



## Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Minutes

### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

CHAIR BECKER called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR BECKER and COMMISSIONERS NEIGER, ARMENIAN, BRIARE, ASSELIN, JOHNSON, MARTIN, ZAMORA, BURGOS, and CORNWELL

EXCUSED: COMMISSIONERS SHERMAN, McCURDY, GEBRE, HOWARD, and KELLER

ALSO PRESENT: STEVE FORD, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs; MAGGIE PLASTER, Deputy Cultural Affairs Director; 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:

STEVE FORD, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, advised that he had to attend a community meeting regarding the Bettye Wilson Soccer Complex. He said he would soon be ratified as a Deputy City Manager, and the Director position would be recruited in the coming weeks. He stated that MAGGIE PLASTER, Deputy Cultural Affairs Director, would serve as Acting Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs for now, and PATRICK O'MARA would join the City as Deputy Parks and Recreation Director in October. MR. FORD felt honored to serve as Director and work with the Commission, and he noted he would still be involved with the Department.

CHAIR BECKER thanked MR. FORD for his work and said he did a wonderful job.

### 4. For possible action to approve the Final Minutes by reference of the Regular Meeting of August 1, 2023

Motion made by Russell Martin to Approve

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

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

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 August 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 advised that trailer cameras were deployed at Majestic Park and near Charlie Kellogg Joe Zaher Sports Complex at Fire Station 44. Lastly, the Lieutenant listed Community-Oriented Policing events from the presentation.

COMMISSIONER BURGOS noted an incident at Floyd Lamb Park at Tule Springs regarding someone in mental distress, and she asked how those types of calls were handled. LIEUTENANT GUILLEN advised that two units are generally dispatched and noted that several Marshals are CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) trained through Metro (Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department). He said arriving officers will contain the scene and alert a specialized medical team to remain nearby. He stated that people suffering from illness can admit themselves to a hospital or officers can use Legal 2000 if they pose a threat to themselves or others. The Commissioner questioned if there was a protocol for park staff, and the Lieutenant recommended they call the dispatch number. CHAIR BECKER said he would call dispatch and then alert park staff. STEVE GLIMP, Park Maintenance Manager, clarified that City staff is directed to contact DPS in those situations.

COMMISSIONER CORNWELL wondered how often Marshals were called to lock gates at the Las Vegas Community Healing Garden. She noted that a company is paid for that service, and she asked LIEUTENANT GUILLEN to track that information. The Lieutenant stated that they receive reports from the company, and he said the reports could be audited to ensure the gates are being locked at the appropriate time.

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, and he listed completed projects from the report. He stated that the statue base at Ansan Sister City Park was reconstructed due to consistent vandalization. Ball field improvements were ongoing at Majestic Park, which include a new batting cage, expanded bleacher seating, and user-friendly bullpens with artificial turf. MR. GLIMP displayed photos of storm damage at Charlie Kellogg and Joe Zaher Sports Complex, Centennial Hills Park, Sunny Springs Park, and Mayfair Park.

COMMISSIONER NEIGER questioned if there was insurance or contingency funding to repair storm damage. MR. GLIMP explained that City staff acted as a storm response crew that cleaned the parks in worst- to least-affected order.

7. Report by Joyce Barrow-Henderson, Recreation Supervisor, regarding an update on Summer Camp 2023 – All Wards

Minutes:

JOYCE BARROW-HENDERSON, Recreation Supervisor, stated that she previously worked as a Summer Camp Counselor at Doolittle Community Center. She utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to report that this year's summer camp theme was A Storybook Summer, noting that Mirabelli Community Center was converted to Willy Wonka's chocolate factory. Summer camp had 1,662 participants this year and field trips included scuba diving and helicopter rides. MS. BARROW-HENDERSON explained that all Camp Kindness participants sign the Kindness Pledge, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to learn and potentially earn armbands showing various attributes of kindness. She advised that day camps were different from traditional residential camps since participants do not stay overnight, and she listed age-grouped camps from the presentation. She believed that the CIT (Counselor-in-Training) Program and Teen Adventure Camp were overlooked by parents, and she said teenage participants develop confidence after experiencing camp events. Further, CIT participants need to create an application and submit timecards.

Videos were displayed showing an update from previous summer camp participants and images from summer camp, which were not submitted for the record.

COMMISSIONER BURGOS appreciated the presentation and thanked MS. BARROW-HENDERSON and her team for their work. The Commissioner questioned if children with disabilities could attend this camp or if there was a separate camp for them. MS. BARROW-HENDERSON responded both and clarified that every summer camp and recreation center had children with disabilities. She noted that City staff is trained in CPI (Crisis Prevention Intervention) and behavior modification, and she believed inclusion is key.

COMMISSIONER MARTIN noticed that equity was on one of the armbands, and he wondered why equality was not used. MS. BARROW-HENDERSON stated that equality was used last year and armbands are often changed to teach children new words. The Commissioner questioned if children knew the difference between equality and equity. MS. BARROW-HENDERSON responded in the affirmative and explained there is a weekly curriculum with videos.

COMMISSIONER CORNWELL asked how the program is presented to the public. MS. BARROW-HENDERSON said marketing is performed and all but three community centers were at maximum capacity. Further, she noted there were 64 children on the waiting list for Cimarron Rose Community Center. The Commissioner wondered if summer camp participants could be taken to schools to get the word out, and MS. BARROW-HENDERSON loved the idea.

CHAIR BECKER appreciated the diverse activities in the summer camp program and commended MS. BARROW-HENDERSON for the presentation. The Chair noted that his son participated in City of Henderson's CIT Program and worked for them before going to college.

8. Report by Cory Goble, Senior Cultural Specialist, regarding an update on Cultural Festivals – All Wards

Minutes:

CORY GOBLE, Senior Cultural Specialist, narrated from a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, regarding upcoming cultural festivals occurring between October 21, 2023 and June 22, 2024. He stated that all festival tickets were free of charge except for the Django Vegas Jazz Festival, which costs \$25 per ticket. He explained that school groups with folklorico or mariachi programs are asked to perform at the Tamale and Mariachi Festival, and he noted that community organizations are invited each year to create an ofrenda for the Dia de los Muertos Festival. MR. GOBLE advised that the Raow Raow Earth Day Celebration and Caribbean Heritage Festival are new festivals occurring at the Sammy Davis, Jr. Festival Plaza at Lorenzi Park, and he said the Las Vegas Bluegrass Festival will take place at Centennial Hills Park.

CHAIR BECKER confirmed with MR. GOBLE that the City partnered with the upcoming Summerlin Festival of Arts. The Chair looked forward to the Las Vegas Book Festival and noted that he would have a booth as an author.

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:

MAGGIE PLASTER, Deputy Cultural Affairs Director, stated there was no report for emerging issues.

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

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER BURGOS announced that the Las Vegas Metro Townhall will be hosted by COUNCILWOMEN FRANCIS ALLEN-PALENSKE and NANCY BRUNE alongside special guest SHERIFF KEVIN McMAHILL on September 12th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Academy located at 9880 West Cheyenne Avenue. The Free Parks for Pollinators City of Las Vegas BioBlitz Event welcomes nature enthusiasts on September 16th to explore Floyd Lamb Park at Tule Springs to identify plants, animals, and insects vital to the local ecosystem. Visit <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/parks-for->

pollinators-2023-city-of-las-vegas-bioblitz for more information. An Evening With The Phantom and The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber will be held at the Centennial Hills Amphitheater located at 7101 North Buffalo Drive on September 23rd at 7:00 p.m.

CHAIR BECKER advised that the Las Vegas Ten-13 Club memorial for the victims of 9/11 will be held on September 11th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and COUNCILWOMAN VICTORIA SEAMAN will host Breakfast Buzz from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at Police Memorial Park located at 3250 Metro Academy Way. 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, and the Chair said they were still looking for artists to participate.

COMMISSIONER CORNWELL said names will be read at the Las Vegas Community Healing Garden on October 1st at 10:05 a.m.

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:

COMMISSIONER ARMENIAN congratulated CHAIR BECKER for the publication of his latest book, Third Wheel.

The Chair advised that this would be COMMISSIONER BRIARE'S last Commission meeting. The Commissioner explained that he will move to Reno, Nevada after 61 years as a resident of Las Vegas. He felt honored to serve on the Commission, and he expressed appreciation for the City's professionalism.

Lastly, CHAIR BECKER provided an update on the plaque and tree that will be donated on behalf of former Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Chair MALCOLM WHITE. The Chair advised that COMMISSIONER ARMENIAN contacted MR. WHITE'S family to select a park location, and City staff will update the Commissioners where the plaque will be installed.

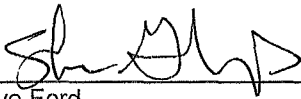
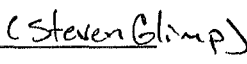
12. **Adjournment**

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

  
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Brian Carroll, Deputy City Clerk

  
FOR  (Steven Glimp)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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