

CARSON CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the May 16, 2006 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, May 16, 2006 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Donna Curtis
Vice Chairperson Michael Hoffman
John Felesina
Tom Keeton
Pete Livermore
John McKenna
Tom Patton

STAFF: Roger Moellendorf, Parks and Recreation Department Director
Scott Fahrenbruch, Parks and Recreation Director of Operations
Barbara Singer, Recreation Superintendent
Vern Krahn, Park Planner
Mitch Ames, Community Center Facility Operations Supervisor
Scott Keith, Recreation Program Manager - Youth
Dan Warne, Park Ranger
Rolando Villareal, Park Ranger
Mary-Margaret Madden, 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 ROLL CALL (5:33:06) - Chairperson Curtis called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present. Commissioners Davis and Herst were absent.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (5:33:36) - None.

1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - March 21, 2006 (5:33:50) - Commissioner Keeton moved to accept the minutes, as submitted. Commissioner Livermore seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

2. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (5:34:22) - None.

3. AGENDA ITEMS:

3-A. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING "BIKE TO WORK WEEK" EVENTS (5:34:45) - Chairperson Curtis noted that Vice Chairperson Hoffman had ridden his bicycle to the meeting. She introduced Carson Area Coalition on Obesity Secretary Barbara Howe, who reviewed information on Bike to Work Week activities which was included in the agenda materials. She thanked the commission and Ms. Singer for helping to publicize the event. She requested input of the commissioners for next year's event. Chairperson Curtis expressed an interest in a report on the success

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of the event. Vice Chairperson Hoffman expressed appreciation for the event, and advised that riding his bicycle took exactly the same amount of time as driving to the meeting. He expressed support for the Bike to Work Week event and appreciation to Ms. Singer for helping to publicize the event. Ms. Howe advised that Muscle Powered is in the process of placing bike racks around town. She provided the Muscle Powered web address for more information. Commissioner Patton expressed appreciation for the presentation, and support for anything the City can do to promote bicycling. He encouraged Ms. Howe and Muscle Powered representatives to consistently present information to the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors.

3-B. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE CARSON CITY OBESITY COALITION (5:53:00) - Ms. Howe distributed to the commissioners information on the Carson Area Coalition on Obesity ("CACO"), and reviewed the same. (5:57:30) Michele Cowee, a registered dietitian and the CACO Nutrition Subcommittee Chair, described some of the activities of the nutrition subcommittee, including grant writing, publicity through the local newspapers, participation in the Great American Weight Loss Challenge, sponsoring grocery shopping tours, and sponsoring a booth during the Youth Basketball program to provide general information and answer questions. (5:59:46) Sharon Vonnegut, a community member, described wellness clinics in which the chronic disease subcommittee participates. (6:00:49) Gail Thompson, Media Subcommittee Chair, advised of having been active in publicizing Bike to Work Week and other activities. She is looking forward to having Channel 10 available again.

Chairperson Curtis advised that Ms. Singer and Mr. Keith have been very active with CACO. Ms. Singer advised that she and Mr. Keith seek to coordinate various activities with CACO. She is awaiting a reply regarding grant funding to purchase child-sized cardio equipment. Ms. Thompson and Ms. Howe described the triathlon event which will be promoted in the fall. Ms. Howe discussed the need to raise funds and a proposal to sponsor a triathlon. Ms. Singer discussed the triathlon training camp, developed by Aquatic Facility Manager Kurt Meyer and Mr. Keith as part of the Summer Kamp program, and the triathlon which is scheduled for August. She advised that both Mr. Meyer and Mr. Keith bike their children to and from school every day.

Ms. Thompson invited the commissioners to the next CACO meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 6th at 7:30 a.m. Chairperson Curtis discussed the concept of family recreation envisioned for the new recreation center. She thanked the CACO representatives for their attendance and participation.

3-C. UPDATE AND DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE PARK RANGER PROGRAM (6:08:21) - Mr. Fahrenbruch introduced Park Rangers Dan Warne and Rolando Villareal, and reviewed the agenda materials. He advised that the park rangers patrol 33 City properties, including open space, trails, landscaped areas, neighborhood parks, and Mills Park. He advised of having recently attended, together with Senior Parks Coordinator Tom Case and the two park rangers, the California State Park Ranger Conference in Laughlin, Nevada. He commented on the effectiveness of the Park Ranger Program.

(6:17:05) Park Ranger Dan Warne discussed his responsibilities and the support provided by the Sheriff's Office. Mr. Fahrenbruch provided background information on Mr. Warne's experience as a former animal control officer.

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Commissioner Livermore provided historic information on the Park Ranger Program, and discussed its value to the community. In response to a question, Mr. Fahrenbruch advised that the Sheriff's Office is very supportive of the Park Ranger Program, and has been since the changes made in 2004. He related an incident with which the Sheriff's Office recently assisted, and advised that "communication couldn't be better." In response to a further question, he advised that more rangers will be needed as properties are added in conjunction with implementing the parks and recreation and unified pathways master plans. He acknowledged the need for an additional park ranger, especially during the summer months. He explained that, during special events at Mills Park, the on-duty park ranger is required to be on site. An additional park ranger on patrol would be more effective and provide better public service to the community and to park users.

Commissioner McKenna complimented the rangers on their customer service attitude. He inquired as to how they feel about the high school students and what they would like to change. Mr. Villareal advised that dealing with the high school students can be a challenge. The kids know the park rangers are on duty for their safety, however. Mr. Fahrenbruch advised that speeding through Mills Park and littering are two of the biggest problems associated with the high school students. The park rangers work closely with Orlando Sanchez and the Sheriff's deputy assigned to the high school. Vice Chairperson Hoffman expressed support for the Park Ranger Program, and appreciation for all the time and effort invested in its success. In response to a question, Mr. Fahrenbruch explained the park rangers' involvement in special events scheduled in City parks. In response to a further question, he explained the arrangement between the park rangers and the Sheriff's Office to respond to calls in the wildland urban interface areas. Commissioner Livermore provided background information on past attempts to partner with the BLM on park ranger coverage. Chairperson Curtis called for public comment and, when none was forthcoming, thanked Mr. Fahrenbruch and the park rangers for their attendance and presentation.

3-D. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING COMMUNITY THEATER IMPROVEMENTS CONSISTING OF, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, SEATING REPLACEMENT, LIGHTING INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS, CARPET REPLACEMENT, PAINTING, AND ORCHESTRA PIT COVER PROJECT (6:33:55) - Mr. Ames reviewed the staff report. In response to a question, he described the materials to be used for the orchestra pit cover. In response to a further question, he advised there will be 700 fixed seats and 14 seats for the ADA section. In response to a further question, he advised that seat sales / assignments will be left to facility renters. He acknowledged that the orchestra pit cover is being designed and engineered for safety. The City's Building Department will approve the plans. The system is specified by the theatrical consultant and will be manufactured by one of three possible vendors. With regard to the new seating, Commissioner McKenna suggested designating ADA seating along the aisle and in the middle to provide people with a better view. Mr. Ames described transfer seats prescribed by Code, and advised that the slope of the auditorium may pose a problem for wheelchairs. He offered to look into the possibility of implementing Commissioner McKenna's suggestion. He responded to additional questions regarding resistance of the new seating to vandalism. He advised that the fabric will be subject to tears, but spare fabric has been ordered and will be kept on hand. In response to a further question, he advised that the existing seats are constructed in such a way as to be more expensive to repair than to replace. He described design of the new seats in consideration of maintenance.

In response to a question, Mr. Ames advised that the existing seats are original to the theater. Commissioner Livermore thanked Mr. Ames for his effort and noted how well the theater has served the community over the years. In response to a further question, Mr. Ames described the new lighting system

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and reviewed the construction time line. Ms. Singer advised that Mr. Ames had worked very hard to ensure the project was submitted under bid, and that the theater users and patrons will be pleased with the outcome. Mr. Ames expressed appreciation to his staff, and commented that the efficiency of community center operations "is a direct reflection of their efforts." He commented on the vibrant arts scene in Carson City, and noted the value placed on performing arts in the Citywide survey. Mr. Moellendorf advised that the emphasis on performing arts in Carson City was very impressive to him, as a new resident. He commended Mr. Ames on being a strong advocate for improvements to the theater. He discussed the community's strong support for improvements to the theater, as indicated by the Citywide survey.

In response to a question, Mr. Ames expressed no objection to selling name plates for theater seats. He discussed the need for light fixtures, and requested donations from the community. He responded to questions regarding the light fixtures needed. Commissioner McKenna expressed the belief that dedicated individuals can drive government and the community to do what it should do. He suggested the community and arts patrons should be involved in helping to raise funds for the arts and the theater. Commissioner Livermore suggested submitting some of the requests for discretionary capital improvements projects funding. In response to a question, Mr. Ames estimated the lighting costs to be \$175,000. Discussion followed. In response to a question, Mr. Ames advised that appropriate parts of the existing theater seats will be salvaged.

(7:01:37) Dave Morgan commented that the theater experience is always "incredibly high quality." He suggested holding an all-star theater fund raiser once or twice a year.

3-E. UPDATE AND DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING TIMELINES FOR THE RONALD D. WILSON MEMORIAL PARK AND CARSON RIVER PARK CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

(7:03:54) - Mr. Moellendorf introduced this item. Mr. Krahn provided background information on recently approved funding for Ronald D. Wilson Memorial Park, a subsequent meeting with the Wilson family and a landscape architect, and the proposal submitted by the landscape architect. He reviewed the staff report and the attachments. In response to a question, he explained the project implementation process once master plans have been approved by this commission, the Planning Commission, and the Board of Supervisors. He advised that this commission, the Carson River Advisory Committee, and the Board of Supervisors approved a conceptual plan for Carson River Park a number of a years ago. He offered to present the site plan to the commission once the consultants are hired. With regard to Ronald D. Wilson Memorial Park, he advised that a consultant will be hired and construction documents started. In response to a further question, he explained his role as project manager, the consultants' role, and the role of other Parks Department staff. Commissioner Keeton requested to review the design for Ronald D. Wilson Memorial Park, and Mr. Krahn offered to send it to him. With regard to the water line at Ronald D. Wilson Memorial Park, Mr. Krahn advised of the need to meet with the City's new capital improvements projects manager. Commissioner Keeton offered the commission's assistance.

In response to a question regarding Carson River Park, Mr. Krahn reiterated the offer to present more site detail on the day use area once the consultant is on board. Chairperson Curtis called for public comment and, when none was forthcoming, thanked Mr. Krahn for his presentation.

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS (7:19:29) - Chairperson Curtis noted the revised format of the agenda pertinent to this item. In response to a question, Ms. Madden advised that, pursuant to Open Meeting Law regulations, comments pertaining to these items should be kept brief if given at all.

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STATUS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM STAFF (7:20:37) - Mr. Moellendorf advised that an annual clean up day at the rifle range was scheduled for Saturday, May 20th from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. He invited the commissioners and the public to participate. He further advised that the Finance Department will present a resolution to the Board of Supervisors, at their May 18th meeting, for proposals to issue general obligation bonds in the amount of \$3.5 million for recreation projects. He provided background information with regard to the same. Mr. Moellendorf further advised that the first day for Summer Kamp registration was Monday, May 15th, with approximately 230 people registering. He reported on the adult soccer program which is in its third week. He responded to questions regarding the proposal to issue general obligation bonds.

MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION (7:24:48) - Chairperson Curtis requested that the activities of other advisory committees be included in status reports provided by staff. She expressed the hope that the Question #1 work group meeting would be scheduled rather than presenting the item to each advisory committee. Mr. Moellendorf advised that invitations for the work group meeting, scheduled for June 26th, would be sent to the commissioners. Chairperson Curtis read into the record a letter of resignation from Commissioner Herst. Commissioner Patton read his letter of resignation into the record, and discussed the importance of racquetball to this community. Chairperson Curtis expressed appreciation to Commissioner Patton, and noted his "wisdom and ... particular way of looking at things" would be missed. She advised that Commissioner Herst would be missed as well. She encouraged the public to consider applying for membership.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (7:35:16) - Mr. Moellendorf advised that presentation of the downtown plan had been added to the list of future agenda items. Chairperson Curtis requested to remove item #4 from the list of future agenda items, and to replace it with a six-month status report on funding of lights and other fixtures for the theater.

6. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (7:36:47) - Vice Chairperson Hoffman moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Patton seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

The Minutes of the May 16, 2006 Carson City Parks and Recreation Commission meeting are so approved this 18th day of July, 2006.

DONNA J. CURTIS, Chair