



Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. and asked for the Roll Call.

PRESENT: ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL and COMMISSIONERS BRYAN, ARNOLD, BROWN, HELTON, SINNOCK, MOWBRAY, TRUESDELL, BRANDENBURG, MILLS and PRATO

EXCUSED: CHAIR GOODMAN and COMMISSIONERS COFFIN, CREAR and DIAZ

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

ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL announced that CHAIR GOODMAN was excused from the meeting.

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 January 23, 2023

Minutes:

ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL called for a motion.

Motion made by Richard Bryan to Approve

Passed For: 11; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 4

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

5. Report by City of Las Vegas Finance Department staff regarding the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial budget for Fiscal Year 2023

Minutes:

KATHY NGHE, Financial Analyst II, distributed the Statement of Activities to the Commissioners, a copy of which was submitted for the record, as well as a copy of the Active Vehicle and Motorcycle Special Plates Abstract. She provided the budget report as of February 2023, with approximated revenues of \$911,000, grant expenditures of \$817,000, administrative expenditures of \$29,000 and an increase of \$64,000, leaving \$6.6 million in net assets.

ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL confirmed with MS. NGHE a remaining balance of \$6.6 million, including \$500,000 in set-aside funding. Regarding the Centennial special plate, MS. NGHE added that sales were still holding steady at an average of 25 percent. COMMISSIONER HELTON noted that this is despite plate sales for the Las Vegas Raiders and the Las Vegas Golden Knights.

6. **22-0629-CLC1 - ABEYANCE ITEM** - Discussion for possible action regarding approval of a grant request for \$50,000 by Quiet Film for the costs associated with the production of a film highlighting the history of the downtown comedy club entertainment experience in Las Vegas, and authorizing the President to execute the Grant Agreement as approved by the City Attorney - All Wards

Minutes:

ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL said the applicant requested withdrawal.

Motion made by Kevin Mills to Withdraw without prejudice

Passed For: 11; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 4

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

7. **23-0004-CLC1 - ABEYANCE ITEM** - Final report by Kevin Buckley, Chairman from Old Time Reunion, regarding the completion of the 2022 Old Time Reunion event, funded by the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial

Minutes:

ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL announced that the applicant was unable to attend this meeting; therefore, the item had to be held in abeyance to the next meeting.

Motion made by Ric Truesdell to Hold in Abeyance to 5/22/2023

Passed For: 11; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 4

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

8. **23-0136-CLC1** - Final report by staff from Nevada Preservation Foundation regarding the completion of the survey for the Biltmore Bungalows, roughly bounded by Washington Avenue and Bonanza Road on the north and south and North Main Street and North 9th Street on the west and east, funded by the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial - Ward 5 (Crear)

Minutes:

AMY RAYMER, Secretary, and MITCHELL COHEN, Member, Nevada Preservation Foundation (NPF) Board, were present. MS. RAYMER explained that MICHELLE LARIME, who was the contractor for the project, could not attend, so she would make the final report on MS. LARIME'S behalf with the use of a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record.

The scope of work included conducting an in-depth survey for the Biltmore Addition(s) neighborhood for the significance and eligibility for a national, state and/or city historic register. Additionally, there was an update of the Architectural Resource Assessment (ARA) forms to determine eligibility for nomination. They reviewed and updated previously researched context of the Biltmore neighborhood with the intent to augment what was

already available and not to find new information given that there were already two major reports available. The two resources are the Biltmore Homes Historic Resource Survey and Inventory from 2003 by COURTNEY MOONEY, and World War II (WWII) Era Residential Housing for Las Vegas from 2015 by GRETA J. RAYLE and HELANA RUTER, both of which allowed for additional context for the neighborhood.

In terms of the context of the neighborhood, during WWII, there was Basic Magnesium, Inc. (BMI) and the Las Vegas Army Air Force Gunnery School, aka Las Vegas Bombing and Gunnery Range, which was constructed to supply and support the war. Hence, Las Vegas became a critical employment center, causing a large increase in the population of about 35,000. This increase in population created the need for additional housing, leading to the construction of the Biltmore, Marycrest and Huntridge neighborhoods. The Federal Housing Administration (FHA), under President HERBERT HOOVER'S administration, started the support for housing construction and was supported subsequently by President FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT'S administration, so construction did not thrive until after the Great Depression and after WWII. With Las Vegas being designated a critical defense area in 1941, Title VI of the National Housing Act offered mortgage insurance for homes. Consequently, the three aforementioned neighborhoods were part of the Title VI funding for non-commissioned officers and civilian employees for the Gunnery Range and BMI.

As such, the FHA influenced the guidelines and required those neighborhoods to be constructed under their specifications. The Biltmore neighborhood definitely fits those guidelines because of its curvilinear streets, central traffic circulation and limited access from major thoroughfares. The majority of the houses fell into the classifications of Minimal Traditional style, small footprint, one-story, medium pitch side-gable roof, little to no overhang and simple. With WWII limitations on supplies, the homes had a utilitarian form. The era of Minimal Traditional style construction started in 1930 and through 1950. Many of the homes in the Biltmore neighborhood are still intact, and MS. RAYMER noted that the social history of the neighborhood was included in the report as well.

The majority of the homes fall under Criterion A for their association with events that made significant contributions to the history of the era, such as WWII housing, FHA development and Minimal Traditional style. Some homes fall under Criterion C for their architectural style, period, method of construction and keeping with the Minimal Traditional style. Page 45 of the report includes a detailed breakdown of the homes and their respective criteria.

Slide 6 (Methodology) depicted images of three homes within the Minimal Traditional style. On the left, the home is pristine, with the original windows, porch and roofline. In the middle, the home has been somewhat altered, with the original windows replaced and some siding. On the right, the home has been modified significantly, and the additions do not match its historical character. Although the Minimal Traditional style homes were built to have additions connected to their era, the alterations for this home do not match the general style of the era.

The period of significance for the Biltmore neighborhood was from 1941 to 1943, which is when the majority of construction took place, but there were fill-ins to the neighborhood pockets until 1950. The seven aspects of integrity include location, design, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling and association.

With respect to the findings, they started with 185 parcels and 179 of those were surveyed because some no longer exist. Six properties were eligible individually for contributing to the era, but 98 properties are eligible for contributing to the district. The total number of properties eligible for a nomination to the City of Las Vegas Historic Register is 110. As such, 53 percent of the surveyed properties are eligible for a historic district listing on the national and/or state registers of historic places, and 60 percent of the surveyed properties are eligible for a historic district listing on the Las Vegas Register of Historic Places.

The map on Slide 8 depicts the original Biltmore Addition and Annex Numbers 1 and 2, which are the main areas of focus. Annex Number 3, which is located across Las Vegas Boulevard, was altered significantly and, therefore, excluded from the report. Additionally, the homes to the south of Bonanza Road were not included because they are not indicative of the neighborhood and the general feel of the neighborhood given the mix of commercial properties.

Based on the survey analysis, MS. RAYMER said the NPF recommended determining if property owners in the neighborhood are interested in moving forward with seeking a historic designation, noting that some property owners have reached out to the NPF expressing interest in moving forward with a nomination.

ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL appreciated the detailed report. He asked about the legal value of a period of significance and wondered if it should be narrowed from 1941 to 1943. MS. RAYMER replied that the bulk of the homes were constructed from 1941 to 1947 and homes added after that were also constructed in the Minimal Traditional style. If there is a desire to tighten the era, Las Vegas was given funding because of the need for housing; however, she would follow up with MS. LARIME to ascertain that the bulk of the homes were constructed between 1941 and 1943.

ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL said that any interest in seeking historic designation would have to come from the homeowner; however, he observed that most of the homes are rentals. MS. RAYMER commented that the people who reached out with interest have parents who lived in the homes, so there may be some sentimental value, and added that the social history aspect could also be a determiner.

ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL asked if the survey would have to be done in person, to which MS. RAYMER replied that some aspects might have to be done in person. Additionally, the Acting Chair questioned the recommendation to redefine the historic boundaries, and MS. RAYMER explained that is because the area to the south of Bonanza Road does not fit the designation. The same applies to the area east of Las Vegas Boulevard because of the various types of homes that have been added.

DIANE SIEBRANDT, Executive Director of the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial, added that this report will be presented to the Historic Preservation Commission and staff will start working on scheduling neighborhood meetings.

ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL said the WWII report should be made into a book because it is a great read. MS. RAYMER said it is used as a major resource for the Home + History tours.

9. **23-0137-CLC1** - Final report by Patricia Cabrera, Enterprise Records Officer from the City of Las Vegas Office of the City Clerk, regarding the completion of the Archives and Records Center Digitization Project, funded by the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial - All Wards

Minutes:

DIANE SIEBRANDT, Executive Director of the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial, stated this project was long overdue.

PATRICIA CABRERA, Enterprise Records Officer from the City of Las Vegas Office of the City Clerk, reviewed a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record. She appreciated the grant awarded in July 2021 for \$105,317.60 to fund the digitizing of 183,679 images of City landscapes, employees, citizens, historic Nevada life, leadership, the Centennial, seals, sketches, stamps and events via newspaper clippings. The project was completed in January 2023 and despite digitizing more images than initially thought, there was a cost savings. A video was displayed, but a copy was not submitted for the record, of 69 digitized materials.

After the video was shown, MS. CABRERA spoke about the need to tell the City's story by adding context to the images. However, that will require involving experts and obtaining additional funding to help identify some of the people in the images and to make everything accessible to everyone. She asked for the Commission's guidance.

COMMISSIONER ARNOLD asked MS. CABRERA what access looks like to her and for how long, to which MS. CABRERA replied that part of the challenge is putting out the images with context, for which she will need experts because many of the images pre-date her.

ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL commented that the Las Vegas Review-Journal has put photos in their newspaper and asked the public to help identify the people/locations in those photos. He also thought the UNLV (University of Nevada, Las Vegas) Special Collections would be a good source of information. COMMISSIONER HELTON added that UNLV Special Collections helped with a digitizing project previously and with making the information

accessible. ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL agreed that they have been very proactive and helpful and have put the Commission's data online. However, he felt that a plan should be devised to help make the information useable.

MS. CABRERA said she would work with MS. SIEBRANDT. COMMISSIONER ARNOLD suggested conferring with UNLV about helping out, and the Commission could help with funding. ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL added that the Las Vegas News Bureau could be of some help as well.

MS. CABRERA appreciated the assistance of the Commission with the subject project.

See Item 13 for related discussion.

10. **23-0138-CLC1** - Report by the Community Development Department regarding an update on the Project Enchilada and Scenic Byway neon signs

Minutes:

DIANE SIEBRANDT, Executive Director of the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial, said she received a request for an update on signs this Commission has funded. Using a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, she explained that quite a few neon signs have been installed along the Las Vegas Boulevard Scenic Byway (Scenic Byway). The signs have been refurbished and some of the marquees are blank and the intent is to add messages such as "Welcome to Las Vegas" or "Drive Safely."

The sign most recently installed and funded by the Commission was the Par-A-Dice sign. Other signs funded by this Commission include the Apache Motel, Golden Inn Motel, Clark Inn Motel, Lone Pine Motel, Domino Motel, Fun City Motel and Rummel Motel. Images of the signs included for Project Enchilada were shown as well. Some of the signs had graffiti, and DTP Companies (DTP) will address it. All the signs have been illuminated.

ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL discussed with MS. SIEBRANDT that some of the signs' power source was damaged, but they are being fixed for relighting. All the signs on the Scenic Byway will be lit once street improvements are completed. The Acting Chair wondered if the messages on the signs could be regarding a historical event instead of a generic welcome message. MS. SIEBRANDT said she would have to confer with the Public Works Department about it.

COMMISSIONER HELTON asked how the rest of Project Enchilada was coming along, and MS. SIEBRANDT answered that only the signs fall under her purview. SETH FLOYD, Department of Community Development Director, said Phase One is complete, but he does not believe there is a plan for Phase Two, but he offered to get more information and report back. The Commissioner appreciated it.

COMMISSIONER BRYAN asked if there is a master plan to acquire more signs, as well as a funding source for them. MR. FLOYD said that most of the signs on the Scenic Byway are on loan from The Neon Museum and a few were donated and purchased as well. There is no master plan to acquire more signs. Signs are donated occasionally and refurbished with funding from the Commission. With respect to signs for the Scenic Byway project, there are a few more signs to be installed that are currently owned or have yet to be acquired through a loan agreement with The Neon Museum.

COMMISSIONER BRYAN wondered about the cost of sign maintenance, and MR. FLOYD replied that the Project Enchilada signs have to be maintained by the owner for 10 years, as part of a maintenance agreement clause. The Scenic Byway signs' maintenance is included with the ongoing maintenance of the Scenic Byway. Some of the maintenance can be done in-house, but some work will have to be done by sign professionals.

ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL discussed with MS. SIEBRANDT that the Safari Motel is not a part of this report but the project is in progress.

With some of the signs under DTP ownership and the pending sale of some of their properties, COMMISSIONER ARNOLD wondered what would happen. MS. SIEBRANDT informed him that the signs have to be maintained even if they are sold, in accordance with the maintenance agreement, which is separate from the actual grant agreement for the signs. The Commissioner said he wanted to make sure

there is a level of comfort with the maintenance of those signs should the properties sell. MS. SIEBRANDT said the agreement covers all the signs, and MR. FLOYD added that the agreement continues even after being sold, and the new owner will be made aware of the agreement. With regard to the redevelopment of any property, MR. FLOYD advised the Commissioner that he would have to research what would happen to the sign. ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL noted that all signs funded by the Commission should be included.

11. **23-0139-CLC1** - Discussion for possible action regarding approval of Contract Number 230126-DG in the amount of \$290,598 to Boyd Productions to produce the next installment of the documentary film series, The City of Las Vegas: The Sixties, covering the years 1960-1969, and authorizing the President to execute the Contract as approved by the City Attorney - All Wards

Minutes:

ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL said the funding was approved. DIANE SIEBRANDT, Executive Director of the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial, said the contract should be approved to move forward with the proper signatures.

After the vote, COMMISSIONER BRYAN asked if Boyd Productions has been responsive to the Commission's concerns. ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL replied that they have worked well with the working committee that is reviewing the scripts, noting that the focus is on the City of Las Vegas.

Motion made by Hugh Sinnock to Approve

Passed For: 11; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 4

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

12. **23-0140-CLC1** - Discussion regarding funding the Las Vegas Days Rodeo for two to three years

Minutes:

In the absence of COMMISSIONER CREAR, ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL asked for abeyance of this item.

Motion made by Kevin Mills to Hold in Abeyance to 5/22/2023

Passed For: 11; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 4

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

13. **23-0141-CLC1** - Report by Diane Siebrandt, Executive Director of the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial, regarding completed and current projects and announcements relative to the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial

Minutes:

DIANE SIEBRANDT, Executive Director of the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial, said she received two thank-you notes from two UNLV (University of Nevada, Las Vegas) students working on the Oral History Project for Asian American and Pacific Islanders. They were very grateful for the opportunity to be involved in the project, which they could not have done without the grant support of the Commission.

MS. SIEBRANDT then reviewed the projects using a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, and said that all projects are in progress. She reminded the Commissioners that Home + History 2023 is scheduled for April 27-30. The City of Las Vegas: The Sixties (Part VI) can go into production given the contract was approved.

Regarding COMMISSIONER CREAR'S query at the last meeting about having the Commission-funded documentary films available on the City's website, MS. SIEBRANDT commented that they are available by searching for history on www.lasvegasnevada.gov. The films are added upon their release. She is tracking down all films funded by the Commission before she joined the City to make them available as well.

The Helldorado Days Parade is scheduled for May 13, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and the Commissioners are invited to ride on the Big Red Fire Truck. The film premiere of the City of Las Vegas: The Fifties will take place the same day, with the reception starting at 6:00 p.m. and the film showing at 7:15 p.m. at the Beverly Theater.

ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL discussed with MS. SIEBRANDT that the thank-you postcard, a copy of which was not submitted for the record, the Commissioners received was from JIM ZELLMER, who previously gave a presentation about an iPhone app project. The Acting Chair added that there still may be an opportunity to create an app, and MS. SIEBRANDT noted that she is working with the Office of Communications as well. COMMISSIONER ARNOLD asked MS. SIEBRANDT to work with the Office of Communications about having a separate web page to simplify searches for historical information. MS. SIEBRANDT said she has been conferring with the Office of Communications, but she would have someone give a report. The Commissioner said the current link gives access to a list of members.

MS. SIEBRANDT asked that the Commissioners fill out and submit to her office the contact information form, noting that personal information is not necessary.

COMMISSIONER SINNOCK suggested using some of the Commission's funds for projects to help the community. ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL said that the topic was discussed previously, and COMMISSIONER HELTON interjected that the Commission should come up with ideas for projects to fund instead of waiting for grant applications. She said they might need to schedule a strategic planning session or create a strategic working group to discuss how to spend some of the money. SETH FLOYD, Department of Community Development Director, commented that the Commission is limited to funding projects that commemorate or preserve the history of the city, such as the digitizing project discussed under Item 9. Staff has some ideas they will frame for a future discussion item.

14. **23-0142-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:

COMMISSIONER BRANDENBURG supported ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL'S idea of being more proactive and identifying meaningful historical opportunities, and he asked that DIANE SIEBRANDT, Executive Director of the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial, help with creating a process to identify projects and tell some of the stories that have yet to be told. The Acting Chair said there have been some great projects funded by this Commission, but staff needs topics to place on a future agenda for discussion.

COMMISSIONER HELTON said they should establish a strategic planning committee to discuss and generate ideas. Under the previous plan, they were looking at ways to be more proactive and ways to designate money, which is how they came up with the idea for the documentary films. ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL stated that they probably need an agenda item to form a working group to discuss the distribution and promotion of funding from the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial and to get volunteers. CHIEF DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY VAL STEED asked for the distinction between a working group and a committee, and the Acting Chair said the difference is that the working group will not meet but submit comments and ideas to the Historic Preservation Officer to put together a report.

COMMISSIONER ARNOLD said it would be nice to have an item to discuss the Commission having its own web page for all the projects they have funded.

15. **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:

SETH FLOYD, Department of Community Development Director, confirmed for the Commissioners that Project Enchilada is closed out and complete, and there is no plan for phase two. With respect to the maintenance of the signs, DTP Companies (DTP) is responsible, and the agreement has a clause for seven years, with a three-year option. Regarding the sale of any property, he would have to research what would happen with the signs. ACTING CHAIR STOLDAL thought the agreement included language about the City having first right of refusal, which MR. FLOYD believes is in the grant agreement, not the maintenance agreement. COMMISSIONER ARNOLD asked when the maintenance agreement expires and how maintenance is tracked, to which MR. FLOYD replied that the agreement was signed in February 2019. DIANE SIEBRANDT, Executive Director of the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial, added that DTP provides proof of maintenance invoices to the Public Works Department for reimbursement. After the maintenance term and funding expire, DTP will be responsible for the maintenance of the signs.

16. **Adjournment**

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 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
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