



Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

VICE CHAIR NEIGER called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

PRESENT: VICE CHAIR NEIGER and COMMISSIONERS BECKER (via teleconference), KELLER, MARTIN (via teleconference), ZAMORA (via teleconference), BURGOS (excused until 4:08 p.m.), ROBINSON, VOKITS, JONES, and WOHL

EXCUSED: COMMISSIONERS ARMENIAN, GEBRE, HOWARD, CORNWELL, and STITT

ALSO PRESENT: PAT O'MARA, Deputy Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Director; LISA TOVAR, Recreation Manager; STEVE GLIMP, Parks and Grounds Maintenance Manager; REBECCA HOLDEN, Business Specialist; 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:

PAT O'MARA, Deputy Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Director, welcomed the Commissioners to the new building and Public Meeting Room. He explained that the new plaza brought the City staff together and had been a dream for many years. He advised that there would be a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new plaza on September 4th at 8:30 a.m. and welcomed the Commissioners to attend. He introduced REBECCA HOLDEN, Business Specialist, and explained she would work in tandem with ASHLEY FOSTER, Administrative Secretary.

4. For possible action to approve the Final Minutes by reference of the Regular Meeting of June 3, 2025

Motion made by Brien Vokits to Approve

Passed For: 9; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 6

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

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

Minutes:

This item was heard with Item 8.

LIEUTENANT CHERYL MANNING and ASSISTANT CHIEF ROB STRAUBE, Department of Public Safety, (Public Safety) introduced themselves and provided statistics from a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record. The presentation highlighted the Deputy City Marshals' Report for June, July, and August. LIEUTENANT MANNING read park arrest, citation, and dispatched calls for service statistics and top arrest locations for each ward from the June report. She stated that during June, trailer cameras were set up at Thom Boulevard and Iron Mountain Road, as well as at the Llama Lot. However, the third camera was down for service. The Lieutenant concluded by mentioning two Community-Oriented Policing events in June.

COMMISSIONER WOHL wondered if the statistics were comparable to previous years. LIEUTENANT MANNING explained that the report included statistics from previous years, noting that arrests seemed slightly higher.

COMMISSIONER JONES commended the marshals for their presence in the community despite ongoing staff shortages.

COMMISSIONER VOKITS questioned what the procedure if someone passed out at a park due to heat exhaustion. LIEUTENANT MANNING advised calling 911, which would dispatch the appropriate department to the scene and notify marshals if the incident occurred at a park.

COMMISSIONER KELLER inquired about upcoming community policing events in September that she could share with the community. The Lieutenant stated that she would follow up with information on upcoming events.

VICE CHAIR NEIGER asked if it was common for trailer cameras to be dispatched for upcoming protests. ASSISTANT CHIEF STRAUBE explained that it was not the norm, but trailer cameras were used in areas that required additional attention, such as locations with frequent protests.

ASSISTANT CHIEF STRAUBE shared that the City Marshals are responsible for over 130 city facilities and more than 100 parks within 140 square miles. He explained that marshals were able to be proactive in assisting areas that need more attention. They maintain a strong presence on Fremont Street, alongside Metro (Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department). Public Safety has a misdemeanor detention center capable of holding 500 inmates, an Adult Protective Services (APS) facility, and more than 200 sworn officers. The marshals include administrative staff as well as Category 1 and Category 3 Peace Officers who patrol designated areas. The team also consists of four motor officers, four officers on the Problem-Oriented Policing (POP) team, and a fifth tourist liaison who will be starting soon.

The Assistant Chief introduced the department's specialty teams: the Conditions Team, the City Rapid Response Team, the Dignitary Team, the Criminal Investigations (CIS) Team, and the Civic Team. The Community-Oriented Policing (COP) team attends events at schools and engages with the community. He explained that CPTED (Crime Prevention Through External Design) focused on identifying areas that may need additional security or cameras for new and existing facilities. The Koper Curve model helps deter crime by utilizing a patrol unit every two hours in 15-minute increments to engage with the community on foot. The marshals also analyze the need for service calls and identify 5-10 hot spot areas to be intentional where they are patrolling. Flock cameras are utilized downtown and read license plates to identify stolen vehicles and missing persons. ASSISTANT CHIEF STRAUBE noted a significant increase in arrests and citations over the summer months and displayed an overview of incidents and most frequented parks by marshals. He emphasized the partnership with other jurisdictions, stating that they could not do it alone.

VICE CHAIR NEIGER thanked the Assistant Chief for the informative presentation, which he found helpful.

COMMISSIONER BURGOS wondered how citizens could assist the marshals. ASSISTANT CHIEF STRAUBE stated that citizens should follow the see something, say something motto. He recommended calling 911 for emergencies and 702-229-6444 for non-emergency situations involving the marshals. He also suggested citizens become involved and attend their ward meetings and ask questions. Additionally, he mentioned the Citizen Police Academy, where citizens can learn about the inner workings of marshal services.

COMMISSIONER KELLER asked for the best way to report encampments, and the Assistant Chief said that there were multiple ways to contact them via the Public Safety website.

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 reflecting upgrades at parks within each ward, including new bullpens for the Little League fields at Rainbow Family Park, new playground resurfacing at Children's Memorial Park, and bocce ball shades at Jaycee/Leavitt Park (Justice Myron E. Leavitt & Jaycee Community Park). He highlighted upcoming upgrades to include replacement signs for trailheads at Angel Park and basketball court resurfacing at Ethel Pearson Park.

COMMISSIONER JONES opined that they did a great job maintaining parks in Ward 5 and throughout the community.

COMMISSIONER BURGOS expressed concern regarding benches around the lake at Floyd Lamb Park (Floyd Lamb Park at Tule Springs) being covered in foliage, and she hoped there would be another garden bed cleanup at the park. MR. GLIMP advised that he would have staff clean the benches, and he would create an event for the garden beds.

COMMISSION VOKITS requested an update for Cragin Park, and PAT O'MARA, Deputy Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Director, stated they were near the end of the project, with hopes to be fully functional by spring 2026. He noted that the playgrounds would be open earlier, with the synthetic and natural turf fields to follow.

VICE CHAIR NEIGER wondered if all children's play structures were covered and how frequently they had to be replaced. MR. GLIMP said that all newer playgrounds were covered, with fabric shades being replaced every 10 to 12 years, though they were moving towards utilizing hard-top covers.

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

Minutes:

LISA TOVAR, Recreation Manager, narrated from a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to provide a recreation update regarding summer camps and sports. She advised that this summer, 1,590 youth participated in summer camp, and after-school programs had begun at five community centers today. She said that this year's fall leagues were record-breaking with 392 participants registered for flag football, 180 registered for indoor hockey, and 749 registered for youth soccer. Adult softball starts on September 15th, and adult and senior pickleball begins the week of September 29th, with 10 additional leagues added due to popularity. MS. TOVAR concluded by sharing upcoming events at community centers, including Grandparent Day at Doolittle Active Adult Center, Fall Cup Power Wheels at Veteran's Memorial Community Center, and a Picnic Health Fair at Doolittle Active Adult Center.

VICE CHAIR NEIGER was surprised by the number of participants within the programs.

COMMISSIONER JONES wondered if indoor hockey could be brought to Ward 5, opining that it would be a great addition to the area. MS. TOVAR explained that Veterans Memorial Community Center began the partnership with the Las Vegas Golden Knights, adding that she would look into expanding the program to other wards. The Commissioner confirmed that all coaches were volunteers.

COMMISSIONER BURGOS thanked MS. TOVAR for the women's retreat for veterans that was hosted, noting it was a great success that the female veterans enjoyed.

8. Presentation by the Department of Public Safety regarding an overview of the department and its role in maintaining safety within City parks and facilities - All Wards

Minutes:

See Item 5 for related discussion and backup.

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

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER BURGOS shared that there will be a September 11 Remembrance Bash at Floyd Lamb Park (Floyd Lamb Park at Tule Springs) on September 13th from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. On September 19th, there will be a Critters of the Night event from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Floyd Lamb Park as well.

COMMISSIONER BECKER thanked VICE CHAIR NEIGER for chairing the meeting and opined he did a great job. He hoped to be back to in-person attendance for the next meeting.

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**

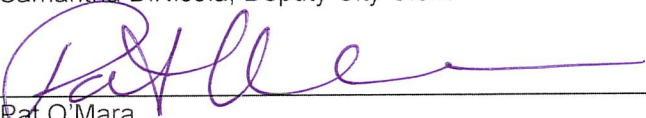
Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Samantha DiNicola, Deputy City Clerk



Raf 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 – Website not accessible for posting

Civic Center Building A, 525 South Main Street, 1st Floor

City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor