



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, SHERMAN, HOWARD, KELLER (via teleconference), MARTIN, ZAMORA (via teleconference and excused at 5:05 p.m.), BURGOS, CORNWELL, ROBINSON, STITT, and VOKITS

EXCUSED: COMMISSIONERS ARMENIAN and GEBRE

ALSO PRESENT: PAT O'MARA, Deputy Parks and Recreation Director; ADRIAN MONTENEGRO, Facilities Project Manager; ERIN RADKE, Recreation Manager; ASHLEY FOSTER, Administrative Secretary; JIM LEWIS, Deputy City Attorney IV; and BRIAN CARROLL, Senior 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 advised that he had been away for a few months, noting he coaches softball at Doral Academy Red Rock and they placed fifth in State playoffs. Additionally, he shared photos of the tree planting event for MALCOLM WHITE at Durango Park on March 25th, which were submitted for the record. The Chair said MR. WHITE was a civic leader, mediator, and friend of parks, stating that several Commissioners attended the event.

4. For possible action to approve the Final Minutes by reference of the Regular Meeting of May 7, 2024

Motion made by Russell Martin to Approve

Passed For: 12; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 2

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

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 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 advised that trailer cameras at Kianga Isoke Palacio Park at Doolittle Complex were moved to Cashman Center in response to copper wire theft and vandalism, and an additional second trailer camera was moved from the City parking lot on 1st Street to Ron's Lot in response to illegal activities in the area. Lastly, the Lieutenant listed Community-Oriented policing events from the presentation.

6. Report by Adrian Montenegro, Facilities Project Manager, regarding park maintenance updates – All Wards

Minutes:

ADRIAN MONTENEGRO, Facilities Project 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 and in-progress projects from the report, noting that signs were placed at all regional parks to discourage wildlife feeding. He reported that new slats would be added to fence panels at Bob Baskin Park. Regarding W. Wayne Bunker Family Park, MR. MONTENEGRO advised that the parking lot had been resurfaced and the skate park had been painted and renovated.

COMMISSIONER SHERMAN noted the Commissioners previously held a lively discussion regarding birds and wildlife. She had seen Office of Communications' content on the television, and she thanked the Department for that.

COMMISSIONER CORNWELL wondered if any complaints had been received regarding Bradley Bridle (sic) Park, citing concerns about dying plants and a locked gate stopping early morning horse travel. MR. MONTENEGRO said he was not aware, and PAT O'MARA, Deputy Parks and Recreation Director, clarified that parks are open from dawn to dusk and stated that they would check on the locked gate.

Regarding park hours, COMMISSIONER MARTIN believed dog parks could be used after a park is closed during the summer, and he assumed that rule would apply for horses.

CHAIR BECKER said the mats in front of the pitching rubbers were coming up at Majestic Park, and he hoped that could be addressed before the upcoming recreation league. He did not believe the mats were ideal and created additional issues.

COMMISSIONER BURGOS requested an update on the adaptive equipment worth \$2 million that would be placed in parks, stating that a wheelchair swing had been broken for more than one year at Polly Gonzalez Memorial Park. MR. MONTENEGRO said all new purchased equipment includes adaptive features, and he clarified that the swing could be replaced with a newer design.

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 advised that City Marshals were attempting to retrieve items that had been stolen from Mirabelli Community Center in May, and she displayed photos showing upgraded restrooms at Veterans Memorial Community Center, which included smaller toilets for pre-school aged children. MS. RADKE displayed photos from the presentation of events held at active adult centers, noting that Doolittle Community Center held the Mother's Day Luncheon with 250 participants in collaboration with the County (Clark County). East Las Vegas Community Center held the 90-Plus Banquet with 50 participants and their guests, and she advised that NATE TANNENBAUM attended as an inspirational speaker. The Behind the Blue Pickleball Tournament at Durango Hills Park featured police officers, and the winners will play against Fire (Las Vegas Fire & Rescue) staff after their tournament.

Regarding Summer Camp 2024, MS. RADKE displayed photos of community center decorations based on this year's theme of Rocking Through Time. She said around 580 children, ages five to 11, were registered in Kids Camp, 155 children, ages 12 to 14, in Teen Camp, and 32 children, ages two to five, in Tots Camp. She noted that the camps hold weekly field trips and swimming events, and she confirmed that staff receives multiple training classes throughout the summer. She stated that the program is one of the largest recreation events

they operate, and she advised that some adaptive graduates had been hired by the City. MS. RADKE noted that MSU (Municipal Sports Unit) received the May SmartLab Award for increasing tournament permit applications by 50 percent and reducing paper printing by 87 percent. Lastly, she said an Aquatics hiring fair had been held and all pools were open, and she offered to provide updates on the upcoming wheelchair and international soccer tournaments.

CHAIR BECKER thanked COMMISSIONERS ROBINSON and VOKITS for serving as judges in the Camp Kindness Challenge on Thursday, and he noted that an additional Commissioner was needed.

8. Report by Savonta Manor, Recreation Supervisor, regarding 2024 Corporate Challenge – All Wards

Minutes:

SAVONTA MANOR, Recreation Supervisor, appeared with JENNIFER WINDER, Senior Inclusion Recreation Leader, and ANDREA ANZALONE, Adaptive Recreation Coordinator, and utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to provide an update on 2024 Corporate Challenge. MS. ANZALONE said she had overseen Corporate Challenge for 20 years, noting the City won for the first time in the event's 37-year history. She displayed a letter from the presentation showing the impact of Corporate Challenge on a spectator's life, and she stressed the importance of community. She advised that 55 teams participated in 36 sports that were offered, and she asked the Commissioners to share Corporate Challenge to increase awareness, noting that the Las Vegas Strip properties had not returned since COVID.

MR. MANOR displayed Community Partners that support Corporate Challenge from the presentation, which included Joe's Bar and Cimarron Memorial High School. He said Corporate Challenge generated \$114,000 in revenue and \$60,000 in expenditures, and he stated that nearly 10,000 people participated in the event. He advised that food trucks and new staff were added to Corporate Challenge, and he believed new staff provided a new outlook on the program. Regarding challenges, MR. MANOR said weather was an issue for outside events, noting that the opening ceremony had been canceled due to wind, and he planned to work with the IT (Innovation and Technology) Department to update the process for manual waiver forms. Lastly, he cited issues with program areas that had changed after being evaluated by staff.

MS. WINDER listed ideas for new games from the presentation, including Darts, Hockey, and Poker, and she said the Kids Challenge would allow children to compete. She wanted to begin marketing Corporate Challenge earlier to capture new companies, and she hoped to streamline the games and reduce staffing costs. Lastly, she displayed photos of different events from the presentation, stating that non-sporting events included Biggest Winner and Chess.

COMMISSIONER MARTIN advised that Nellis Air Force Base had previously participated in Corporate Challenge. MS. ANZALONE confirmed that she reached out to them around five years ago, noting they created internal games.

COMMISSIONER SHERMAN thanked staff for continuing Corporate Challenge. She asked if the expenditures included trophies or pins for participants. MS. ANZALONE clarified that the winning teams for each event receive plaques and the top three winners from each division receive trophies. The expenditures also include volunteer shirts and staffing costs. Further, she said the volunteer program was added to reduce staffing costs and allow participants to earn points for Corporate Challenge.

COMMISSIONER HOWARD confirmed with MS. ANZALONE that organizations do not need to participate in every event.

In response to COMMISSIONER BURGOS, MS. ANZALONE listed registration costs as \$2,600 for the A Division, \$2,300 for the B Division, and \$1,800 for the C Division, and she said there is a 10 percent discount for early registration. The Commissioner had formerly participated in Corporate Challenge, and she clarified with MS. ANZALONE that multiple companies may join as a single team.

COMMISSIONER VOKITS was glad to see Corporate Challenge return. He wondered if other communities had a similar event and questioned if Las Vegas finalists could challenge other communities. MS. ANZALONE advised that Corporate Challenge is the largest amateur sporting event offered in Southern Nevada. She said

the City began Corporate Challenge with nine events in 1985, stating that Kansas City began their event two years before the City.

CHAIR BECKER was introduced to Corporate Challenge when it was called Nevada Power, and he offered to speak with other organizations.

9. Discussion for possible action regarding the naming of a newly constructed park, located at 1393 South Rancho Drive – Ward 1 (Knudsen)

Minutes:

PAT O'MARA, Deputy Parks and Recreation Director, advised that the 1.4-acre parcel will have a two-cell dog park, shade structures, tables, pet-drinking stations, and public art. He utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to display survey response maps, suggested park names, and comments, noting that not all responses were within Ward 1. MR. O'MARA stated that the City has two standalone dog parks, which are whimsically named Barkin' Basin Park and Woofter Park.

COMMISSIONER SHERMAN expressed appreciation for the thorough report and community involvement. She said the dog park was close to MAYORS OSCAR and CAROLYN GOODMAN'S home, and she listed the career choices of the four adopted children that were raised at that location and also made such positive contributions to the Las Vegas community. The Commissioner believed the Goodman family should be honored by naming the park the Goodman Family Pawsitive Paws Park.

COMMISSIONER VOKITS thanked MR. O'MARA for conducting the survey. He appreciated the feedback from Ward 1 and opined that submissions with narratives should be given extra points. He had conducted research by visiting the park and speaking with people in the area. He thought the name should relate to the meaning of the area or function of the park, opining that the park has a human health initiative through exercise. The Commissioner was willing to name the park after an individual, and he wanted to avoid giving the park an uncomfortable acronym or noise-based name. Further, he worried about the park having a long name or infringing on copyrights. He suggested the name Rancho and Oakey Dog Park or Dr. Robert H. Clark Dog Park, who served as a Veterinarian in the area and Captain of the Mounted Posse.

COMMISSIONER MARTIN expressed support for the simple name of Rancho Dog Park, Oakey Dog Park, or a combined name.

COMMISSIONER BURGOS worried about naming a park after an individual. She supported a simple name to help people find the park, noting that memorials or trees could be named within the park.

COMMISSIONER SHERMAN clarified that the Commission was not naming the park and instead providing a recommendation for the City Council.

Motion made by Brien Vokits to Approve the name Rancho and Oakey Dog Park

NOTE: An initial motion by Commissioner Sherman to Approve the name Goodman Family Pawsitive Paws Park failed with Commissioners Keller, Martin, Burgos, Robinson, Stitt, and Vokits voting No.

Passed For: 7; Against: 4; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 3

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

10. Report by staff regarding marketing and communication efforts to increase awareness of parks and recreation activities and opportunities – All Wards

Minutes:

CHAIR BECKER suggested holding this item in abeyance to the next Commission meeting.

Motion made by Debra Burgos to Hold in Abeyance to 9/3/2024

Passed For: 11; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 3

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

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

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER BURGOS announced that Jurassic World Movie in the Park would be held on June 7th at Floyd Lamb Park at Tule Springs, and she said Bocaditos with Brune would be held on June 13th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Centennial Hills YMCA.

CHAIR BECKER advised that COUNCILWOMAN VICTORIA SEAMAN would host Breakfast Buzz on June 15th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Center located at 101 North Pavilion Center Drive. To RSVP, contact Ward2@LasVegasNevada.gov. He said the Councilwoman held a meeting with Department staff, himself, and JASON and MINDY JOHNSON to create a City softball league for middle school students, noting that softball was dropped by the Clark County School District for that age group. Further, the Chair explained that the league would likely have teams centered around schools, and he thanked the Councilwoman and City staff for their work.

12. **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.

13. **Adjournment**


Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 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