



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, ARMENIAN, GEBRE (via teleconference), KELLER, BURGOS (via teleconference), CORNWELL, VOKITS, WOHL (excused until 4:05 p.m.), and SLEEZER

EXCUSED: COMMISSIONERS ZAMORA, ROBINSON, JONES, TAYLOR, and McGETTIGAN

ALSO PRESENT: MAGGIE PLASTER, Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs Director; PAT O'MARA, Deputy Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Director; STEVE GLIMP, Parks and Grounds Maintenance Manager; ASHLEY FOSTER, Administrative Secretary; 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: Civic Center Building A, 525 South Main Street, 1st Floor; 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 February 3, 2026

Motion made by Sue Ann Cornwell to Approve

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

For-Adroushan Armenian, Richard Becker, Elizabeth Gebre, Steven Neiger, Micaela Keller, Debra Burgos, Sue Ann Cornwell, Brien Vokits, Jesse Sleezer; Excused-Rudy Zamora, Bob Robinson, Walter Jones III, Bonnie Wohl, Nathan Taylor, Michael McGettigan;

5. Report by the Department of Public Safety regarding a review of arrests, citations, and calls for service at City facilities and parks - All Wards

Minutes:

LIEUTENANT JONATHAN BURDETTE, Department of Public Safety (DPS), provided statistics from a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, highlighting year-to-date park and recreation center arrests and citations. Arrests and citations increased by 6.6 percent compared to last year,

with the highest increases occurring at Kellogg Zaher Park (Charlie Kellogg and Joe Zaher Sports Complex) due to increased patrol activity. The Lieutenant reviewed the top violations and locations for each ward, noting that the most common citation was for remaining in the park after posted hours of closure. He concluded by sharing information on February and March COP (Community-Oriented Policing) events, including physical fitness preparation at Bill Briare Family Park on February 7th and 14th and March 7th and 21st. He added that these events help prepare participants for the physical fitness test required to become a marshal, as well as the physical demands of the academy that follows.

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 highlighting upgrades at parks within each ward. Improvements included soccer field fence repairs at Jaycee/Leavitt Park (Justice Myron E. Leavitt & Jaycee Community Park), the installation of tennis court slats at Police Memorial Park, and playground shade replacement at Kianga Isoke Park (Kianga Isoke Palacio Park). He also highlighted upcoming projects, including perimeter fence replacement at Heritage Park, playground shade replacements at Buckskin Park (Buckskin Basin Park) and Gary Dexter Park, and resurfacing the playground at Estelle Neal Park.

COMMISSIONER SLEEZER commended the work staff has done to get parks ready for the upcoming baseball season. He highlighted the changes he noticed and shared how impactful they were for little leagues in the area. MR. GLIMP stated that he would pass along the kudos to the appropriate staff members.

CHAIR BECKER asked for more details regarding the upcoming installation of a NFC (National Fitness Court) exercise pod at Kellogg-Zaher Park (Charlie Kellogg and Joe Zaher Sports Complex). MR. GLIMP explained that these were installed in other parks and the one at this park was a smaller version. He added that the pad for the pod was poured on the south side of the main restroom and the project was part of the turf reduction projects.

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

Minutes:

PAT O'MARA, Deputy of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs Director, narrated from a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to provide a recreation update on spring events offered at various City facilities. He shared that LISA TOVAR, Recreation Manager, was attending Director's School to further her education and would not be in attendance. He highlighted events celebrating Reading Week, St. Patrick's Day, and Easter, and he provided details regarding upcoming spring break camps. Summer camp registration would open on March 9th for Veterans Memorial Community Center, with registration for all other camps beginning on March 12th.

On Slide 3, MR. O'MARA listed strategic partners that offer programs citywide. The Acelero Head Start Program provides preschool services at Mirabelli and Stupak Community Centers, and ESL (English as a Second Language) classes are offered at Stupak Community Center. Mountain Valley Prep (MVP) School offers basketball player development programs at Dula Community Center. MR. O'MARA concluded by noting that free tax preparation services are available at Doolittle Active Adult Center and Lieburn Active Adult Center (Howard Lieburn Active Adult Center) through the month of April.

COMMISSIONER SLEEZER thanked the Municipal Sports Unit for creating an Ad Hoc Committee to analyze process improvements related to field allocation and upgrades. He expressed appreciation to the City for becoming more streamlined and for partnering with constituents who utilize the parks. MR. O'MARA stated that he would share the praise with the unit. CHAIR BECKER added that he believed the committee was a valuable initiative and something that has been needed for many years.

8. Report by Patrick O'Mara, Deputy Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Director, regarding Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Projects for Fiscal Year 2027 - All Wards

Minutes:

PAT O'MARA, Deputy of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs Director, utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to provide an update on Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects within each ward. He reviewed funding sources, including the General Fund, Residential Construction Tax, Park Bonds, and the SNPLMA (Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act) Grant Program. The General Fund includes the Asset Replacement Fund, which allows for the replacement of fencing, play structures, or other amenities in need of upgrades. The Residential Construction Tax requires that a percentage of homes built in each ward contribute to a corresponding account, with those funds used for improvements within that ward. MR. O'MARA added that the SNPLMA Grant Program is one of the few sources of grant funding available for these types of projects.

MR. O'MARA highlighted several CIP projects within each ward, including a completed park upgrade at Cragin Park in Ward 1 and the addition of sporting courts at Veterans Memorial Community Center in Ward 2. He noted that Rancho Oakey Dog Park was currently under construction and that the East Las Vegas Legacy Park Feasibility Study had been completed. Amenity upgrades at Freedom Park (Gary Reese Freedom Park) were in the bidding phase, while upgrades at Police Memorial Park and the renovation of Durango Hills Pool (Durango Hills Community Center) had been completed. The Lorenzi Park pickleball courts were also completed, and the Heers Park renovation was in the design phase at 90 percent completion. MR. O'MARA concluded by sharing projects within Ward 6, including the completion of the Centennial Hills Pool (Centennial Hills Community Center) renovation and the beginning of construction at Skye Canyon Park and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (Metro) Substation. He added that a naming survey was available for public participation, with a QR (quick-response) code posted online for residents to submit recommendations.

COMMISSIONER GEBRE expressed appreciation for the projects and improvements within Ward 5, noting that she has seen constituents actively enjoying them.

9. Report by Maggie Plaster, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Director, regarding the Park Ambassador Program - All Wards

Minutes:

MAGGIE PLASTER, Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs Director, utilized a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to introduce the Park Ambassador Program. She thanked the Commissioners for their service on the Commission and for considering participation as Park Ambassadors. The Ambassador Program, while not required, would assist staff in capturing real-time park conditions, identifying maintenance needs, addressing safety concerns, improving overall park experiences, and helping prioritize resources. When conducting a survey, Commissioners would inspect a park, observe park activity and staff presence, note park cleanliness, and engage with park patrons to gather their input. Slide 5 outlined the specific areas the survey would focus on, each rated on a scale of one to five. Parks are categorized into three maintenance levels, high, moderate, and nominal, with the majority of parks classified as moderate. MS. PLASTER explained the differences between these maintenance levels and provided examples of parks in each category, noting that any park not listed under the high maintenance level was considered moderate.

MS. PLASTER stated that through these surveys, staff hoped to gain the perspective of the average park user, adding that they did not want Commissioners to feel overwhelmed or underqualified. She highlighted examples of items to include in the survey, such as overflowing trash cans, graffiti, and flooded areas that could indicate irrigation problems. She explained that the Park Ambassador Program would enhance public safety, build trust with residents, improve park conditions, and foster civic pride. She then reviewed an example of the survey on the overhead screen and explained each field, noting that the survey could also be shared with friends, family members, and frequent park users.

COMMISSIONER VOKITS expressed appreciation for the program and explained that he uses SeeClickFix to report issues he observes. He asked whether the Park Ambassador Program could also be used by groups utilizing park amenities. MS. PLASTER responded that SeeClickFix may be easier for groups to use, although either method would ultimately route the report to the appropriate staff for resolution. The Commissioner added that he encourages park users to report issues directly rather than only informing him, and he expressed interest in seeing the program expand in the future.

COMMISSIONER WOHL asked what methods are used for pest control in parks. STEVE GLIMP, Parks and Grounds Maintenance Manager, explained that, depending on the pest, staff begins with the least impactful solution and escalate if necessary, following the City's integrated pest management system. The Commissioner expressed concern about children playing in parks and potential exposure, and MR. GLIMP stated that those considerations are always taken into account when treating pests in park areas.

COMMISSIONER GEBRE thanked staff for the survey and added that she believed Commissioners should wear identifiable clothing to represent themselves as park ambassadors within their wards. MS. PLASTER advised that any information entered through the survey creates a record that is stored in a centralized system.

COMMISSIONER CORNWELL believed the program would be beneficial. She asked how Boy Scout volunteers receive community service credit for the time they spend assisting in parks. MS. PLASTER explained that volunteers typically need a signature from someone other than a parent, noting the Commissioner could sign to verify the hours.

CHAIR BECKER praised both the survey and staff for creating the program. MS. PLASTER added that although there are other methods for reporting issues in parks, the survey provides staff with more detailed and specific information.

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

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER BURGOS shared that Pickleball with Brune will be on March 6th from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Centennial Hills Park pickleball courts. On March 7th, Get Outdoors Nevada will host a park clean-up at Centennial Hills Park, with volunteer registration available online at getoutdoorsnevada.org. Floyd Lamb Park (Floyd Lamb Park at Tule Springs) will host its annual Family Spring Fling on April 4th, featuring a classic car show and a pet parade.

COMMISSIONER SLEEZER highlighted various Opening Day Ceremonies for Little League baseball across Las Vegas, including Mountain Ridge's event on March 28th, which will begin with a pancake breakfast at 7:00 a.m.

CHAIR BECKER stated that, because the November Commission meeting falls on Election Day, he requested that a special meeting be added to a future agenda.

COMMISSIONER CORNWELL noted that the Healing Garden will host a workday on March 8th from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. to assist with irrigation and mulch work recently installed by City staff.

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.

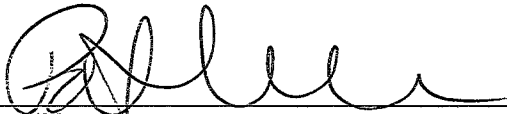
12. **Adjournment**

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:54 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

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

City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor