



Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

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

PRESENT: VICE CHAIR NEIGER and COMMISSIONERS SHERMAN (via teleconference), ARMENIAN (excused until 4:03 p.m.), HOWARD, KELLER, MARTIN, ZAMORA (via teleconference), BURGOS, ROBINSON, STITT (excused until 4:03 p.m.), and VOKITS

EXCUSED: CHAIR BECKER and COMMISSIONERS GEBRE and CORNWELL

ALSO PRESENT: PATRICK O'MARA, Deputy Parks and Recreation Director; STEVE GLIMP, Parks and Grounds Maintenance Manager; ERIN RADKE, Recreation Manager; ASHLEY FOSTER, Administrative Secretary; JOHN RIDILLA, Assistant City Attorney; BRIAN CARROLL, Senior Deputy City Clerk; and SAMANTHA DINICOLA, 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:

VICE CHAIR NEIGER welcomed COMMISSIONER VOKITS to the Commission. The Commissioner said he has lived in Las Vegas for over 60 years and was happy to see the city's growth. He previously served on the board of Southern Nevada Pickleball and tries to recreate weekly.

4. For possible action to approve the Final Minutes by reference of the Regular Meeting of March 5, 2024

Motion made by Melody Howard to Approve

NOTE: Commissioner Martin abstained from voting on this item, as he was not present at that meeting.

Passed For: 10; Against: 0; Abstain: 1; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 3

For-Lisa Sherman, Adroushan Armenian, Steven Neiger, Melody Howard, Micaela Keller, Rudy Zamora, Debra Burgos, Bob Robinson, Earl Stitt, Brien Vokits; Abstain-Russell Martin; Excused-Richard Becker, Elizabeth Gebre, Sue Ann Cornwell;

5. Report by the Department of Public Safety regarding issues at City facilities and parks – All Wards

Minutes:

LIEUTENANT TONY KUMAMARU, 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 dispatched calls for service statistics and top arrest locations for each ward from the report. He advised that a citation for reckless driving at Police Memorial Park was caused by juveniles that lost control of their vehicle while attempting to car surf. The Lieutenant stated that trailer cameras were deployed at Kianga Isoke Palacio Park at Doolittle Complex in response to crime in the area and DTC lot due to auto burglaries. Lastly, he listed Community-Oriented Policing events from the presentation.

COMMISSIONER KELLER noticed there were many park violations in Ward 3, and she asked if any particular violation stood out. LIEUTENANT KUMAMARU explained that park violations encompass many violations, such as driving on sidewalks and improper use of picnic tables. He noted there is a large unhoused population within Ward 3, and he classified the violations as non-violent nuisance violations.

COMMISSIONER SHERMAN questioned if adequate signage was displayed with contact information for City Marshals. The Lieutenant advised that park rules signs have their contact information, and he encouraged the public to contact 911 for emergency situations.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON asked how lodging without consent is established, noting that he viewed people using Gary Dexter Park that appeared to be homeless. LIEUTENANT KUMAMARU said people with a picnic blanket or bike using a park would be considered as normal use, while people observed using a park for extended periods of time with a large quantity of items may be considered lodging.

COMMISSIONER ARMENIAN confirmed with the Lieutenant there are around 90 uniformed patrol Marshals.

VICE CHAIR NEIGER believed having statistics helped bring support from the public, and he wondered if calls related to the unhoused population were tracked. LIEUTENANT KUMAMARU noted that one metric they track is people unable to provide a physical address. He stated that he worked with the MORE (Multi-Agency Outreach Resource Engagement) Team, and he said around 80 percent of the unhoused population was homeless by choice. He advised that Marshals offer services to everyone they contact, and he believed there needs to be a willingness to use the services.

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

Minutes:

STEVE GLIMP, Parks and Grounds 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 projects from the report, noting that BBQ (barbecue) replacements at Charlie Kellogg and Joe Zaher Sports Complex and restroom paneling repair at Baker Park were delayed due to supply chain issues.

COMMISSIONER SHERMAN advised that the shrubbery around dog waste baskets at Angel Park was overgrown, and she wondered if that would be addressed for older parks. MR. GLIMP said those types of issues are identified and handled through park inspections.

7. Report by Erin Radke, Recreation Manager, regarding recreation and center updates – All Wards

Minutes:

ERIN RADKE, Recreation Manager, utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to report on emerging trends, facility updates and events. She displayed photos showing a new sculpture installed near the historical mural at the Municipal Pool, noting that it will be on display for one year. She advised that doors at the pool were being replaced due to rust from humidity. She stated that the front desk renovation had been completed at Veterans Memorial Community Center, and the bathroom upgrades were in progress. MS. RADKE said active adult activities included hiking events and a St. Patrick's Day luncheon, and she noted that a bus trip to Logandale for the Clark County Fair was scheduled on April 11th. She confirmed there were 55 teams competing in Corporate Challenge, and she displayed photos of several events from the

presentation. She advised that 415 children attended spring break camps at recreation centers, stating that an egg drop event was held at Doolittle Community Center and shamrock shakes were made at Veterans Memorial Community Center. MS. RADKE highlighted the Little Books Little Cooks program at Doolittle Community Center where children learned about healthy food options and engaged in cooking activities. The 1st Birthday Party for Becker Technology Center exposed children to coding classes and technology programs, and the Becker Program Pass was announced at the event that allows pass holders to attend numerous classes for \$35 per month. She noted that DPS (Department of Public Safety) officers attend MSU (Municipal Sports Unit) games, and she advised that a shooting occurred at Kianga Isoke Palacio Park at Doolittle Complex. MS. RADKE said active shooter training will be provided to City staff at MSU and Dula Community Center on April 24th, and she hoped active shooter drills would be held annually at schools.

Regarding engagement at Becker Technology Center, VICE CHAIR NEIGER confirmed with MS. RADKE that some children attend through after-school programs provided by an NRPA (National Recreation and Park Association) grant. Further, MS. RADKE stated that financial aid is offered through HUD (United States Department of Housing and Urban Development), and FAF (Federal Student Aid) funds can be used towards the cost of the program pass. She said crime had gone down in the area, and she believed the center's tucked away location contributed to lower engagement.

COMMISSIONER KELLER requested an update on staffing lifeguards, noting it was a problem last year. MS. RADKE reported that hiring fairs will take place at Pavilion Center Pool and Municipal Pool. She advised that hotels offer competitive wages and benefits, while the City offers incentive plans and focuses recruiting efforts on schools. She wanted to be more involved on social media and contact retired individuals. Further, MS. RADKE said pool hours may be adjusted since they struggle to hire people interested in working 40-hour shifts. The Commissioner believed offering pools was important for the community.

COMMISSIONER VOKITS was happy to see Corporate Challenge return after COVID, and he wondered if it had enough resources. MS. RADKE said there would be a future presentation with statistics on Corporate Challenge after it completes.

8. Report by Steve Glimp, Parks and Grounds Maintenance Manager, and Brad Daseler, Urban Forester, on the tree and tree planting program – All Wards

Minutes:

BRAD DASELER, Urban Forester, utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to report that they partner with Get Outdoors Nevada to provide volunteers for park cleanup events. He displayed a list of parks where roughly 25 trees were planted, noting there was corporate involvement from Draft Kings and NV Energy, and he advised there would be tree planting events at Ansan Sister City Park on April 6th and Centennial Hills Park on Arbor Day. MR. DASELER stated that 200 volunteers helped plant 100 trees at All American Park during NFL (National Football League) Green Week. He said the Water Authority (Southern Nevada Water Authority) granted funding to ImpactNV for tree planting projects, and he listed parks from the presentation where trees will be planted. He noted that the Water Authority identified non-functional turf within parks, and he expected the turf conversions to complete before 2025. He reported that funding for the Urban Forestry Master Plan (Master Plan) was approved through the City Council, and he explained that the plan identifies community needs and sets goals for the urban forest. MR. DASELER said trees affect projects for several City departments, and he hoped the Master Plan would align department goals and increase communication. He stated that the last tree inventory was completed around 12 years ago, and he advised that the trees will be digitally inventoried and include tree size, health, and leaf surface area.

In response to COMMISSIONER BURGOS, MR. DASELER reported that they applied for a \$10 million grant through the Inflation Reduction Act to plant trees on private properties, noting the project will include planting a tree and five years of maintenance. He confirmed they were awarded \$5 million and were working with the federal government to finalize the proposal. The Commissioner asked how citizens will be selected, and MR. DASELER expected there to be a social media campaign. COMMISSIONER KELLER requested a timeline, which MR. DASELER was hesitant to provide and clarified that trees could not be planted until the fall.

COMMISSIONER HOWARD wondered how trees will be planted near parking lots to avoid roots lifting concrete. MR. DASELER advised that a root barrier is placed around the tree to drive roots downwards.

9. Update by Pat O'Mara, Deputy Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Director, regarding the W. Wayne Bunker Family Park Regional Pickleball Complex, located at 7351 West Alexander Road – Ward 4 (Allen-Palenske)

Minutes:

PAT O'MARA, Deputy Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Director, utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to display the site layout of the W. Wayne Bunker Family Park Pickleball Complex, which showed nearby County (Clark County) residents. He advised that the City Council approved purchasing the parcel in 2019, and the project was submitted for Round 18 SNPLMA (Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act) funding. He said a neighborhood meeting was held in November 2021, and the Planning Commission reviewed a sound study and unanimously approved the project on March 12th. MR. O'MARA stated that several adjustments were made to the site plan, which he displayed from the presentation, including changing the orientation of the parking lot, reducing the amount of courts from 30 to 24, and adding sound-attenuating walls. He noted that the City will provide street improvements for Constantinople Avenue, and no-parking signs added as requested by the nearby residents. Regarding the landscape plan, he advised there will be 123 trees, 797 shrubs, and 180 ground coverings. MR. O'MARA expected the City Council to review the plan on April 17th and construction to complete in 2026. He believed some courts would be used for competitions, tournaments, and free-play. Lastly, he advised that an administrative review will be held six months after the project is programmed, which will include an acoustical study.

COMMISSIONER STITT wondered if the western wall would have an opening for people to walk through, and MR. O'MARA hoped everyone will park within the project's parking lot. The Commissioner believed an appeal had been filed, to which MR. O'MARA and DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY JOHN RIDILLA were not aware of being filed.

In response to COMMISSIONER BURGOS, MR. O'MARA confirmed that everything will be built according to ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) specifications. COMMISSIONER VOKITS advised that wheelchair access requires a 10-foot clearance from the perimeter of the court, noting that championship courts provide that clearance and regular competition courts require seven feet from a barrier or fence. The Commissioner complimented the City for listening to community needs and making changes to the plan.

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

Minutes:

VICE CHAIR NEIGER said several Commissioners attended the memorial tree dedication for former Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Chair MALCOLM WHITE, and he expressed appreciation towards City staff for professionally handling the event. Further, he noted the tree was planted in the same park that MR. WHITE'S daughters played at as children. COMMISSIONER SHERMAN stated that MR. WHITE was formerly the Director of YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association) and was instrumental in planning the park where the tree was planted. She felt the tree was perfectly placed and thanked the City for the honorary tribute.

COMMISSIONER BURGOS said she attended the Spring Fling event and was happy to see community attendance. She advised that Jurassic World will be shown at Movie in the Park on April 5th at Knickerbocker Park, and the Las Vegas Bluegrass Festival will take place on April 13th at Centennial Hills Park.

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**

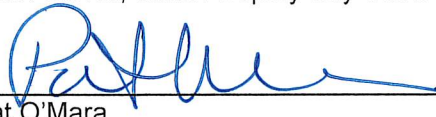
Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Brian Carroll, Senior Deputy City Clerk



Pat O'Mara
Deputy Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Director

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