set for early November, with construction anticipated to be completed at the end of November.

Ward 3 – Freedom Park – The shade structure for the swings is currently in the permitting process, with installation expected in early October. They are also preparing for the 1 October Remembrance Event at the Las Vegas Community Healing Garden at 10:00 p.m. on that date.

Ward 4 – Garehime Heights Skatepark – Construction should begin either over the weekend or on Monday, September 13, 2021. Construction of the Garehime Fitness Court, part of the National Fitness Campaign, is in process. This project ran into some hiccups, but is now moving forward and is about one month from completion. This will be the same fitness court currently installed at Bill Briare Park.

Ward 5 – Shaquille Courts at the Doolittle Complex – The basketball court renovation in conjunction with the Shaquille O’Neal Foundation and Icy Hot is underway, with the grand opening hopefully taking place on October 23, 2021.

Ward 6 – Mountain Ridge Skatepark is close to completion, with a ribbon cutting scheduled for Saturday, September 11, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.

On more of a department-wide level, MR. VAUGHN reported one of the two 9/11 survivor ornamental pear trees was planted at Fire Station 5, adjacent to Craig-Hinson and Rotary Parks. The Fire Department holds their own service in the morning that coincides with the time of the attack on the World Trade Center buildings. The planting and dedication of an additional ornamental pear tree is scheduled for Saturday, September 11, 2021, at 11:00 a.m., at Police Memorial Park.

MR. VAUGHN reported last week the shift bid for their division was completed, which involves some reorganization of schedules and shifts. This will provide expanded weekend hours to help boost their efforts in keeping the parks clean.

Lastly, he noted the Department is prepping for the upcoming soccer season, and will be overseeding the week of September 13, 2021. This was delayed due to some vendor issues and a seed shortage the entire west coast has experienced because of drought and wildfire, but delivery is expected the week of September 13, 2021.

COMMISSIONER MARTIN thanked staff for removing most of the rocks from Kellogg Zaher and Woofter Dog Parks and replacing most of the gates at Kellogg Zaher. He asked what was the best way to contact Parks Maintenance with issues. MR. VAUGHN stated the most efficient way would be to either email him or MR. GLIMP. The Commissioner indicated there were some issues he wished to discuss with staff, but he did not want to take up the entire Commission’s time so would contact them directly.

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

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER JOHNSON reported she is also employed with Get Outdoors Nevada, and they just finished four out of the six meetings with each of the Wards to establish priority parks for the cleanup program. Meetings with Wards 1, 2, 4 and 5 were completed, and Wards 3 and 6 are scheduled for September 8, 2021, so she hoped to be able to share a list of upcoming park cleanups at the next Commission meeting.

COMMISSIONER BECKER reported on Friday, September 10, 2021, at 6:30 p.m., Movie in the Park will take place with a showing of Doolittle at Bruce Trent Park. On Saturday, September 11, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN will hold Breakfast Buzz at Rachel’s Kitchen, and on Friday, September 25, 2021, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., there will be an Art in the Park event at Bruce Trent Park. He said Bruce Trent Park is a gorgeous park, and this is a great opportunity to see the new park structures that have been installed.

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.

10. **Adjournment**

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Debra A. Outland, Deputy City Clerk

Patrick Vaughn, Park Maintenance Manager

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