

CARSON CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Minutes of the October 1, 2013 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, October 1, 2013, in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Sean Lehmann
Vice Chairperson Janice Brod
Commissioner Chuck Adams
Commissioner Joe Cacioppo
Commissioner Justin Colburn
Commissioner Donna Curtis
Commissioner Lee-Ann Keever
Commissioner Brett Long
Commissioner John McKenna

STAFF: Roger Moellendorf, Parks and Recreation Department Director
Tina Russom, Deputy District Attorney
Juan Guzman, Open Space Manager
Vern Krahn, Park Planner
Tamar Warren, 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 part of the public record. These materials are available for review, in the Clerk's Office, during regular business hours.

CALL TO ORDER (5:30:31) – Chairperson Lehmann called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (5:30:35) – Roll was called; a quorum was present.

CITIZEN COMMENTS (5:30:56) – Chairperson Lehmann entertained citizen comments; however, none were forthcoming.

1. **ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – There were no minutes to be approved
2. **MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA** – There were no modifications to the agenda.
3. **MEETING ITEMS**

A. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO SUPPORT THE WESTERN NEVADA YOUTH FOUNDATION'S EFFORT TO FUND THE INSTALLATION OF A UNIVERSALLY ACCESSIBLE/SENSORY PLAYGROUND AND TO DESIGNATE A SITE FOR THE PROJECT IN MILLS PARK. (5:31:27) – Chairperson Lehmann introduced the item. Mr. Krahn gave background and presented the agenda materials, which are incorporated into the record in the form of a Staff Report. He also introduced Barron Lauderbach and Wendy Robards, representing the Wendy Robards Universal Dream Park. Ms. Robards, the mother of a disabled daughter, explained her efforts to construct a park that would accommodate wheelchairs, walkers, canes, etc. Mr. Lauderbach gave additional information on locating the park in Carson City and the private sector efforts to raise funds. In response to a question by Chairperson Lehman, Mr. Krahn noted that the Parks and Recreation Department did not have any funds budgeted towards the park construction. In response to a question by Commissioner McKenna, Mr. Lauderbach explained that the project cost would be around \$1.5 million, who also advised including the proposed park in the City Parks Master Plan. Discussion ensued regarding possible locations and potential grant opportunities. Mr. Krahn clarified that the intent tonight was a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors in order to start reserving the funds and create a phased approach for the project. Commissioner Curtis emphasized the urgency of the project due to current ADA laws that may require immediate attention. Vice Chairperson Brod agreed with the phased approach to make it easier to apply for a CDBG grant, which requires funds to be spent within the fiscal year of the received grant. Commissioner Keever was informed that the funding would come from private donations and grants for

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the time being. Chairperson Lehmann entertained public comments, and when none were forthcoming, a motion.

Commissioner Adams moved to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to support the Western Nevada Youth Foundation's effort to fund the installation of a universally accessible/sensory playground, designate a site for the project in Mills Park, and reserve this area of the park for the next five years with the option for yearly administrative extensions after that date by the Parks and Recreation Director. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McKenna. Chairperson Lehmann entertained public comments, and when none were forthcoming, a vote. **Motion carried 9-0.**

B. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE AQUATIC FACILITY'S RULE ON THE SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN SIX YEARS AND YOUNGER IN THE FACILITY. (5:55:34) – Chairperson Lehmann introduced the item. Mr. Moellendorf gave background and presented the agenda materials, which are incorporated into the record. He also explained that the item was for “discussion only” and disclosed a meeting that was held between Chairperson Lehmann, Vice Chairperson Brod, Joe Ward of the District Attorney's Office, Kurt Meyer of the Aquatics Center, and himself. He explained that the pool dress code had been created with the sanitation and health in mind. Mr. Moellendorf also referred to a memorandum from the District Attorney's Office explaining why parents or legal guardians of children under the age of six could not sign a waiver or ask for an exemption. Mr. Meyer clarified for Commissioner Curtis that the triathlons for children age six or younger were supervised by lifeguards and did not swim without supervision. Chairperson Lehmann received confirmation that the pool rules would be amended to reflect that swim meets and other supervised events would be exempt from the adult supervision requirement due to the presence of life guards and other officials. Ron Piersanti, who is protesting the pool rules, noted that he wished to take his four-year old granddaughter to the pool without wearing the required pool attire and without being in the pool with her. Mr. Piersanti distributed a copy of the pool rules, incorporated into the record, and explained that he had been in the pool area in regular attire “hundreds of times” when the pool rules were not enforced. He also noted that he did not know how to swim; therefore, based on the pool rules, he would not be allowed in the pool with his granddaughter.

(6:18:08) – Chairperson Lehmann stated that the pool rules may not have been enforced uniformly, and suggested removing the word “area” from the sentence indicating no street clothes were allowed in the “pool area”. He also recommended that Mr. Piersanti wear shorts, no socks and shoes, and insert his feet in the pool. Additional discussion ensued around rules and Mr. Meyer clarified the six-to-one child-to-adult ratio as a supervised activity. Commissioner Long commented on the safety issue and suggested Mr. Piersanti wear shorts and “get in the pool” with his granddaughter. Commissioner Adams empathized with Mr. Piersanti; however, he noted that a blanket rule change to remedy his inconvenience was not a viable option. Mr. Piersanti disclosed his conversations with the Douglas County pool personnel, indicating that they had the “same rules” as the Carson City pool, adding that because he was “attentive” to his granddaughter, the rules were ignored. Mr. Moellendorf commented that because the rule was not consistently enforced it was not “a bad rule” and was open to reviewing all the rules at certain intervals. Chairperson Lehmann presented Mr. Piersanti with four options to choose from. Option one was to continue going to the pool and not follow the rules “and hope they don't catch you”; the second option was to wear shorts and “put your feet in the water”; option three was to use the Douglas County pool; and option four was to be refunded “what is left on your card”. Mr. Piersanti noted that he would prefer the second option and received confirmation from Mr. Moellendorf and Mr. Meyer that it was an acceptable solution as long as Mr. Piersanti agreed to be near his granddaughter if she gets in the middle of the pool. Mr. Moellendorf also suggested that he enroll his granddaughter in swimming lessons. Commissioner Long and Vice Chairperson Brod encouraged Mr. Piersanti to enroll in swimming lessons himself. Commissioner Cacioppo cited examples from his days as a lifeguard when he had to rescue children who “went under” and emphasized the importance of the rules that should be revised when needed. Chairperson Lehmann entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

C. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE TRAIL INVENTORY INITIATIVE BY LOCAL TRAIL STAKEHOLDERS. (6:37:00) – Chairperson Lehmann introduced the item. Juan Guzman, Open Space Manager, gave background and presented the agenda materials, which are incorporated into the record. In response to a question by Vice Chairperson Brod, Mr. Guzman noted that they will try to negotiate with the four or six private property owners. Commissioner Long suggested reminding the private property owners that the trails would benefit many generations and all of Carson City. Discussion ensued regarding funding property purchases through grants, and the lack of property owner liability which would alleviate some of their concerns. Mr. Guzman also stated that some of the trails

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would be maintained by Muscle Powered for the time being, until the City is able to maintain them. Vice Chairperson Brod was informed that the trail maps were “being worked on” and would be subject to review by the City’s advisory committees. Mr. Guzman also noted that on November 1, 2013, the Forest Service would meet in Washoe County, with volunteer organizations and government groups, for further discussion on trails.

4. STAFF UPDATES – DISCUSSION ONLY

A. UPDATE ON THE UPDATE REGARDING THE KINGS CANYON TO ASH CANYON TRAIL PROJECT. (6:54:28) – Chairperson Lehmann introduced the item. Mr. Guzman presented the agenda materials, incorporated into the record, and informed the Commission that in 1,078 hours, 82 volunteers had accomplished 1.25 miles of trail. Mr. Guzman noted that Jeff Potter, Trail Coordinator for Muscle Powered, would deliver a more-detailed presentation on trails in a future meeting. He also referred to several photographs in the agenda packets depicting the progression of the built trails. Discussion ensued regarding the shortcuts taken on the trails and the erosion created by that. Chairperson Lehmann and Vice Chairperson Brod noted the beautiful view from the trail. Chairperson Lehmann entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

B. UPDATE ON THE BMX TRACK LIGHTING PROJECT AND THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR THE PROJECT. (7:02:20) – Chairperson Lehmann introduced the item. Mr. Krahn announced that the Board of Supervisors had approved the transfer of funds to the BMX track lighting and anticipated the completion of the paperwork at the end of the federal government shutdown. He also expected work to begin in January. Mr. Krahn also announced that the Board of Supervisors had approved the Plaza and Shelter Project for the Fairgrounds at Fuji Park, and anticipated completion by Memorial Day in 2014. Chairperson Lehmann entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

C. UPDATE ON THE MULTI-PURPOSE ATHLETIC CENTER PROJECT. (7:04:58) – Chairperson Lehmann introduced the item. Mr. Moellendorf gave background and presented the agenda materials. He also noted that he would separate the Recreation Center from the Multipurpose Athletic Center (MAC) Project. Mr. Moellendorf clarified that this item would be agendized for action in the future and stressed that due to the economic and budgetary issues the project was significantly downsized over the course of the years, adding that it was not what this Commission or Staff had envisioned. Chairperson Lehmann inquired about the status of increasing sales tax; however, Mr. Moellendorf believed that improvements have been slow. Discussion ensued regarding the CMR process and Mr. Krahn believed it was the most open process as it showed sub-contractor bids. Chairperson Lehmann entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

5. MEMBERS’ ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION. (7:37:22) – Chairperson Lehmann introduced the item. Commissioner Kever announced that she had attended the City’s open house on the heavy equipment and wondered if attendance would have been better had it been held on a weekend. She also stated that she had attended the Baily Pond Kids Fishing Day and commented on a great turnout.

A. REPORT FROM SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON. (7:37:39) – Commissioner Cacioppo thanked the City and Staff on behalf of the Superintendent and commented on the cooperative efforts between the two entities. He also noted that a “bonfire” was being held that night. Chairperson Lehmann announced that tonight was the “Watchdog” recruitment program for fathers to be involved in the schools, and encouraged fathers to attend.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – Included in the agenda packets.

7. CITIZEN COMMENTS (7:39:42) – Chairperson Lehmann entertained citizen comments. Mr. Moellendorf announced that they were actively searching for an administrative assistant as Stella Hyatt had left the Department. Ms. Russom reminded everyone not to do “reply all”.

8. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (7:41:44) – Chairperson Lehmann entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Kever moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairperson Brod. The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

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The minutes of the October 1, 2013 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting are so approved this 7th day of January, 2014.

SEAN LEHMANN, Chair