



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 GEBRE, HOWARD, KELLER (via teleconference), MARTIN, ZAMORA (via teleconference and excused until 4:01 p.m.), BURGOS, CORNWELL, ROBINSON, VOKITS, JONES (excused until 4:04 p.m.), and WOHL (excused until 4:15 p.m.)

EXCUSED: COMMISSIONERS NEIGER, ARMENIAN, and STITT

ALSO PRESENT: PAT O'MARA, Deputy Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Director; STEVE GLIMP, Parks and Grounds Maintenance Manager; TRAVIS RICH, Facilities Field Supervisor; ASHLEY FOSTER, Administrative Secretary; JIM LEWIS, Deputy City Attorney IV; 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:

None.

4. For possible action to approve the Final Minutes by reference of the Regular Meeting of May 6, 2025

Motion made by Brien Vokits to Approve

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

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

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

Minutes:

LIEUTENANT CHERYL MANNING, Department of Public Safety, provided statistics from a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, highlighting May's Deputy City Marshals Report. She read park arrest, citation, and dispatched calls for service statistics and top arrest locations for each ward from the report. She clarified that the statistics did not include regular perimeter checks or securing facilities. Trailer cameras were set up at Thom Boulevard and Iron Mountain Road in response to illegal shooting in the

area and at 833 Las Vegas Boulevard due to a patrol vehicle being broken into. The third camera was currently down for maintenance. The Lieutenant concluded that there were five Community-Oriented Policing events in May, including Special Olympics at Justice Leavitt Park (Justice Myron E. Leavitt & Jaycee Community Park) and a park clean-up at Rainbow Family Park.

COMMISSIONER HOWARD inquired about battery incidents from the report at Floyd Lamb Park (Floyd Lamb Park at Tule Springs), and LIEUTENANT MANNING offered to follow up with specifics.

COMMISSIONER CORNWELL expressed concern regarding vandalism that had occurred at the Healing Garden and wondered how to access camera footage of the events. The Lieutenant suggested submitting a records request, adding she would provide the e-mail address at a later date.

COMMISSIONER VOKITS commended Ward 4 for having zero incidents in the report and wondered if there was a ward in need that the Commissioners could lend extra help to. LIEUTENANT MANNING said that she would ask her administration for input. CHAIR BECKER opined that some wards were more suburban than urban, which could affect the number of incidents.

COMMISSIONER JONES worried about Wards 3 and 5 having the most incidents and questioned what they could do to fix this problem. The Lieutenant advised that she would follow-up with her administration for input regarding a solution. CHAIR BECKER believed that parks were great for every socioeconomic status but he believed keeping incident numbers down was hard once homelessness becomes established in an area. He suggested hosting more events in certain parks to try to alleviate the number of incidents. COMMISSIONER JONES stated that the marshals do a great job, and he appreciated them.

CHAIR BECKER wondered if the Commissioners could be notified when police events occurred at parks, opining that it may be a way to bridge communication between marshals and Commissioners.

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

Minutes:

STEVE GLIMP, Parks and Grounds Maintenance Manager, introduced TRAVIS RICH, Facilities Field Supervisor and Acting Facilities Project Manager, who utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to explain parks trades crew responsibilities. He stated that the crew included building service technicians, plumbers, a painter, graffiti technicians, a concrete mason, and skilled trades helpers. He recalled recent projects they have worked on, including a Memorial Day Flag Event with various service groups, Floyd Lamb Horse Corral and Arena, Stewart Place Park playground, and Cimmaron Rose Park court resurfacing. He highlighted upcoming projects, which included Skyridge playground, shades and fencing at various parks, and upsizing Floyd Lamb Park's (Floyd Lamb Park at Tule Springs) lake pump.

COMMISSIONER BURGOS thanked MR. RICH for upgrades done to the horse corral at Floyd Lamb Park, and she wondered about the slides at Centennial Park (Centennial Hills Park) being closed. MR. RICH explained that they will be removing the slides and installing new ones soon, noting contractors were being hired.

COMMISSIONER MARTIN commended the crew for work done to the playground and dog park grass at Kellogg Zaher Park (Charlie Kellogg and Joe Zaher Sports Complex).

COMMISSIONER JONES stated that they did a great job in the parks at Ward 5, and he requested an update on James Gay Park. PAT O'MARA, Deputy Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Director, explained that they were in the process of evaluating plans for the next fiscal year, adding that he could speak with the Commissioner in further detail.

COMMISSIONER CORNWELL thanked them for the work done at Floyd Lamb Park, and she asked if horses were permitted to go into the corrals at any time. MR. RICH said yes, and MR. GLIMP added that he would meet the Commissioner out there to evaluate any next steps that may be needed.

COMMISSIONER VOKITS questioned when Cragin Park's revitalization would be completed, and MR. RICH stated it would be finished in a few months. MR. O'MARA clarified it was a Public Works project due to its size, stating that it was on track to reopen near the beginning of the next school year.

COMMISSIONER HOWARD inquired about next year's budget and if there would be substantial cuts. MR. O'MARA confirmed that the budget would be tighter than usual due to challenges they were facing, but he believed they would still be able to meet the needs of the community.

COMMISSIONER GEBRE recalled trash enclosures being left open and questioned whether they were allowed to be used for personal items and whether it was a park violation. MR. GLIMP advised that it was a park violation, as no dumping was allowed at parks. He added that it was an ongoing challenge, noting that most enclosures had security systems in place.

COMMISSIONER BURGOS stated neighbors brought forward concerns regarding fallen trees and encampments along the back area of Floyd Lamb Park. MR. GLIMP said they were coordinating with volunteer groups to help clear out the area. The Commissioner believed that she may have veteran groups interested in volunteering.

7. Report by Lisa Tovar, Recreation Manager, regarding recreation and center updates - All Wards

Minutes:

PAT O'MARA, Deputy Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Director, explained that LISA TOVAR, Recreation Manager, was on assignment for CAPRA (Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies) and was not able to attend the meeting. MR. O'MARA narrated from a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to provide a recreation update regarding Jr. Guard Camp, summer youth basketball, and the National Nevada Youth Soccer Association partnership.

MR. O'MARA stated that the Jr. Guard Camp was for ages 11 to 14 and was a way to expose youth to lifeguarding positions. The Summer Youth Basketball League had almost 550 participants, with an additional 200 on the waiting list within five days of opening registration. He explained that the City had a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Nevada Youth Soccer Association (NYSA) for 15 years, which had come to an end. The partnership entailed the City providing offsets for youth programming and local tournaments, and NYSA would allocate around 30 percent of the field space to their partner groups and soccer clubs. During the renewal process, the City and NYSA could not come to an agreement, and the MOU lapsed. MR. O'MARA advised that the City took over field allocation for two clubs and maintained the goal of providing for the community while attracting tourist funding. NYSA will be granted space for specific leagues, and the remainder of the clubs will go through the City for field requests. MR. O'MARA displayed the City of Las Vegas Athletic Field and Facility Priority of Use Policy and added that there was a soccer field allocation meeting scheduled for later that night.

MR. O'MARA congratulated CASSANDRA LEWIS, Recreation Coordinator, on her retirement after 32 years of service. He opined that she had made a profound impact on the community, and he was sad to see her leave.

COMMISSIONER CORNWELL asked if the City had a contract with local schools to use their fields, and MR. O'MARA stated they had a Mutual Use Agreement in place that allowed trading of services. He clarified for COMMISSIONER GEBRE that there was no transfer of funding.

COMMISSIONER JONES applauded the City for recreational programs offered during the summer. He agreed that MS. LEWIS would be missed and wondered if the City had anyone in mind as a replacement. MR. O'MARA clarified that the position would be opened following proper protocol, and they did not have a specific person in mind. He added that the City was not in a hiring freeze, but positions were reviewed for a proper restoration timeline.

CHAIR BECKER asked if field allocation would be broken down to include individual trainers renting out field space. MR. O'MARA stated that would fall under Priority 8 from the policy. He explained that there would be a change of utilization in the beginning, and the City would keep a close watch on the process moving forward. CHAIR BECKER recalled individuals being able to use softball fields without an organization and hoped the City would keep that in mind with new field allocations. He expressed concern regarding the loss of middle school softball and wondered if the City could help with a solution. MR. O'MARA said they would continue to work towards a solution, adding that they were constantly looking for ways to meet the needs of the community. COMMISSIONER CORNWELL asked if there was a way to have the softball field gates remain unlocked, and MR. O'MARA advised that there was not. He explained that a significant amount of work goes into preparing

the fields for games and tournaments, which would be ruined with open access to the public. The Chair agreed with the protocols and understood the reasoning behind them.

8. Report by Savonta Manor, Recreation Supervisor, regarding 2025 Corporate Challenge - All Wards

Minutes:

SAVONTA MANOR, Recreation Supervisor, narrated from a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to provide a recap for 2025 Corporate Challenge. There were 56 teams who competed in Corporate Challenge and numerous community partners who helped make the challenge a success. Corporate Challenge generated around \$117,000 in revenue, with expenditures at \$74,000, though the final expenditure calculations were expected to be closer to \$100,000. There were over 3,000 participants and nearly 8,400 spectators.

MR. MANOR stated that positive takeaways from this year included additional staff and coordinators, the addition of new teams, positive feedback, and the introduction of digital bracketing. Changes to this year's challenge included participation in Helldorado Days and the Mayor's Walk and the postponement of the closing ceremony date. MR. MANOR explained that hurdles they had to overcome this year were weather, a new program coordinator, and confusion surrounding changes to the Mayor's Walk. He noted that they were brainstorming ideas and solutions for next year, with hopes of adding new categories. MR. MANOR concluded by saying that in the future, they hoped to continue running Corporate Challenge, start registration and marketing earlier, improve the registration process, reduce staffing costs, and enhance participants' experiences throughout the event.

COMMISSIONER BURGOS said they did a great job and asked if there were any events for adaptive athletes. MR. MANOR advised there were not, but that was something they could consider in the future.

COMMISSIONER JONES confirmed that co-ed kickball was offered, and he wondered if sponsorships at events could be beneficial. MR. MANOR explained that they previously had company sponsorships, but they detracted from benefitting the participants.

COMMISSIONER CORNWELL thanked them for continuation of Corporate Challenge and questioned whether they have partnered with volunteer groups to help alleviate staffing costs. MR. MANOR said they have not reached out to groups in the past, adding that there are volunteer points available for participants throughout the challenge.

CHAIR BECKER inquired if they reached out to local professional organizations to form teams, and he proposed allowing smaller companies to combine and form larger teams. MR. MANOR stated that was a great idea, and he would look at lists of potential groups.

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

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER BURGOS said there will be a Fishing Derby and Pancake Breakfast on June 14th from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at Floyd Lamb Park (Floyd Lamb Park at Tule Springs). On June 13th, there will be a Beyond the Boots women's retreat to Mount Charleston. Participants will meet at Dula Community Center and the fee is \$10.

CHAIR BECKER shared that there will be a Ward 2 Breakfast Buzz at Veterans Memorial Community Center on June 28th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., and he encouraged attendees to mention parks.

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:

None.

11. **Adjournment**

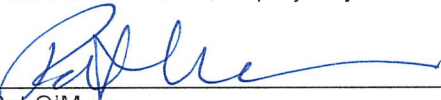
Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Samantha DiNicola, 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