

CARSON CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the June 3, 2008 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson City Parks and Recreation Commission was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 3, 2008 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Donna Curtis
Vice Chairperson Pete Livermore
Charles Adams
Steve Lasco
John McKenna
Kathryn Shabi
James Smolenski
Todd Westergard

STAFF: Roger Moellendorf, Parks and Recreation Department Director
Vern Krahn, Park Planner
Joel Dunn, Recreation Programs Manager - Sports
Will Geddes, Senior Deputy District Attorney
Kathleen King, Recording Secretary

NOTE: A recording of these proceedings, the commission's agenda materials, and any written comments or documentation provided to the recording secretary during the meeting are public record, on file in the Clerk-Recorder's Office. These materials are available for review during regular business hours.

CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (5:35:17) - Chairperson Curtis called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present. Commissioner Keeton was absent. Commissioner Lasco arrived at 5:39 p.m.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (5:35:56) - None.

1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - February 23, 2008 and May 6, 2008 (5:36:45) - Commissioner McKenna moved to approve the minutes. Vice Chairperson Livermore seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

2. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (5:36:07) - Commissioner McKenna requested to modify the agenda to address item 4-B prior to item 3-A. (5:49:13) Vice Chairperson Livermore requested to further modify the agenda to address item 4-A prior to item 3-A.

3. STAFF UPDATES:

3-A. UPDATE REGARDING MOBILE VENDOR RULES AND REGULATIONS (6:36:31) - Chairperson Curtis introduced this item. Mr. Moellendorf provided background information, and advised that the Board of Supervisors had directed development of a business impact statement. He advised of the goal to agendize the final business impact statement for the first Board of Supervisors meeting in July.

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Mr. Dunn explained the requirement for a business impact statement, and read a portion of the relevant statute into the record. He advised that the business impact statement will be available for public review at a meeting scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 17th in the Community Center Sierra Room. He provided background information on the healthy choice policy. Due to the fact that neither the city nor the state Health and Human Services Departments were willing to enforce the policy, it was removed from the mobile vendor rules and regulations. Mr. Moellendorf advised that the City Manager had very recently requested staff to reinsert the policy for presentation to the Board of Supervisors. Chairperson Curtis discussed the importance of commission recommendations being forwarded to the Board of Supervisors. Vice Chairperson Livermore provided background information on the Board of Supervisors direction to develop a business impact statement and to determine the method by which the policy would be enforced.

Mr. Dunn advised that the proposed rules and regulations and the business impact statement would be provided to every licensed mobile vendor and caterer in Carson City. He discussed effects and benefits of the rules and regulations. He advised that the business impact statement and public comment from the Board of Supervisors meeting would be presented at the July commission meeting. He encouraged the commissioners to attend the June 17th public meeting. Chairperson Curtis thanked Mr. Dunn for his report.

3-B. UPDATE REGARDING RONALD D. WILSON MEMORIAL PARK (6:48:37) - Chairperson Curtis introduced this item. Mr. Krahn advised that the final punch list had been provided to the contractor. Mr. Krahn advised of plans to finish hydroseeding the park next week, and that the last construction meeting was held earlier in the day. He anticipates the park will be open to the public in the next couple weeks. In response to a question, he discussed the intent to have the turf areas “up and growing” prior to scheduling a dedication ceremony. In response to a further question, he advised of having worked on the park project for the past eleven years. He expressed excitement over completion of the project. Commissioner McKenna commended staff on the effort invested in the park. Mr. Krahn provided historic information on the project, and commended the commission, the Board of Supervisors, and Parks Department staff.

3-C. UPDATE REGARDING CARSON CITY FAIRGROUNDS PROJECT (6:52:45) - Chairperson Curtis introduced this item. Mr. Krahn reported that the project is moving along. Power has been supplied to the site, and Mr. Krahn described the lighting design. He advised that Parks staff has been working with Bodine’s representatives to adjust the construction schedule in accordance with their grand opening activities. He further advised that the contractor is obligated to have the project complete by mid-July. In response to a question, he provided a status report on the urban fishing pond project. Chairperson Curtis thanked Mr. Krahn.

3-D. UPDATE REGARDING DOG PARKS (6:56:41) - Chairperson Curtis distributed to the commissioners and staff an announcement for the second organizational dog park meeting, scheduled for June 16th. She provided an overview of discussion which took place at the first meeting, and an overview of the agenda for the June 16th meeting. She thanked Parks Department staff for their assistance. Commissioner Shabi commended Chairperson Curtis on the time and effort invested in the process.

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3-E. ANNOUNCEMENT OF AN AWARD PRESENTED TO THE CARSON CITY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT BY THE NEVADA BICYCLE ADVISORY BOARD (6:59:57) - Chairperson Curtis introduced this item. Mr. Moellendorf displayed the award plaque, read the content into the record, and circulated it among the commissioners. Commissioner Smolenski congratulated the Parks and Recreation Department.

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS:

4-A. PRESENTATION ONLY REGARDING A PROPOSAL TO BUILD A NEW SKATE PARK IN CARSON CITY (5:50:00) - Chairperson Curtis introduced this item and Eric Robie and Ryland Sweigard. Mr. Moellendorf reviewed the staff report. Mr. Sweigard narrated a SlideShow presentation of the proposal. Chairperson Curtis expressed an interest in details such as cost estimates. In response to a question, Mr. Sweigard advised that the Gardnerville skate park is 36,000 square feet and cost over \$400,000 to build. In response to a question, Mr. Moellendorf estimated the Virginia Orcutt skate park at less than 20,000 square feet. In response to a further question, Mr. Sweigard expressed an interest in constructing a new skate park on City property in an area with little wind. He suggested the Edmonds Sports Complex "since it's against the mountain." He expressed the opinion that wind would "channel" through Centennial Park. Mr. Robie requested input as to possible locations for the skate park.

Vice Chairperson Livermore provided historic information on development of the Virginia Orcutt skate park. He advised that the Edmonds Sports Complex has 80 acres of undeveloped property. He suggested that identifying funding sources for a new skate park may take "some time to sort out." Mr. Robie expressed support for the possibility of constructing a skate park at the Edmonds Sports Complex. He discussed on-line tools available for skate park design and funding opportunities. He advised that Mr. Sweigard had requested grant applications from the Tony Hawk Foundation. In response to a question, Commissioner McKenna explained the differences between a group of citizens presenting a proposal to the City and the City embarking on a project with citizen input. He advised that the Carson City Youth Sports Association has had 501(c)(3) status for a very long time. He further advised that Virginia Orcutt had personally raised interest and funding in the skate park prior to presenting the proposal to the Parks and Recreation Commission. He noted that approximately half the cost of the Virginia Orcutt skate park was funded by residential construction tax. Chairperson Curtis invited Mr. Robie and Mr. Sweigard to the June 16th dog park meeting where bylaws will be formed, dues will be collected, officers will be elected, and application for 501(c)(3) status will be prepared.

Mr. Sweigard referred to a petition with approximately 400 signatures, and inquired as to the number of signatures needed to convince the commissioners of the community's support for a skate park. Vice Chairperson Livermore discussed Virginia Orcutt's persistence to gain support and funding for the skate park. Commissioner Smolenski commended Mr. Sweigard and Mr. Robie on their presentation, and suggested starting with a core group to form an organization. In response to a question, Mr. Sweigard discussed funding possibilities. Chairperson Curtis discussed the status of residential construction tax and Question #18. She suggested "a lot of it's going to have to be what you can put together and bring to us."

Mr. Moellendorf noted the valuable advice provided by the commissioners. He advised there is no set number of signatures for a petition, but encouraged Mr. Robie and Mr. Sweigard to pursue public support and funding for the project. He anticipates insignificant residential construction tax revenues in the foreseeable future. He discussed the need to convince the Parks and Recreation Department, this

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commission, and eventually the Board of Supervisors that the skate park is a project to work toward. He reiterated the importance of public support and funding “to bring to the table.” He expressed agreement with the advice to form a 501(c)(3) organization, and discussed similar citizens groups which are pursuing other projects in the community.

Commissioner Smolenski noted the substantial support indicated by the petition, and encouraged Mr. Robie and Mr. Sweigard to pursue funding for the project. In response to a question, Mr. Moellendorf offered to meet with Mr. Robie and Mr. Sweigard, together with key Parks Department personnel, to discuss possible sites. He suggested that Mr. Robie and Mr. Sweigard evaluate possible sites in the meantime. He discussed the importance of considering how a new skate park would fit in with the parks and recreation master plan element. He suggested the proposal could then be reauthorized for action by the commission. Chairperson Curtis advised that both the Edmonds Sports Complex and JohnD Winters Centennial Park have master plans. She suggested the possibility of amending the master plans to include a skate park. Commissioner McKenna discussed the importance of uniting parks and recreation facility users to “figure out what this community needs for recreation.” He suggested collaborating with the Youth Sports Association and similar organizations to learn from their experience and share support. He provided background information on Question #18, which began as a collaborative effort among community recreation user groups. He suggested postponing fund raising efforts “until you have fairly solid plans as to where you’re going to put this thing and fairly solid costs.” He discussed ever-changing construction costs, and reiterated the importance of forming a support base and “getting on that master plan list.”

Commissioner Lasco expressed support for the skate park as a “positive activity for at-risk youth.” He advised of having reviewed materials distributed by Mr. Sweigard at the last commission meeting, and that the Tony Hawk Foundation is unlikely to grant funding to a community with an existing skate park. He encouraged pursuing grant funding, and taking the commission’s advice. He offered to inquire as to possible assistance from his employer, Lumos & Associates, at the appropriate time. Mr. Robie acknowledged a skate park would function well in conjunction with the BMX track at the Edmonds Sports Complex. He further acknowledged an understanding that the project will take time to accomplish. Based on Mr. Sweigard’s research, he advised that centrally-located skate parks generally experience less vandalism. He reiterated support for the Edmonds Sports Complex as a possible location, and expressed an interest in meeting with Mr. Moellendorf. In response to a question, Chairperson Curtis reiterated an invitation to the next dog park meeting scheduled for June 16th.

Mr. Robie acknowledged a familiarity with the skateboard facility at John Mankins Park, and Vice Chairperson Livermore provided historic information on development of the park. He noted the possibility of the Schulz Ranch development as a skate park location. He reviewed the cost to construct the facility at John Mankins Park. In response to a question, Mr. Moellendorf advised that Parks and Recreation Director of Operations Scott Fahrenbruch’s crews are aware of the cracked concrete at the Virginia Orcutt skate park. Chairperson Curtis thanked Mr. Robie and Mr. Sweigard for their attendance and participation.

4-B. DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION ONLY REGARDING THE NEW KELVIN - GONIROAD WALKING TRAIL (5:37:20) - Chairperson Curtis introduced Tom Gray and Lynn Zonge of the Goni Canyon Preservation League (“GCPL”). Chairperson Curtis expressed appreciation for the community effort invested in development of the walking trail. Ms. Zonge provided background information on the GCPL and the Kelvin-Goni Road Walking Trail. She advised that Cinderlite had donated “tons” of labor and materials to development of the trail. She described the trail route and its

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amenities. (5:40:07) GCPL President Tom Gray discussed the involvement of several individuals and organizations in development of the trail. He noted that Commissioner Adams had designed the trail and that Ms. Zonge had overseen the permitting process.

Commissioner McKenna commended construction of the trail as a “great amenity to the neighborhood,” and expressed appreciation that its development was “citizen driven.” At his request, Mr. Gray described the location of the trail at the northeast corner of Goni and Kelvin Roads. Ms. Zonge narrated a SlideShow presentation of the trail development, which included a map depicting its location. In response to a question, she advised that the Nevada State Parks Recreation Trails Program, which contributed grant funding toward the project, requires a perpetual maintenance agreement. Vice Chairperson Livermore commended the GCPL on their efforts to develop the trail. Mr. Gray acknowledged that members of the GCPL have dogs. He welcomed dog owners to use the trail, encouraging them to pick up after their dogs. Commissioner Adams commended Mr. Gray on his project leadership.

In response to a question, Mr. Gray advised that the GCPL is open to residents in the immediate vicinity. Dues are \$50 per year with the funds traditionally allocated toward insurance, mailings, property taxes, and now trail maintenance. In response to a question, Mr. Gray advised that tax deductible donations could be made to the GCPL. In response to a further question, he was uncertain as to whether to recommend including the trail on the City’s trail map. He acknowledged the trail is publicly accessible. He offered to poll the GCPL members, and report back to the commission. In response to a comment, he suggested the GCPL would be happy to allow people to discover the trail on their own. Chairperson Curtis suggested contacting the GCPL at the time the unified pathways master plan element is updated. She thanked Mr. Gray and Ms. Zonge for their presentation.

4-C. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE 2007 FINANCIAL IMPACT OF SPORTS TOURNAMENTS IN CARSON CITY (7:00:42) - Chairperson Curtis introduced this item. Mr. Dunn reviewed the staff report, and provided background information on development of the financial impact report. He reviewed the 2007 tournament economic impact report, copies of which were distributed to the commissioners and staff prior to the start of the meeting. Commissioner McKenna suggested tracking the number of tournament participants who are unable to stay in Carson City due to insufficient lodging availability. He suggested this may lead to new investment or to the possibility of lodging facilities outside Carson City investing in tournaments. He expressed the belief that recreation is regionally motivated. Mr. Moellendorf suggested the information could be gathered by adding a few more questions to the survey. Mr. Dunn advised he would have no problem tracking the numbers. He continued reviewing the 2007 tournament economic impact report. He advised of the Convention and Visitors Bureau interest in working with Recreation Division staff to bring additional tournaments to Carson City. Convention and Visitors Bureau representatives have also expressed an interest in indoor recreation opportunities to further expand tournament opportunities. Mr. Dunn noted the sales tax return to the general fund, as delineated in the report figures, and discussed the growing significance of, and support for, youth tournaments.

Mr. Dunn reviewed the figures listed in the overall impact report from 2005, 2006, and 2007, referring to it as “the campaign.” Vice Chairperson Livermore referred to a recent *Nevada Appeal* editorial, and discussed the importance of continuing to pursue tournament opportunities in Carson City as relevant to tourism. In response to a question, Mr. Dunn advised that the soccer tournament held over the Memorial Day weekend actually brought in nearly \$900,000. He agreed with Vice Chairperson Livermore that tournament opportunities could be expanded “as an engine for tourism.”

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Mr. Dunn reviewed the 2008 tournament schedule included in the agenda materials. He noted that many of the listed tournaments have been retained from prior years, and commended staff of the Parks Division, the Recreation Division, and the food and lodging establishment proprietors. He provided a specific example of the dedication of Recreation Division staff to ensure the success of the most recent Midnight Madness softball tournament. He reviewed the 2008 proposed tournament budget. In response to a question, he advised that the \$25,000 Convention and Visitors Bureau investment covers staff overtime costs. "There are no dollars spent from the general fund or from the Carson City Recreation adult or youth programs that facilitate the operations of these tournaments. One hundred percent of the cost of preparing and operating these tournaments comes directly from that \$25,000."

In reference to the 2008 economic impact projection included in the agenda materials, Mr. Dunn reviewed the method by which the figures are developed. He reviewed the 2007 economic impacts by facility. He provided a brief overview of the method by which the economic impact report figures are developed, and described them as "typically conservative." He commended Recreation Division staff on their time and effort in preparing the report.

In response to a question, he advised of working with Theater Operations Manager Mitch Ames to monitor economic gains from performing arts events. Commissioner McKenna expressed an interest in reviewing these figures, and suggested including information regarding revenue projections from such things as construction of a new skate park. "The idea is to sell what you're doing already," to get business proprietors to consider tournament opportunities. Mr. Dunn advised that he is always encouraged to "think outside the box." He expressed the opinion that the nature of recreation is "to mold with what the community wants and what's going to create gains for our business community." He advised that economic gains from existing Carson City recreation programs are not monitored, and suggested that "with the thousands of youth and adult participants in our programs, our business community has a huge economic gain ... That would be another direction ... to start to monitor." Mr. Dunn expressed a willingness to work with any group interested in attracting visitors to Carson City.

In reference to Commissioner McKenna's comments, Commissioner Westergard commended Mr. Dunn on the tournaments scheduled between April and November. He noted a "definite lull" between mid-November and mid-April, and suggested considering the types of facilities which could be developed to attract tournaments during those months. He suggested an ice skating rink to accommodate hockey teams and tournaments, as a possibility. He agreed with Commissioner McKenna's earlier suggestion to track the number of tournament participants who stay outside of Carson City.

In reference to a previous question, Vice Chairperson Livermore referred to the copy, included in the agenda materials, of the \$11,881 check from the Carson City Youth Sports Association to cover seasonal employees costs. In response to a question, Mr. Moellendorf advised that the City of Sparks Golden Eagle Park is approximately 300 acres, 150 of which are developed into sport fields. It is currently the largest artificial turf facility in the nation. Vice Chairperson Livermore noted the project as substantial evidence of the economic benefit of recreation sports programs. He commended Mr. Dunn on his economic impact report. Mr. Dunn expressed appreciation for the support received from Carson City businesses, restaurants, and lodging facilities. "Everyone's on board." He noted the importance of "the impact of the investment" coming sooner rather than later "... in order to retain these tournaments. When we have our surrounding communities investing a little over \$30 million into a sports complex, it's not tough to see that it's a big business. If Sparks is willing to invest \$30 million into a sports complex, there's obviously huge gains for

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the community.” Mr. Dunn discussed the importance of investing in indoor recreation and the existing outdoor recreation. Chairperson Curtis agreed, and suggested that the trail system will also serve as a tourist attraction. Discussion followed, and Chairperson Curtis thanked Mr. Dunn for his report.

4-D. DISCUSSION AND UPDATE ONLY REGARDING THE INDOOR RECREATION CENTER PROJECT TO BE LOCATED ON PROPERTY OWNED BY THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF WESTERN NEVADA ON RUSSELL WAY (7:35:49) - Chairperson Curtis introduced this item, and Mr. Moellendorf reviewed the staff report. He advised that staff is moving forward with the special use permit process, and plans to agendize the application for the July Planning Commission meeting.

Mr. Moellendorf acknowledged that one compelling reason for partnering with the Boys and Girls Club was project savings. In response to a question, he expressed the opinion that the savings have not “gone by the wayside” in light of the recent developments outlined in the staff report. He noted utilities infrastructure and the engineered geofabric already paid for and installed by the Boys and Girls Clubs, as well as the land. He further noted the minimal street improvements required for the project, the synergistic opportunity with Boys and Girls Clubs participants, the central location, and the multi-modal access opportunities. In response to a further question, he advised there was never any vision for the City to own the entire building. In response to a comment, he reiterated that the Boys and Girls Clubs had rejected option A, as outlined in the staff report. In response to a question, he discussed the importance of “give and take” and compromise in the partnership. He expressed the opinion that one advantage to each entity owning a separate building is simplification of the joint use agreement. Commissioner McKenna requested staff to report on the additional cost associated with the fire code regulation. He expressed a preference to move forward on the project as soon as possible, one way or the other.

Vice Chairperson Livermore advised of the Boys and Girls Clubs need for additional donors to complete the clubhouse project. He explained that Boys and Girls Clubs representatives believe retention of the facility is “important to those people that are willing to donate large sums of money” toward construction. Mr. Moellendorf reiterated that the Boys and Girls Clubs are donating land “as part of the deal.” In reference to Vice Chairperson Livermore’s comments, he advised that some of the donors would be reluctant to continue contributing to the Boys and Girls Clubs project if the facility is City-owned.

Chairperson Curtis advised of having participated in meetings between Boys and Girls Clubs and City representatives. She encouraged the “other two” commissioners to attend the meetings, and expressed an interest in their perspective. Commissioner Westergard inquired as to the possibility of other joint ownership possibilities. Mr. Moellendorf discussed a variation on the condominium project proposal, to annex the Boys and Girls Clubs site with the redevelopment district. This proposal was determined, by District Attorney’s staff, to not meet statutory redevelopment district criteria. In response to a question, Mr. Geddes explained that municipal governments in Nevada are statutorily prohibited from entering into joint ownership of companies, associations, etc. except with a railroad company. He provided historic information on the regulation. He explained that the City can enter into a “generically termed partnership in that we own the land, you can come on here with a lease. The typical public / private partnership that is prevalent in the country is where one party owns the land ...”

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Commissioner McKenna explained the arrangement between the school district and Western Nevada College for the high school tech center. In the deed, if the school district no longer uses the building, WNC is to pay the fair market value of the land. Commissioner McKenna inquired as to the possibility of a similar approach. Mr. Moellendorf advised that consideration was given to the possibility of one of the parties becoming insolvent. The future development agreement will include a first-right-of-refusal clause for the City to acquire the Boys and Girls Clubs property. In response to a further question, Mr. Geddes explained the Boys and Girls Clubs position to retain ownership of the building. Discussion followed, and Mr. Moellendorf advised that nationwide research indicated no other arrangement where a municipal government and a Boys and Girls Clubs or a YMCA jointly owned property or a facility. Chairperson Curtis reiterated her request for Commissioners Adams and Smolenski to participate in upcoming meetings. Mr. Moellendorf advised that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 11th.

5. ACTION ITEMS - None.

6. COMMISSIONERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

(8:12:39) - Chairperson Curtis reported on her participation in the Silver Saddle Ranch planning charrette process. A U.S. Forest Service staff person will be developing a report for distribution to the advisory committees and commissions. Chairperson Curtis commended the charrette process. In response to a question regarding the last event held in Mills Park, Mr. Moellendorf advised of having considered alternative locations. "We have not found any good ones at this point." Mr. Moellendorf advised that last year was "more extreme" because of the drought conditions. Chairperson Curtis suggested considering the special events "wear and tear" on parks and recreation facilities in conjunction with the review of fees and charges. Vice Chairperson Livermore advised that the Board of Supervisors would be interviewing and appointing members to the Carson City Arts Commission at the June 19th meeting. Commissioner Lasco inquired as to the possibility of a commission ID tag. Mr. Moellendorf offered to agendize an item.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (8:17:33) - Commissioner Shabi suggested agendizing discussion regarding the possibility of implementing a policy or enacting an ordinance to prohibit smoking around play structures on City park property. She further suggested agendizing discussion regarding the possibility of equipping City parks and recreation facilities with recycling receptacles. In reference to the February 23rd workshop, Mr. Moellendorf agreed to request the District Attorney's staff to research the possibility of a parks and recreation district.

8. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (8:21:15) - Vice Chairperson Livermore moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m. Commissioner Smolenski seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-0.

The Minutes of the June 3, 2008 Carson City Parks and Recreation Commission meeting are so approved this 1st day of July, 2008.

DONNA J. CURTIS, Chair