



Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

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

PRESENT: CHAIR BECKER and COMMISSIONERS NEIGER, McCURDY (excused from 4:11 p.m. to 4:18 p.m.), ARMENIAN, GEBRE, BRIARE, HOWARD, KELLER (via teleconference), JOHNSON, MARTIN (via teleconference), BURGOS, and CORNWELL

EXCUSED: COMMISSIONERS SHERMAN, ASSELIN, and ZAMORA

ALSO PRESENT: Steve Glimp, Park Maintenance Manager; 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; 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:

CHAIR BECKER welcomed COMMISSIONER CORNWELL to the Commission as the Mayor's appointment, noting that she has volunteered at the Las Vegas Healing Garden since its inception. The Commissioner stated that she retired after working 32.5 years as a Las Vegas school bus driver. She said she rides horses, loves children and seniors, and hoped to help in any way she can on this Commission.

4. For possible action to approve the Final Minutes by reference of the Regular Meeting of May 2, 2023

Motion made by William McCurdy to Approve

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

For-William McCurdy, Adroushan Armenian, Richard Becker, Elizabeth Gebre, Steven Neiger, Bob Briare, Melody Howard, Micaela Keller, Almendra Johnson, Russell Martin, Debra Burgos, Sue Ann Cornwell;
Excused-Lisa Sherman, Audrey Asselin, Rudy Zamora;

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 (DPS), provided statistics from the May Deputy

City Marshals Report, a copy of which was submitted for the record. He read park arrest, citation, and dispatched calls for service statistics and top arrest locations for each ward from the report. He explained that dispatched calls for service might result in an arrest by City Marshals or proven to be unfounded. The Lieutenant advised that one trailer camera was deployed to Lorenzi Park from Howard Lieburn Active Adult Center, and a second trailer camera was moved to Bettye Wilson Soccer Complex from Gary Reese Freedom Park to monitor end-of-school activities. He stated there were auto burglaries in November at Bill Briare Park, and an arrest was made in May by Criminal Investigative Detectives for a subject committing an auto burglary and 33 credit card charge violations. Lastly, LIEUTENANT GUILLEN listed Community-Oriented Policing Events from the presentation.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY expressed concern that drugs were being sold and people were camping at Lubertha Johnson Park, and he worried that the City could be held liable since State Law requires marijuana to be consumed at home and not in public places. He asked for additional patrols there and at Doolittle Complex. LIEUTENANT GUILLEN said he would bring the Commissioner's concerns to the Department and research those violations.

CHAIR BECKER advised that COUNCILWOMAN VICTORIA SEAMAN would provide a presentation on human trafficking on June 16th, and he questioned if human trafficking occurred in City parks. LIEUTENANT GUILLEN explained that may be encountered by Marshals in the tourist corridor, and they would rely on Metro (Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department) Detectives to provide guidance.

6. Presentation by Rachel Bergren, Executive Director of Get Outdoors Nevada, regarding upcoming projects and program information – All Wards

Minutes:

RACHEL BERGREN, Executive Director of Get Outdoors Nevada, appeared with MIHAELA GENOVA, Volunteer Program Manager, and CHERESA TAING, Education Program Manager, to describe how Get Outdoors Nevada collaborates with the Parks and Recreation Division to service the community. MS. BERGREN utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to explain that their mission is to inspire people to get outdoors. She said they have a formal partnership with the City through a contractual agreement, and she noted that annual obligations involve hosting events, building a native pollinator habitat garden, and providing youth programs. She listed estimated program impacts from the presentation, which included hosting 21 education programs, planting 57 trees, and providing around 1,800 volunteer hours.

MS. TAING stated that she has worked with Get Outdoors Nevada for around eight years. She advised that the Meet Your Mojave program is provided to schools and community centers to connect youth with the local environment, and she explained that Get Outdoors Nevada funds transportation through partnership with the City. She noted that children were taught camping tips at Cimarron Rose Community Center last year, and children would be taken to Willow Beach on motorized rafts with Hoover Dam Rafting Adventures. The Native Habitat program creates urban restoration projects throughout the city, which provides milkweed and other plants for pollinating insects. MS. TAING said native plants help with water conservation and the program helps reduce the urban heat island effect. She clarified that a youth program for children with cognitive or physical disabilities would be held at Dula Community Center in partnership with the Adaptive Recreation program, and the program will include field trips to public lands and museums. She stated that a habitat was installed in the Medical District with assistance from 60 volunteers from various organizations, and she said the community asked for additional events.

MS. GENOVA advised that the volunteer program encompasses cleanup events at parks and trails and beautification projects to paint tables and perform park maintenance. The V.I.P. (Volunteers in Parks) program hosts popular tree planting events that allow volunteers to connect with the outdoors. She provided program impact statistics for each ward and the Las Vegas Healing Garden from the presentation, noting there will be a youth program held at Cimarron Rose Community Center. She said Volunteer Appreciation Day would be held on June 10th to provide breakfast and giveaways to volunteers. MS. GENOVA explained that Get Outdoors Nevada's value to the community was \$56,969, based on volunteer hours valued at \$31.80 per hour.

COMMISSIONER KELLER said she participated with her children at multiple events with Get Outdoors Nevada. She expressed excitement for the youth programs and questioned if younger age groups would be targeted. MS. TAING stated that early childhood development programs were included in the Meet Your Mojave

curricula and provided to community centers and preschools. She advised that they provide programs to Clark County community centers and the Clark County School District. Lastly, she noted that the Families in Nature program brings families to public lands and had been held at Winchester Dondero Cultural Center. MS. BERGREN added that they also provide early childhood programs to the library district (Las Vegas-Clark County Library District), and she agreed that it was important to teach children about the environment at a young age.

COMMISSIONER GEBRE reported that she attended a volunteer cleanup event at Lorenzi Park last year with COMMISSIONER JOHNSON. She confirmed with MS. BERGREN that Volunteer Appreciation Day would be held on June 10th from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at Floyd Lamb Park. MS. BERGREN noted that a fishing derby would take place in a separate area of the park. She thanked COMMISSIONER JOHNSON for her service with Get Outdoors Nevada, stating that the Commissioner led many programs during her tenure.

In response to COMMISSIONER CORNWELL, MS. GENOVA explained that all events were posted on the calendar in their monthly newsletter and on their website and social media. MS. BERGREN advised that City Councilmembers and other partners also help promote the events.

CHAIR BECKER said their website was easy to navigate and they recently collaborated with the Las Vegas Aviators. MS. BERGREN explained that they met people that were enthusiastic about public lands and hoped they would volunteer in the future. The Chair requested the presentation so it could be shared with Councilmembers.

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, and he listed completed projects from the report. He stated that new play surfaces were installed for the playground, rock climbing wall, and swings at Charleston Neighborhood Preservation Park. Stairs and other accessibility improvements were completed at Charlie Kellogg and Joe Zaher Sports Complex, and curbing will be installed on the north and south ends of each soccer field. Existing features were repainted and a mini ramp was added to the skate park at Gary Reese Freedom Park, and a new baseball warm-up area was added with a retaining wall at Majestic Park. Regarding projects in progress, MR. GLIMP reported that the butterfly shades at Centennial Hills Park had been refabricated from fabric to metal and will be reinstalled in the coming weeks. He explained that park tours were recently held for Ward 1 parks, and he said everyone that attended was happy with park conditions. Lastly, he thanked all Commissioners that attended the tree nursery tour.

CHAIR BECKER confirmed with MR. GLIMP that Majestic Park's warm-up area was on the upper fields near fields three and four.

COMMISSIONER GEBRE questioned when a second tree nursery tour was planned, and MR. GLIMP responded in the fall. CHAIR BECKER stated that he learned the City plants an average of 1,000 trees per year and nearly all are raised from seeds and saplings. He said the chief farm homes around 2,800 trees, and he was impressed by the diversity of trees being grown. He noted that drought-resistant trees reduce the carbon footprint and shade the city. Lastly, the Chair thanked MR. GLIMP and BRAD DASELER, Urban Forester, for their hard work.

COMMISSIONER McCURDY expressed concern regarding the homeless population and cleanliness at Lubertha Johnson Park and Doolittle Complex. MR. GLIMP said he would direct staff to report any illicit activities.

8. Report by Steve Glimp, Park Maintenance Manager, regarding emerging issues related to activities of the Parks and Recreation Division – All Wards

Minutes:

STEVE GLIMP, Park Maintenance Manager, advised that STEVE FORD, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, was out of the office and department goals would be discussed at the next meeting. A video was displayed to provide information on what the Department does, which can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1MRAXlc6Qy4>.

COMMISSIONER BURGOS thanked MR. GLIMP for providing a tour of the tree facility. She expressed appreciation towards him and BRAD DASELER, Urban Forester, for introducing new tree species to the area and growing them from seeds.

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

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER McCURDY announced that 14 people were inducted into the Historic Westside Legacy Park on June 3rd, and a portion of the park was renamed after former City Councilman and Clark County Commissioner DR. LAWRENCE WEEKLY.

COMMISSIONER BURGOS reported that a 4th of July celebration would take place at Floyd Lamb Park in conjunction with Ward 4. The event will be open to the public and include a DJ (disc jockey), food trucks, and other activities. A fishing derby will begin at 7:30 a.m. on June 10th. The Commissioner stated that outdoor recreation was very important, and she thanked Get Outdoors Nevada for their work and upcoming volunteer appreciation event.

COMMISSIONER ARMENIAN advised that he toured the tree farm and was highly impressed. He suggested organizing additional group events to better understand the Division's work. CHAIR BECKER said he wanted the Board to be more active and engaged.

The Chair announced that COUNCILWOMAN VICTORIA SEAMAN will host Breakfast Buzz on June 10th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and a Public Safety Town Hall on June 28th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Community Center located at 101 Pavilion Center Drive. To RSVP, contact Ward2@LasVegasNevada.gov. Art in the Park will be held on September 30th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Bruce Trent Park.

10. **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:

CHAIR BECKER stated that June 6th is the anniversary of D-Day, which he explained involved more than 160,000 Allied troops landing along the French coastline to begin the liberation of France from Nazi Germany in 1944 (sic). He also said former Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Chair MALCOLM WHITE recently passed away unexpectedly, and he asked the Commissioners for 15 seconds of silence.

11. **Adjournment**

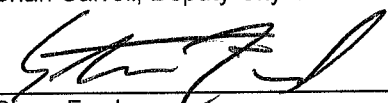
Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:54 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