



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 WHITE (excused until 4:13 p.m.), SHERMAN (via teleconference and excused until 4:25 p.m.), McCURDY, ARMENIAN, BECKER (seated as Chair after Item 5), NEIGER, BRIARE, ASSELIN, HOWARD, KELLER, and ZAMORA (via teleconference and excused until 4:25 p.m.)

EXCUSED: COMMISSIONERS GEBRE, JOHNSON, and MARTIN

ALSO PRESENT: STEVE FORD, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs; TRAVIS BUELL, Deputy Parks and Recreation Director; KIM KLEIN, Administrative Secretary; TIMOTHY 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; 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 December 6, 2022

Minutes:

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ asked that a correction be made on Page 4 to show that he previously participated on the Neighborhood Partners Fund Board. BRIAN CARROLL, Deputy City Clerk, advised that he would review the audio for that meeting. On Page 6, Item 8 the Vice Chair requested phrasing be adjusted to the following language: In response to VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ, MR. FORD clarified that engineering performed by an outside company was substandard. He confirmed with STEVE FORD, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, that the language seemed correct. MR. CARROLL said the requested change could be made, and he explained how minutes were generally written.

Motion made by William McCurdy to Approve as amended

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

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

5. Discussion for possible action regarding the election of Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Chair and Vice Chair – All Wards

Minutes:

VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ confirmed with BRIAN CARROLL, Deputy City Clerk, that the last election was held in 2019, and he opened nominations to the Commission.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY explained that he has been seated on the Commission for 21 years, and he said the current leadership did a great job. He believed everyone should have the opportunity to serve, and VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ agreed. COMMISSIONER McCURDY nominated COMMISSIONER BECKER as Chair. COMMISSIONER NEIGER supported the nomination, and COMMISSIONER BECKER said it would be his honor to serve.

COMMISSIONER ARMENIAN nominated VICE CHAIR SCHULTZ as Vice Chair, to which he was amenable.

After the motions, CHAIR BECKER confirmed with STEVE FORD, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, that the Commission's bylaws state the elections shall be held annually.

Motion made by William McCurdy to Approve the nomination of Richard Becker as Chair

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

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

Motion made by William McCurdy to Approve the nomination of Larry Schultz as Vice Chair

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

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

6. 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 January 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, totaling 81 arrests and citations and 155 Priority One calls for service. He noted the most common violations were narcotics and park violations for Ward 1, narcotics for Ward 2, park violations and warrants for Ward 3, driving violations and fugitive from another state for Ward 4, park violations, narcotics, and lodging without consent for Ward 5, and park violations and assault and battery for Ward 6. LIEUTENANT GUILLEN reported that the theft of copper wire at Chuck Minker Sports Complex was under investigation. Lastly, he advised that they engaged with the public at the Law Enforcement Appreciation Day Community-Oriented Policing (COP) event.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY expressed concern that people were living at Lubertha Johnson Park, and he confirmed with LIEUTENANT GUILLEN that the park closes at 11:00 p.m. The Commissioner advised that shopping carts were being used by homeless people in Ward 5. He noted that removing shopping carts from shopping centers was illegal, and he requested citations be issued. Further, he believed prohibiting shopping cart use would slow down the homeless population. The Lieutenant reported that they enforce possession of shopping carts without the owner's permission, and they help bring homeless people to services to limit possession of those items.

COMMISSIONER NEIGER confirmed with LIEUTENANT GUILLEN that COP events occur in all wards and will be included in future reports. The Commissioner asked for more information on COP events. LIEUTENANT GUILLEN explained that Law Enforcement Appreciation Day is held annually at Police Memorial Park in conjunction with all jurisdictions. He noted that constituents were invited to meet with officers and engage with characters such as McGRUFF THE CRIME DOG and OFFICER JUSTICE. COMMISSIONER NEIGER believed COP events were important for the community, and he offered to help support these events in City parks. COMMISSIONER KELLER asked for the Commission to receive advance notice for the events, noting she could post information to the community on social media.

7. 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 explained that upgrades to the field perimeter at Mike Morgan Park and skate park upgrades at Freedom Park should be completed by the end of the month. He noted they were close to breaking ground on the new central playground at W. Wayne Bunker Family Park, and the Flexi-Pave walking paths were about one-third complete at Floyd Lamb Park. MR. GLIMP advised that pickleball courts at Aloha Shores Park, Children's Memorial Park, and Justice Myron E. Leavitt & Jaycee Community Park were moving along. He expected ball field upgrades at Majestic Park to be completed by the summer. MR. GLIMP listed recently completed projects broken down by ward.

Ward 1 – The perimeter chain link fence at Rotary Park was replaced with a six- to seven-foot tall wrought iron fence to stop unwanted traffic from a nearby alleyway.

Ward 2 – Two new picnic shades were installed at Bruce Trent Park.

Ward 3 – A new dog park was installed at Gary Reese Freedom Park, and bocce ball courts were rebuilt at Justice Myron E. Leavitt & Jaycee Community Park.

Ward 4 – Backstop fencing was installed for the lacrosse fields at Thunderbird Family Sports Complex.

Ward 5 – Two artificial soccer fields at Ed Fountain Park will be completed and open this weekend.

Ward 6 – Additional features were added to the mountain bike trail at Floyd Lamb Park.

In response to COMMISSIONER NEIGER, MR. GLIMP explained that the two berm structures on the mountain bike trail at Floyd Lamb Park allow bikers to catch speed on a curve. COMMISSIONER SCHULTZ noted that he attended the groundbreaking and opening of the track. He said it was very popular with bikers, and he believed the improvements would be exciting for them.

COMMISSIONER SHERMAN asked who was responsible for maintaining AED (automated external defibrillator) equipment that was becoming more prevalent in City parks. STEVE FORD, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, reported that AMR (American Medical Response) agreed to maintain and replace AED equipment under a franchise agreement, and Las Vegas Fire and Rescue works with AMR to ensure the equipment is operational. He advised that AED equipment will be expanded to several other parks.

8. Discussion for possible action regarding the 2023 Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Meeting schedule – All Wards

Minutes:

CHAIR BECKER believed this item was regarding meeting schedule comments made by COMMISSIONER SCHULTZ. The Commissioner recognized that the Commission might not meet due to a lack of quorum or heat in the summer months. He began serving on the Commission in 2015, and he said meeting cancellations were always a bilateral decision between the Commission and staff. He did not believe meeting cancellations should be a staff decision, opining that Commissioners might want to discuss matters for the record. STEVE FORD, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, reported that the Commission's bylaws were vague on the topic, and he understood COMMISSIONER SCHULTZ'S position. He stated that the first Tuesday in July fell on July 4th, and he believed that meeting would be canceled. COMMISSIONER SCHULTZ said meetings that fell

on a holiday were rescheduled for other City commissions and boards that he had served on. MR. FORD recommended looking at the meeting calendar at the beginning of the year. CHAIR BECKER said that made sense, and he recommended holding the item to the meeting in March to allow Commissioners to review the calendar. COMMISSIONER SHERMAN reported that she has served on the Commission for about 30 years, and she explained that the Commission historically meets about eight times per year. She agreed with MR. FORD, noting work performed by staff to comply with Open Meeting Law, and she believed rescheduling meetings that fall on a holiday is unnecessary. COMMISSIONER WHITE advised that the Commission historically voted on which meetings would go dark, and he suggested voting on these next month. COMMISSIONER BRIARE reported that Council Chambers may not always be available, and he confirmed with MR. FORD that staff would bring forward proposed meeting dates for the Commission's approval. COMMISSIONER SCHULTZ noted that the Commission may not meet due to a lack of quorum, and he hoped the Commission would preserve going dark in the summer months and try to meet all other months. COMMISSIONER KELLER believed going dark in July made sense, and she asked Commissioners to consider going dark in December for the busy holiday season.

After the motion, CHAIR BECKER asked staff to distribute the proposed schedule prior to the March Commission meeting.

Motion made by William McCurdy to Hold in Abeyance to the March meeting

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

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

9. Report by Steve Ford, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, regarding emerging issues related to activities of the Parks and Recreation Division – All Wards

Minutes:

STEVE FORD, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, explained that a detailed status report on capital projects was provided at the last meeting, and he provided an update on projects broken down by ward.

Ward 1 – The SNPLMA (Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act) funding decision document for Cragin Park should be received in March, and City funding has been requested for Fiscal Year 24 in case federal funding is not approved.

Ward 2 – The cooperative agreement to fund the Regional Aquatic Center at Pavilion Pool was received this week from BLM (Bureau of Land Management), and it will be reviewed by the Ward 2 Office, City Manager's Office, and City Attorney's Office. The large grant will need to be approved by City Council.

Ward 3 – The pickleball courts mentioned by STEVE GLIMP, Park Maintenance Manager, under Item 7 are around 50 to 60 percent complete. A land water conservation funding grant for the Stewart Place Park rehabilitation will be submitted by May.

Ward 4 – The cooperative agreement to fund the Regional Pickleball Complex at W. Wayne Bunker Family Park was received from BLM, and it will be reviewed by the City Attorney's Office and Ward 4 Office to place an item for approval on a future City Council agenda.

Ward 5 – The design consultant was changed for the retrofit at Heers Park, and a land water conservation funding grant will be requested to fund the park's renovation.

Ward 6 – The BMX Bike Park at Centennial Hills Park is on hold due to the cost assessment being higher than anticipated, and the project will be rearranged with the Department of Public Works. Northwest Regional Park is pending the decision document from BLM, which is expected in March.

COMMISSIONER SHERMAN noted that the Commission had not received a report on Police Memorial Park in a long time, and she questioned if SHERIFF KEVIN McMAHILL had been notified regarding how fallen officers are honored at the park. Further, she asked if OFFICER TRUONG THAI'S End of Watch on October 13th had

been acknowledged at the park. MR. FORD said something may have been put on by the Southern Nevada Police Officers' Association, but he did not recall and asked to get back to the Commissioner. The Commissioner wanted to ensure that the purpose and meaning of the park was leveraged with the new sheriff.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY expressed concern regarding homeless people at Historic Westside Legacy Park, and he noted there would be 14 inductees at the park in June. He wondered when permanent plaques would be installed at the park for the previous inductees, and MR. FORD said he would find out.

See Item 7 for related discussion.

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

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER KELLER announced there will be a park cleanup event in partnership with Get Outdoors Nevada at East Las Vegas Family Park from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on February 11th. She said there were many volunteers at previous events, noting that participants do not have to stay the entire time.

COMMISSIONER SCHULTZ displayed photos, which were submitted for the record, showing Ward 6 COUNCILWOMAN BRUNE meeting with constituents on January 12th and sponsoring a heart health event with a raffle at Centennial Hills Active Adult Center. He noted the event was well attended and had two instructors from Las Vegas Fire and Rescue and Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department. He believed the event was a good use of City resources, and he recommended that Commissioners consider hosting the event at their active adult centers. The Commissioner reported that one of the constituents expressed concern regarding tree removal at Polly Gonzalez Memorial Park. STEVE GLIMP, Park Maintenance Manager, explained that around 17 pine trees had died due to an insect infestation, and three tree planting projects had been completed over two years to replace these trees. In response to COMMISSIONER SCHULTZ, MR. GLIMP advised that vacant sites are not filled at the same time to allow for age diversity of the tree canopy. Further, tree planting is staged over five years.

COMMISSIONER BRIARE announced that the City will host the Las Vegas Mayor's Cup with the Downtown Las Vegas Soccer Club. Over 880 teams have registered and 50 foreign teams will represent Canada, Mexico, New Zealand, Japan, France, and other countries. The event will take place at Bettye Wilson Soccer Complex in Ward 1, All-American Park and Charlie Kellogg and Joe Zaher Sports Complex in Ward 2, Ed Fountain Park in Ward 5, and Teton Trails Park in Ward 6. The Commissioner said the event will have a large economic impact for the City with over 10,000 11- to 19-year-old kids. CHAIR BECKER confirmed with TRAVIS BUELL, Deputy Parks and Recreation Director, that MAYOR GOODMAN will present awards for the soccer tournament.

COMMISSIONER HOWARD advised that she will tour parks with COUNCILWOMAN BRUNE in the next few weeks with MR. GLIMP and STEVE FORD, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, and she thanked them both for making that happen. COMMISSIONER SCHULTZ said he had not heard that dates were selected. MR. FORD explained that not all dates had been selected and they were still working with the Council offices. He reported that the Council offices would notify commissioners if they want to attend. COMMISSIONER SCHULTZ asked if commissioners could be notified concurrently, and MR. FORD advised that he would check with the Council offices. Further, he will report to the Commission next month.

CHAIR BECKER announced that Art in the Park will take place on April 22, 2023 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Bruce Trent Park. He noted that April 22nd is Earth Day, and he might attend the event with his daughter. He reported that he will be an Assistant Coach for Doral Academy varsity softball. He toured Bruce Trent Park, Angel Park, and Charlie Kellogg and Joe Zaher Sports Complex in Ward 2 with COMMISSIONER MARTIN, COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN, and staff. The Chair expressed concern regarding irrigation and the need for trash cans around the dog park at Charlie Kellogg and Joe Zaher Sports Complex. He said a splash pad for dogs may be added to the park. He advised that COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN asked if grass would be saved at Bruce Trent Park, and he believed the pavilion roofs needed attention. He said COMMISSIONER MARTIN suggested replacing water fountains with bottle fillers that could also accommodate dogs. CHAIR BECKER reported that they would independently review Hualapai Canyon Trailhead and All-American Park, and the Ward 2 Office submitted their park review to MR. GLIMP.

CHAIR BECKER advised that COMMISSIONER WHITE had been the Commission's chair since he was appointed in 2012, and he expressed appreciation for COMMISSIONER WHITE'S humor. The Chair thanked COMMISSIONER SCHULTZ for managing Commission meetings over the last few months, and he looked forward to continue working together.

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:

MICHAEL KANE, Board Member of Mountain Ridge Little League, appeared with his son and expressed concerns regarding the field status for player safety. He had reached out to the Ward 4 Office and received a response back from SHANNON BENTHAM, Special Assistant to Council. He said there is a rabbit infestation causing feces and holes in the field, and clamps are broken triggering the fencing to roll up and create a tripping hazard. He advised that the bullpens are mostly unusable, and there are holes in the home run fence netting on field four. MR. KANE reported that games had to be postponed this fall due to overwatering, and he believed that was why the topsoil was hard and painful to slide on. Lastly, he invited the Commissioners to attend opening day on March 25th.


CHAIR BECKER commended MR. KANE for bringing these issues to the Commission's attention. He said he would bring these issues to STEVE GLIMP'S, Park Maintenance Manager, and COUNCILWOMAN ALLEN-PALENSKE'S attention to see if park allocation funding could be sent to Mountain Ridge Park.

12. **Adjournment**

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Brian Carroll, Deputy City Clerk



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
The Nevada Public Notice website – notice.nv.gov
City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor