



## 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), WHITE, McCURDY (excused from 4:44 p.m to 4:48 p.m.), ARMENIAN, GEBRE, NEIGER, BRIARE, HOWARD, and ZAMORA (via teleconference)

EXCUSED: CHAIR BECKER and COMMISSIONERS ASSELIN, KELLER, JOHNSON, and MARTIN

ALSO PRESENT: STEVE FORD, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs; KIM KLEIN, Administrative Secretary; TIM GESWEIN, 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 7, 2023*

Minutes:

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ said he thoroughly read the minutes and did not see anything needing correction.

Motion made by Rudy Zamora to Approve

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

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

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 March Deputy City Marshals Report, a copy of which was submitted for the record. He read park arrest, citation, and calls for service statistics for each Ward from the report, and he listed top arrest locations for each ward. He reported that a subject was arrested for approximately \$5,000 worth of graffiti damage at Sunny Springs Park over five occasions. LIEUTENANT GUILLEN explained that one trailer camera was deployed at Lorenzi Park, and there was a 66 percent increase in suspicious vehicle and person on foot related calls when it was moved from Gary Reese Freedom Park. He stated that a trailer camera would move to Howard Lieburn Active Adult Center in response to criminal activity and another is being serviced. He listed Community-Policing Events from the presentation, noting there were no additional events occurring in a park or facility for the remainder of the month.

COMMISSIONER WHITE questioned the surveillance response time, and LIEUTENANT GUILLEN clarified that they are primarily a deterrent to disperse crime away from an area. The Lieutenant advised that people were watching the cameras and they were looking to dispatch from them when properly staffed.

6. Report by Steve Glimp, Park Maintenance Manager, regarding park maintenance updates – All Wards

Minutes:

STEVE GLIMP, Park Maintenance Manager, utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to display photos and provide information on park projects. He listed completed park projects from the report including a roller rink that was converted to four pickleball courts at Aloha Shores Park. Perimeter upgrades included boulder work, tree and shrub planting, and a Flexi-Pave walking path around the fields at Mike Morgan Family Park, and 92 trees were planted for the community tree orchard at Floyd Lamb Park. Regarding projects in progress, MR. GLIMP reported that accessibility improvements were being made to the west parking lot at Charlie Kellogg and Joe Zaher Sports Complex, and shuffleboard courts would be converted to pickleball courts at Justice Myron E. Leavitt & Jaycee Community Park. Lastly, he noted the Las Vegas Golden Knights hockey rink at Lorenzi Park would be completed that week.

COMMISSIONER NEIGER asked if existing inventory was considered when selecting sport courts for parks. MR. GLIMP advised that they look at what exists in each ward, noting that the public is asked what they want in their park.

7. Report by Dr. Katie Sears, Senior Management Analyst, regarding federal funding for grants – All Wards

Minutes:

STEVE FORD, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, introduced DR. KATIE SEARS, Senior Management Analyst, and stated that she handles grant funding. MR. FORD noted COMMISSIONER McCURDY discussed federal funding at a previous meeting, and this item was brought forward to advise the Commission on which types of funding were pursued. He reported that the City Council would be briefed on the next round of SNPLMA (Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act) funding and the five-year plan, and he encouraged the Commissioners to discuss desired projects with their Councilmembers. DR. SEARS utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to list the four types of grants they were pursuing, noting that SNPLMA funding is directly granted to municipalities. The other three are pass-through grants that are federally funded from the National Park Service and awarded to the Nevada Division of Parks before being allocated to municipalities. SNPLMA was created through legislation in 1998 that allows the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to sell public lands for enhancing outdoor environment access for the public. She listed project criteria for the grant, including conservation measures and evaluating the cost and maintenance of projects. She stated that the remaining grants must adhere to priorities outlined in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) established by the State. The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant is intended to increase park access in the community, and the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Program (ORLP) is meant to increase outdoor recreation access to vulnerable populations. Lastly, the Recreation Trails Program (RTP) grant is primarily intended for trail development. DR. SEARS displayed SNPLMA funding history from the presentation, noting that the City was active in three SNPLMA rounds. The development of Harris Marion Park and Trailhead is being closed out for Round 17, and the City Council was expected to approve Round 18 funding for the Regional Pickleball Complex at Wayne Bunker Park and the Regional Aquatics Complex at Pavilion Pool. Round 19 was recently awarded by the Secretary of the

Interior for Northwest Regional Park Phase 1A and the Lorenzi Park tennis court addition. DR. SEARS explained that they would submit for Round 20 and potential projects were in discussion. She displayed LWCF award history dating back to 1972, and she listed project funding submissions and their anticipated award timeline, which included Heers Park improvements and Stewart Place Park.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ questioned if there was an annual success rate for grant funding. DR. SEARS stated that they have a history of all funding awarded and the City was currently organizing that data. The Vice Chair believed it was good to focus on capture rate metrics.

In response to COMMISSIONER McCURDY, DR. SEARS clarified that ORLP grant criteria requires selecting areas within a city without equitable access to park resources. The Commissioner expressed concern regarding the lack of an indoor pool for the senior population within Historic West Las Vegas, noting that Doolittle Community Center had an outdoor pool. He understood that a feasibility study was being deliberated to revitalize Doolittle, and he hoped adding an indoor pool would be considered. COMMISSIONER WHITE thought there was previously an initiative to cover the pool that was ruled out. COMMISSIONER McCURDY advised that staff found it unfeasible, and he believed enclosing the pool was the best recommendation. Further, he stated that Historic West Las Vegas never had an enclosed pool. DR. SEARS suggested that Commissioners advocate priorities to their Councilmembers. MR. FORD reported they were working with the Council Offices regarding the master plan, and the indoor pool would be discussed. COMMISSIONER McCURDY questioned if another building would be added to the Doolittle Complex, and the Director said that was being discussed with the Council Offices. The Commissioner advised that Matt Kelly Elementary School would be revitalized, and he worried that adding a building would take park space away from children. MR. FORD said representatives from the Clark County School District were involved during the conceptual phase of the master plan, and he stated that the school would be torn down and moved further into the parcel. COMMISSIONER McCURDY was happy to hear that, noting that the area was declared an educational corridor.

COMMISSIONER NEIGER questioned if ORLP's objective of having no park deserts, which is defined as no park within a .5 mile radius, was an industry standard. DR. SEARS believed it is a community need that is called out in the 2050 Master Plan. The Commissioner asked how close the City was to that objective. MR. FORD explained that information would be included in upcoming briefings with the Commission, Council, and Planning Commission on the parks element of the master plan.

COMMISSIONER BRIARE asked if any grants were easier to obtain, and he wondered why there were periods with no grant awards. DR. SEARS said it depends on money available at BLM, and she stated that SNPLMA is the most complex. She advised that ORLP and RTP were new grant programs that seemed more flexible, and all projects must meet criteria and comply with application requirements. She noted ORLP funding was submitted for Cragin Park that was not awarded, and no ORLP funds were received by the State. The Commissioner confirmed with DR. SEARS that they were competing with other municipalities. DR. SEARS advised that the SNPLMA boundary may expand north beyond Southern Nevada, and that would increase eligibility to more municipalities.

8. Report by Priscilla Scott, Recreation Coordinator, regarding the 2023 Nevada Recreation & Park Society (NRPS) Conference – All Wards

Minutes:

PRISCILLA SCOTT, Recreation Coordinator, advised that she formerly served as President of the Nevada Recreation & Park Society (NRPS), and she utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to provide the timeline for the 2023 NRPS Conference. She reported that an economics workshop on financial sustainability was held on February 27th, and the LEAD (Leadership, Excellence, Alliance, Development) program kicked off with an all-day training on March 2nd. The conference's keynote speaker HOAN DO, American Ninja Warrior, held additional sessions on goal setting and empowerment. MS. SCOTT provided membership and attendee statistics, stating that the conference had nearly doubled in size since before the pandemic. The City sent 37 employees to the conference and eight participants entered the LEAD program. Further, eight City participants graduated last year and four of them earned a promotion within the year. She stated that the City received three awards at the conference: the Program Excellence Award for the Silver and Black Football League, the Program Excellence Award for Community Events for the Bows &

Bowties Family Dance held at Mirabelli Community Center, and the Elmer H. Anderson Park Excellence Award for the hay barn renovation in Ward 6. Lastly, MS. SCOTT advised that next year's conference would take place in Reno, Nevada in April.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ questioned if NRPS was a Nevada society and if it offered a professional designation for their members. MS. SCOTT confirmed it is a Nevada society affiliated with the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). She said they hosted CPSI (Certified Playground Safety Inspector) certifications for the parks and ground maintenance team in October, and NRPA promotes professionals seeking the Aquatic Facility Operator and Certified Parks and Recreation Professional certifications. The Vice Chair asked which certification had the greatest degree of complexity. MS. SCOTT responded CPSI and noted it is required for trades within the City and through the Health District. VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ wondered how many City conference attendees had certifications and if that correlated with career progression. MS. SCOTT did not believe that was actively tracked, and she stated that the CPSI certification was required for certain trade positions.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY asked how many people of color attend upward mobility training for promotions within the department. MS. SCOTT advised that two of the four recent LEAD graduates are minorities, and she did not believe demographics were tracked through the department. STEVE FORD, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, reported that those types of inquiries would be tasked to recently promoted LaKEISHA DICKENS, Training and Development Officer. MS. DICKENS is the representative for the City's DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) initiative, and she will track certifications.

COMMISSIONER SHERMAN confirmed with MS. SCOTT that the Bows & Bowties Family Dance was formally known as the Daddy Daughter Dance. The name was revitalized to include boys, girls, and non-traditional families.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ praised MR. FORD and City leadership for allowing staff to attend the conference.

9. Report by Travis Buell, Deputy Parks and Recreation Director, regarding emerging issues related to activities of the Parks and Recreation Division – All Wards

Minutes:

STEVE FORD, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, advised that TRAVIS BUELL, Deputy Parks and Recreation Director, was out of the office today. MR. FORD utilized a Power Point presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to display images from the grand opening of the Ernest & Betty Becker Family Technology and Recreation Park in Ward 5, formerly known as Charleston Heights Park. He noted that COUNCILMAN CEDRIC CREAR attended the grand opening, and PRISCILLA SCOTT, Recreation Coordinator, helped put together programs at the park. He listed various park amenities including the Yalp playground, drone soccer, Esports room, makers room with 3D printers, and a room dedicated to teaching children how to podcast, DJ, and learn robotics.

DIRECTOR FORD reported that Arroyo Vista Park was under construction after previously being stalled due to contractor and engineering issues. Further, he expected construction to be completed later in the year. He noted the pickleball courts at Aloha Shores Parks were recently opened. He explained that they were awarded \$24 million for Northwest Regional Park and \$3.2 million for the tennis court addition in Ward 5 from Round 19 SNPLMA (Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act) funding through the Secretary of the Interior. MR. FORD advised that SNPLMA only allows three project submissions per year. He planned to brief the City Council soon on strategizing those federal dollars, followed by briefing this Commission in the coming months. He noted the City Council and Planning Commission would be briefed on the parks element of the master plan in April or May. Lastly, he stated that BRAD DASELER, Urban Forester, would provide an update on the urban forestry program and adaptive recreation program.

COMMISSIONER GEBRE said she attended the grand opening of Ernest & Betty Becker Technology Park, and she thanked MR. FORD for providing a tour. She expressed excitement for the park and believed it was well deserved for the Becker family.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ expressed concern regarding maintainability of computer-based technology, and he

asked how software and firmware would be updated at the park. MR. FORD reported that there would be three Technical Systems Analysts involved in maintaining the equipment, stating that security of the equipment was paramount. The Vice Chair questioned if the outdoor equipment would be durable to high heat, and the Director advised that those items have shade covers. PRISCILLA SCOTT, Recreation Coordinator, clarified that the systems are under ground for heat protection and shade structures cover the playground. She said the equipment has built-in maintenance software that updates nightly and creates service tickets. Further, staff has received training on monitoring game analytics and are able to change the games. In response to COMMISSIONER GEBRE, MS. SCOTT advised that programs vary based on class size, which is determined by the amount of devices. She stated that 3D printing classes might have up to 12 participants and Esports workshops up to 24 participants. She reported that programs and activities were structured and open play is dedicated to Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays. MS. SCOTT confirmed they have not reached maximum capacity and would provide additional information as time passed.

COMMISSIONER WHITE asked if internships on equipment maintenance could be considered; and MR. FORD responded that could be explored.

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

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER HOWARD reported that her Councilwoman would have a 100-day event around May 1st.

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ announced that COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN would host Breakfast Buzz from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on April 8th at Veterans Memorial Community Center at 101 North Pavilion Center Drive. To RSVP, visit the Ward 2 City of Las Vegas website. A document shredding event would be held on the same day from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Pavilion Pool. The Vice Chair said the pet adoption event held on March 18th at Bruce Trent Park was a huge success with 35 animals finding their forever homes.

COMMISSIONER SHERMAN stated that Art in the Park would take place from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on April 22nd at Bruce Trent Park.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY said a car show was held, and Bolden Area Command's baseball team kicked off last Saturday at Doolittle Community Center.

COMMISSIONER WHITE thanked VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ for his service, noting this would be the Vice Chair's last meeting. VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ reported that he started with the Commission under former Councilman STEVE ROSS, followed by former Councilwoman MICHELE FIORE and COUNCILWOMAN NANCY BRUNE. He noted his term would have expired in November, but he understood that all Commissioners serve at the will of the City Council. He said it was his pleasure working with City staff and all past and present Commissioners. The Vice Chair felt the city of Las Vegas was fortunate that staff cared about how they impact the community. COMMISSIONERS SHERMAN and GEBRE thanked VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ for his leadership on the Commission. COMMISSIONER McCURDY said he would miss the Vice Chair's energy, and he looked forward to selecting a new vice chair in the future.

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:

None.

12. **Adjournment**

Minutes:

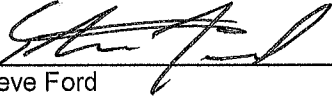
The meeting was adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



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Brian Carroll, Deputy City Clerk



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Steve Ford  
Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs

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