



Special Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

CHAIR GOODMAN called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR GOODMAN and COMMISSIONERS BRYAN, STOLDAL, COFFIN, HELTON, SINNOCK, TRUESDELL, BRANDENBURG, CREAM and PRATO

EXCUSED: COMMISSIONERS ARNOLD, BROWN, FELDMAN, MOWBRAY and MILLS

ALSO PRESENT: DIANE SIEBRANDT, Executive Director of the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial, VAL STEED, Chief Deputy City Attorney, and GABRIELA PORTILLO-BRENNER, Deputy City Clerk

2. Announcement Regarding: Compliance with Open Meeting Law

Minutes:

ANNOUNCEMENT MADE: This meeting has been properly noticed and posted at the following locations: City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor; Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway; Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue; Howard Lieburn Senior Center, 6230 Garwood Avenue

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:

COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN said when she was active in the legislature, there were photos posted in the lobby of the various legislative sessions with the current and former assembly and senate members. In speaking with the Mayor about having something similar at City Hall, she learned that this was done at the old City Hall with photos of previous Councilmembers. For the last four months, she and her staff have been collecting data and planning to meet with the Mayor to discuss the future location of the photos, and she wanted the Commission to be aware of this venture as well.

CHAIR GOODMAN thanked the Councilwoman, and recalled a conversation two meetings ago about creating a City museum, and this venture might fit into that project. She asked COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN to stay and give her input during the discussion for Item 5, to which she agreed.

4. 21-00343-CLC1 - Discussion for possible action regarding approval of a contract with Boyd Productions to produce Part IV and Part V of the documentary film series "The City of Las Vegas" that will cover the years 1940-1949 and 1950-1959

Minutes:

DIANE SIEBRANDT, Executive Director of the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial, reported that this pertains to funding that the Commission approved at the May 24th meeting. The contract was included in the backup material for this item, and the Commission's approval is needed to formalize the contract.

COMMISSIONER STOLDAL said the original contract had three elements, and he wanted to make sure the revised copy also included them: to produce a documentary of each decade, produce vignettes to be used in schools and for the City of Las Vegas to build a library of its history that contains all elements of the documentary, along with the raw footage. The City would maintain rights of all footage, build the library, and be able to look back in 10 years and see how the city would want to re-write its history. MS. SIEBRANDT referred to Page 5 of the contract, which states that Boyd Productions will provide all archival documentation of the deliverables, which includes everything that is gathered for the archives. COMMISSIONER STOLDAL understood the City would have rights to the completed documentary and vignettes, but he wanted to ensure that rights to the outtakes were also included. MS. SIEBRANDT said Boyd Productions is required to give the City everything involved in the research and creation of the films but deferred to legal counsel for additional input.

SETH FLOYD, Community Development Director, said there is language in the payment schedule that requires Boyd Productions to give the City all raw content in addition to the archival information before they are provided with the final payments.

COMMISSIONER BRYAN said staff should be clear with Boyd Productions and let them know the Commission's understanding of the language, and the Commissioners should be the ones to make the final decision on what is important.

COMMISSIONER COFFIN said he would support the motion for approval, and felt they had a good understanding of the agreement. He added that he was unsure if a discussion had already taken place, but he opined that 1959 is a good stopping point for this project. MS. SIEBRANDT confirmed that aspect was not a part of this discussion.

Subsequent to the motion and vote, CHAIR GOODMAN inquired about the timeline, and MS. SIEBRANDT said the approved contract will be sent once the City Council approves it. She asked the Commission to keep in mind that Boyd Productions was operating under the understanding that September 1, 2021 was their start date, and because they are contractors, they have taken other jobs between now and then. The submittal of the scripts will stay on schedule; however, they will do the archival research starting next month. She confirmed for the Chair that this matter will move to the City Council for their approval at the meeting of June 16, 2021.

Motion made by Richard Bryan to Approve

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

For-Carolyn Goodman, Bob Coffin, Richard Bryan, Robert Stoldal, Louise Helton, Hugh Sinnock, Ric Truesdell, Mark Brandenburg, Cedric Crear, Thomas Prato; Excused-Ryan Arnold, Hannah Brown, Alan Feldman, John Mowbray, Kevin Mills;

5. **21-0336-CLC1** - Discussion regarding the creation of a City of Las Vegas Museum

Minutes:

Using a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted and attached as backup, DIANE SIEBRANDT, Executive Director of the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial, recalled the Commission's discussion in March about the feasibility of creating a City of Las Vegas museum. At that time, the Commissioners were asked to think about the mission, if it is something the community needs or wants, where the funding would come from, staffing and where the collections would be coming from. She was aware of some storage at the Archival Records Center (ARC), but she also wondered if the museum would request donations and/or if any purchasing would be involved. Hiring someone to conduct a feasibility study and determining the size of the exhibit, possible location and whether or not it would be stationary were also topics for discussion.

CHAIR GOODMAN deferred to COMMISSIONER CREAR because he was the one who came up with the idea.

COMMISSIONER CREAR concurred with COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN'S earlier remarks, and he wants to find a way to memorialize the Council and the work they have done over the years. He said if school children wanted to come learn about the City of Las Vegas and its Mayors and Councilmembers, there is no place for them to do so. The Commissioner was not sure this needs to be a full museum, and he noted there are a lot of valuable pieces at the ARC that should be on display. He was not sure where exactly to take this idea and said it could be changed as the project progresses. COMMISSIONER CREAR was confident that people would come to view the history of Las Vegas, and it would be very informative to youth and adults.

CHAIR GOODMAN asked for COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN'S thoughts, who said she has already collected 91 of about 120 photos. She was envisioning a display of photos for children and others to look at when they come to City Hall. Although she felt that memorializing the history of Las Vegas in some way was a good idea, she reiterated the photo exhibit was the only project she was working on, but she and DAVE MCGOWAN, Special Assistant to Council, are willing to help in any way. COMMISSIONER CREAR said the premise of his idea was for the Commission to hold a robust discussion, weigh all of the factors and figure out how they would like to move forward. COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN was glad they were thinking the same thing, and reiterated that she and MR. MCGOWAN are available to help.

MR. MCGOWAN advised they have 31 more photos to find, and he said it would be helpful if anybody knew where they could find photos of the councilmembers from 1911 to 1930. CHAIR GOODMAN wondered where the number of boxes from the old City Hall were relocated to.

COMMISSIONER STOLDAL said there used to be photos of all of the City mayors in the Council Chambers. As much as he appreciated the photos of the presidents that are currently in Council Chambers, he opined that those should be replaced with photos of past councilmembers and mayors. He offered to look in any boxes for the photos he was referring to.

CHAIR GOODMAN asked CITY CLERK LUANN HOLMES to help with the project and confer with COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN and MR. MCGOWAN.

COMMISSIONER STOLDAL referred to the Mob, Neon and Nevada State Museums, and he said these are all a great part of the city's history. He also felt the Nevada State Museum at the Springs Preserve has opportunity for improvement and expansion. There are many ways to channel the history of Las Vegas, specifically with an environment where computers are available. He noted that MS. SIEBRANDT has taken the lead on researching every study and survey that the City, BLM (Bureau of Land Management) and UNLV (University of Nevada, Las Vegas) has funded and get them online.

COMMISSIONER COFFIN further added that the Commission should look at the existing museums and contact their respective directors to try to determine where their idea fits in. The city is also home to the Natural History Museum and the DISCOVERY Children's Museum. He also pointed out that the Clark County Museum is in the middle of nowhere and difficult to access.

MS. HOLMES offered to try to find the photos that were referred to by CHAIR GOODMAN. She advised that the ARC was not used for storage of things that needed a home; rather, the ARC was designed and defined as archives and records storage, which does not necessarily include a historic photo collection. She may know of someone who has an idea as to where those photos are located, but said they are not at the ARC currently. COMMISSIONER STOLDAL said he would be happy to work with COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN on locating the missing photos.

COMMISSIONER TRUESDELL opined that the concept of a museum is to preserve history and give people a place to go and see it. He was on the founding board for the DISCOVERY Children's Museum, and he felt that establishing a museum will be a funding nightmare for the City going forward. He posed the idea of a virtual museum where all of the data and vignettes can be accessed online or at a kiosk. This could be done at a minimal cost, but it would be available to a greater amount of people. A virtual environment would also be easier for schools to use rather than having to physically visit a site. The Commissioner reiterated that he would like to explore alternatives rather than build another static museum.

CHAIR GOODMAN said, through MS. SIEBRANDT, a questionnaire should be sent to the Commission that allows for comments and suggestions rather than spending money for a feasibility study. She also wondered if a survey should be sent to the community. COMMISSIONER TRUESEDELL'S comments regarding a virtual museum should also be considered. MS. SIEBRANDT should share the results with the Commission via an e-mail or at the next meeting. Although the Chair enjoys the photos of the presidents in the Council Chambers, she was open to potential changes.

COMMISSIONER HELTON said a museum has been on her mind for years, and she referenced one in Albuquerque, New Mexico, that originally opened in 1971 at an old airport, but it is now housed in its own building complete with several exhibits. In talking with CCSD (Clark County School District), they thought it would be the most useful if children could go to a place and relate to history. A virtual museum would save money, but it would not be easily digested by children. She thinks about the \$24 million the Commission has spent over the years on projects, and she said they do not have anywhere to showcase that. The history of Las Vegas deserves more attention, and she thinks a museum is the only way that can be accomplished.

COMMISSIONER STOLDAL felt that of all the museums in Las Vegas, the one thing that is missing is the involvement of the government in Las Vegas and their efforts, such as legalizing gambling and limiting organized crime. He likes public surveys, but recalled a survey on whether or not the city should have a mob museum. It was not prioritized because the residents did not think it would be successful, but they were wrong.

CHAIR GOODMAN said having a questionnaire is a start, unless someone wanted to expel the idea. She felt dedications to populations, such as the Native Americans, Asians and African-Americans that are in Las Vegas should also be considered, and, therefore, this conversation needs to continue.

COMMISSIONER SINNOCK liked the idea of having photos of the previous mayors and councilmembers in the Council Chambers, similar to what is at the LVCVA (Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority). He applauded the Boyd documentaries, and recognized the challenges that have come along with it, and he felt that incorporating something into the existing museums was the way to go.

COMMISSIONER COFFIN inquired about the status of the National Atomic Testing Museum, and CHAIR GOODMAN explained they were looking at a piece of property in Symphony Park at the price of \$70 million. They are now looking at the library near the Historic Mormon Fort to at least get them started. Part of the City's Human Resources Department is currently at that library, but they will move out once the Civic Plaza across from City Hall is built.

CHAIR GOODMAN asked the Commissioners to continue this discussion, and she asked legal counsel to consider whether or not a vote would be needed as it relates to the photo project.

See Item 3 for related discussion.

6. **21-0338-CLC1 - Discussion regarding topics for future agenda items.** Comments made during this portion of the agenda by individual members shall refer solely to proposals for future agenda items and any discussion shall be limited to whether or not such proposed items are within the purview of the Commission and/or whether such proposed items shall be placed on a future agenda. No discussion regarding the substance of any such proposed topic shall occur and no action shall be taken.

Minutes:
None.

7. **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.

8. **Adjournment**

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Gabriela Portillo-Brenner, Deputy City Clerk

Diane Siebrandt, Executive Director of the
Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial

THIS MEETING WAS PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor
Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway
Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue
Howard Lieburn Senior Center, 6230 Garwood Avenue