

CARSON CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the July 17, 2007 Meeting

Page 1

A regular meeting of the Carson City Parks and Recreation Commission was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 17, 2007 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Donna Curtis
Vice Chairperson John Felesina
Sam Bauman
Leandra Jones
Tom Keeton
Pete Livermore
Glenn Tierney

STAFF: Roger Moellendorf, Parks and Recreation Director
Vern Krahn, Park Planner
Joel Benton, 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 A QUORUM (5:32:26) - Chairperson Curtis called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present. Commissioners McKenna and Wontorski were absent.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (5:32:55) - None.

1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - June 19, 2007 (5:33:02) - Commissioner Keeton moved to accept the minutes, as presented. Vice Chairperson Felesina seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

2. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (5:33:28) - None.

3. STAFF UPDATES (5:33:35) - Mr. Krahn reviewed the letter, from U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Planning and Research Program Manager Valerie Rodman, copies of which were distributed to the commissioners and staff prior to the start of the meeting. He conveyed Transportation Manager Patrick Pittenger's thanks to the commissioners for their participation in the public hearing process. He discussed opportunities made possible by the Federal Highway Administration's adoption of the CAMPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. He acknowledged that enhancement applications will be submitted for review by the commission.

Mr. Moellendorf announced that the Carson City Rifle and Pistol Range will be closed to the public on Saturday, July 21st from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. during which time a volunteer clean-up project will take place. Mr. Moellendorf anticipates that the John B. Mankins Park will be completed in mid- to late-August. He provided an overview of project details which remain to be completed, and advised that a ribbon-cutting ceremony will be scheduled in conjunction with completion and opening of the park. Mr. Moellendorf

CARSON CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the July 17, 2007 Meeting

Page 2

reported on the dodge ball program, the inaugural game for which was held last Friday evening. He provided background information on the origins and development of the program. Approximately 43 kids played last Friday night, and he expressed confidence that the program will continue to grow. He advised there is no cost to the participants, the program is staffed by volunteers, and there is virtually no cost to the City. He discussed the possibility that the program could be expanded to include ultimate frisbee as well. He commended Recreation Sports Manager Joel Dunn on his participation in developing the program.

Mr. Moellendorf reported on one of the two annual skateboard competitions which took place at Mills Park last Saturday. He thanked the 702 skateboard shop for their sponsorship and advised that the second competition is scheduled for October. He further reported on the theater improvements project which began this week and which he anticipates to be completed within a month. Chairperson Curtis thanked Mr. Moellendorf for his report.

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS:

4-A. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE INDOOR RECREATION CENTER; TOPICS INCLUDE FUNDING, EVALUATION OF JOHND WINTERS CENTENNIAL PARK AS THE FALLBACK SITE TO THE WESTERN NEVADA COLLEGE SITE, DISCUSSION OF ALTERNATIVE SITES, AND A POSSIBLE PARTNERSHIP WITH THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB (5:42:21) - Chairperson Curtis provided background information and discussed the purpose of this agenda item. Mr. Moellendorf noted the item was agendaized for discussion only, and expressed the hope that a great deal of discussion would take place. He reviewed the staff report. He distributed to the commissioners and staff a list of cost options for various square footage options and amenities, and reviewed the same. In response to a question, he advised there is currently \$7.1 million available. The bond counsel has approved an additional \$3.5 million which would provide a little over \$10 million.

Commissioner Livermore commended Mr. Moellendorf on the staff report and the list of cost estimates. He provided background information on the recreation center included as part of Question #18. He discussed his vision for a recreation center, based on a tour taken by Parks and Recreation Department staff and several commissioners a few years ago to Boulder, Colorado. He discussed the various options listed in the staff report, and noted there are more options available than previously. He discussed Question #18 annual allocations, and available funding. Vice Chairperson Felesina pointed out that the cost options don't include property purchase. He noted that any facility constructed away from present facilities will have to be staffed. He described the possibility of the Boys and Girls Club location or the Lompa property as very intriguing. He suggested the Lompa property may "take pressure off of Mills which would allow us to build onto our present center here."

(6:27:55) Chairperson Curtis invited Boys and Girls Clubs of Western Nevada Chief Professional Officer Hal Hansen to the meeting table. Mr. Hansen advised that the Boys and Girls Clubs is "in the kid business ... not in the building business." He discussed the need for a building to serve the children and accommodate programs, and expressed a willingness to negotiate. He expressed understanding for the need for gymnasium space, and an interest in working together with the City. He described a Boys and Girls Clubs facility in Tempe, Arizona which is shared between that community's senior center, a day care center, and the parks and recreation department. He advised that the Boys and Girls Club Board is very interested in this possibility.

CARSON CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the July 17, 2007 Meeting

Page 3

Commissioner Keeton discussed the need for indoor recreation space, not necessarily a gymnasium. He expressed concerns over conflicting uses and land prices. He confessed to being “a little tired of partnerships,” and expressed the opinion the recreation center may have been opening if the City hadn’t pursued the partnership with WNC. He expressed a preference to construct a gymnasium or to get involved in a vision for downtown, but not to do any further planning until a decision is made regarding direction. Mr. Hanson provided background information on his experience. He noted that parents make the choice as to where their children spend time away from school. He acknowledged there will be competition over space, but advised that there aren’t currently more choices than there are children. He expressed the opinion that the land wouldn’t be expensive, and that the Boys and Girls Club could construct the recreation facility for much less.

Mr. Moellendorf commended Mr. Hansen on his presentation regarding the importance of children’s programs, and discussed the possibility of constructing a gymnasium adjacent to the Boys and Girls Club facility. He didn’t see any problem with having two different types of philosophical approaches to operating programs at the same site. He acknowledged the loss of time and likely “money in inflation” associated with pursuing the partnership with WNC. He pointed out, however, that “we all made a choice here collectively that it was worth the gamble to try to secure \$10 million as a partner and half of the operation costs.” He advised of having been well aware of the “down side” that “we would be back to the drawing board and that’s exactly where we are today.” Commissioner Keeton reminded the commissioners and Mr. Moellendorf that he had voted no on pursuing the partnership with WNC. Mr. Moellendorf noted that the recommendation to pursue the partnership was approved by the commission, as a body, and forwarded to the Board of Supervisors.

Chairperson Curtis requested each of the commissioners to provide input. Commissioner Bauman expressed the opinion there are too many options which are “too complicated to decide on.” He suggested reducing the options to two, “really study those and come to a decision.” Commissioner Tierney expressed the opinion that the primary consideration should be location to the end user, the people. He has “never been particularly fond of the City recreation center on the east end of town” at JohnD Winters Centennial Park. He expressed the opinion that the location is impractical from a transportation standpoint; that the location should be concentrated in or around Mills Park and “as close to the population base as we can get.” In light of the need for indoor recreation, Commissioner Jones expressed the opinion that the Lompa property and the downtown vision possibilities are too far into the future. Commissioner Livermore agreed the five options represent many to consider, but suggested that Parks staff would have been remiss in not presenting the options. He discussed the importance of considering funding and operations capability, and expressed the opinion that the Boys and Girls Clubs and the JohnD Winters Centennial Park locations are two viable options. He pointed out that the City owns the land at JohnD Winters Centennial Park, and discussed the Boys and Girls Clubs focus on recreation. He suggested that the Boys and Girls Clubs offer to partner will likely take place more quickly than any other option. Chairperson Curtis reviewed background information on discussions surrounding the recreation facility. She expressed a preference for the Boys and Girls Clubs location if a good deal can be worked out to obtain the land and construct the building. A gymnasium would satisfy what has been expressed as a desperate need in the community, and this may not drain as much from the Question #18 fund. Chairperson Curtis suggested the other option appears to be Centennial Park because the City already owns the land. She suggested requesting staff to review the legal issues associated with the Boys and Girls Clubs location. In response to a question, she expressed the opinion that “right now ... in the short term, I see building a box at the Boys and Girls Club.” Discussion took place regarding the Mills Park location, and Mr. Moellendorf advised that simply

CARSON CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the July 17, 2007 Meeting

Page 4

constructing a “box” gymnasium could be done almost anywhere. He cautioned the commissioners regarding the potential for increased operational costs associated with decentralizing facilities. The more attractions there are to one facility, the bigger draw there will be and therefore the larger the potential for enhancing revenues at that facility.

Vice Chairperson Felesina expressed a preference for having “something concrete, voted on, and moving ahead before the first of the year.” Commissioner Livermore agreed. Mr. Moellendorf acknowledged sufficient direction, but reiterated the opportunity represented by the agenda item for the commissioners to speak their minds, offer ideas, and ask questions. Commissioner Livermore discussed the benefits of partnering with the Boys and Girls Clubs. Commissioner Keeton agreed that the Boys and Girls Clubs would be a good partner, but reiterated his preference to not have a partner. He expressed a preference for the City to own and operate the facility at the Mills Park location. He expressed the opinion that the downtown vision is likely “twenty years away ...”

Chairperson Curtis reiterated the request for staff to look into the legal and operational issues associated with a possible partnership with the Boys and Girls Clubs. Commissioner Livermore commended the commissioners and Parks Department staff on their commitment to recreation in the community. Chairperson Curtis opened this item to public comment; however, none was forthcoming.

5. ACTION ITEMS:

5-A. ACTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RE-ALLOCATION OF QUESTION #18 QUALITY OF LIFE FUNDS FOR THE CARSON CITY FAIRGROUNDS AND RONALD D. WILSON MEMORIAL PARK PROJECTS (6:54:09) - Chairperson Curtis introduced this item. Mr. Moellendorf reviewed the staff report, and referred to the plan drawings which were displayed in the meeting room. He reviewed the exhibits to the staff report as well as budget sheets which he distributed to the commissioners and staff. In response to a question, he explained that there was no bid on the Fairgrounds improvement project. Lumos & Associates was employed by Mike Pegram to design the project. Mr. Krahn responded to questions regarding cost estimates for the various amenities included in the Fairgrounds improvement project. Commissioner Livermore expressed the opinion that decisions by staff added to the cost of the project, i.e., dismantling and storing the restroom facility. He discussed various other amenities associated with the project, and expressed the opinion that the end result will be high quality. Mr. Moellendorf committed to checking out the cost estimate for the announcer’s booth, and reviewed the lighting cost estimate. In response to a question, Mr. Krahn explained disposition of the arena light fixtures. In response to a question, Mr. Moellendorf pointed out a structure which is part of a future improvements project phase. He advised that the fishing pond is a separate project as well. He acknowledged that the Fairgrounds Users Coalition has expressed satisfaction with the project. Mr. Krahn emphasized that the project will replace “brand new everything that was there.”

At Mr. Moellendorf’s request, Mr. Krahn provided background information on the Ronald D. Wilson Memorial Park project bid. He reviewed changes to the park design, using a displayed drawing. Chairperson Curtis expressed a preference for the labyrinth feature. In response to a question, Mr. Krahn discussed the cost of the labyrinth feature, as well as the benefits of seeded turf versus sod. In response to a further question, he advised that the park cannot be used until the turf is established. In response to a

CARSON CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the July 17, 2007 Meeting

Page 5

further question, he reviewed the project time line. Commissioner Livermore expressed the opinion that both the Fairgrounds improvement project and the Ronald D. Wilson Memorial Park project have been well identified and the need well demonstrated.

In response to a question, Mr. Moellendorf advised there are always other projects. He discussed the first phase of the theater improvements project which includes the dimming system. The second phase will include seating, recarpeting, and painting. Mr. Moellendorf advised that new theater lights have not yet been funded. The cost is estimated at \$400,000. Mr. Moellendorf advised that the theater improvements project can proceed to the second phase with or without the theater lights. He reminded the commissioners that Question #18 funding had been previously reallocated from the Centennial Park improvements project. In reference to Question #18, he advised that previous improvements have been done at the theater. The only thing not yet addressed is the recreation facility and Centennial Park. Discussion followed, and Mr. Benton cautioned against straying from the agenda item. Mr. Moellendorf offered to provide an update on other Question #18 projects at a future meeting.

In response to a question, Mr. Moellendorf advised that the recreation center fund is the source for the two subject projects. Discussion took place regarding costs associated with the Fairgrounds improvements project. Commissioner Keeton expressed displeasure over the amount of funding required to be allocated to the Fairgrounds improvements project, and concern that “a much cheaper recreation center” will have to be constructed. He expressed a preference that the subject items had been agendized separately. Chairperson Curtis expressed concern over costs associated with the Fairgrounds improvements project, and the hope that every possible consideration will be given to completing the project within the estimate. She entertained a motion. **Commissioner Livermore moved to recommend to the Board of Supervisors reallocation of Question #18 Quality of Life funds in the amount of \$1 million from the recreation center fund to the Carson City Fairgrounds and \$180,000 from the recreation center fund to the Ronald D. Wilson Memorial Park project with the stipulation that, at the end of the contract, remaining funds be returned to Question #18 pending projects or the recreation center. Commissioner Tierney seconded the motion.** Chairperson Curtis opened this item to public comment.

(7:43:14) Donna Wilson provided background information on her residence in Carson City and her business. She discussed the length of time involved in developing the Ronald D. Wilson Memorial Park project, and requested that it move forward.

Chairperson Curtis called for a vote on the pending motion; **motion carried 7-0.**

6. COMMISSIONERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

(7:44:14) - Commissioner Keeton advised of needed corrections to Ordinance No. 2007-16, copies of which were included in the agenda materials. Commissioner Bauman expressed appreciation to Open Space / Property Manager Juan Guzman for the recent tour of the western highlands. Commissioner Tierney advised of having talked earlier in the day with Garth Richards, who indicated that Oak Ridge Drive should be completed by July 28th. Chairperson Curtis requested any interested commissioners to contact Mr. Moellendorf regarding a parks tour.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (7:47:25) - Mr. Moellendorf distributed to the commissioners and staff an amended table of future agenda items.

CARSON CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the July 17, 2007 Meeting

Page 6

8. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (7:48:14) - Commissioner Livermore moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The Minutes of the July 17, 2007 Carson City Parks and Recreation Commission meeting are so approved this 21st day of August, 2007.

DONNA J. CURTIS, Chair