

CARSON CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

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A meeting of the Carson City Parks and Recreation Commission was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 7, 2005 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

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

STAFF: Roger Moellendorf, Parks and Recreation Department Director
Scott Fahrenbruch, Parks and Recreation Director of Operations
Vern Krahn, Park Planner
Barbara Singer, Recreation Superintendent
Joel Dunn, Recreation Supervisor
Scott Keith, Recreation Supervisor
Kurt Meyer, Aquatic Facility Supervisor
Lee Plemel, Principal Planner
Mike Suglia, Senior Deputy District Attorney
Kathleen King, Recording Secretary

NOTE: A tape recording of these proceedings is on file in the Clerk-Recorder's Office, and is available for review during regular business hours.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL (1-0009) - Chairperson Keeton called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present. Commissioner Curtis arrived at 5:33 p.m. Commissioner Patton arrived at 5:37 p.m. Commissioner McKenna arrived at 6:46 p.m.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (1-0016) - None.

1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES (1-0019) - None.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (1-0023) - None.

3. AGENDA ITEMS:

3-A. ACTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO APPROVE OR REJECT A PROPOSAL BY A PRIVATE PARTY TO INSTALL AND OPERATE A YEAR-ROUND ICE RINK AT THE PONY EXPRESS PAVILION (1-0029) - Mr. Moellendorf provided an overview of the presentation, discussion, and action which took place at the last meeting. He reviewed the staff report and advised that, in the meantime, Ms. Singer had looked into various options to accommodate the Recreation Division programs.

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(1-0080) David Terrill, representing Gilley Nicholson, advised of having extensively discussed the proposal with Mr. Nicholson since the last commission meeting. He and Mr. Nicholson feel very strongly about not displacing any of the existing users, and would prefer to withdraw the proposal than to do so. [Commissioner Patton arrived at 5:37 p.m.] Mr. Terrill advised he had visited the Pavilion several times prior to the proposal being presented, and only once saw anyone using it. The impression, at the time, was that the facility was seldom used. In response to a question, Mr. Terrill advised that a peak-season, temporary facility is a possibility. Chairperson Keeton thanked Mr. Terrill.

Commissioner Livermore encouraged Mr. Terrill to consider private properties or other facilities in the area. Mr. Terrill advised that he and Mr. Nicholson would continue to pursue a facility in the area. He commented on the “amazingly wonderful effect” an ice rink can have on a town. In response to a comment, Mr. Terrill reiterated an interest in a temporary ice rink facility, but advised it would not be financially feasible to utilize the Pavilion on a temporary basis. In response to a question, he explained the reasons.

At Vice Chairperson DePauw’s request, Ms. Singer reviewed the results of her research into other locations to accommodate existing Pavilion users. In response to a question, she provided an overview of the May 10, 2005 memo included in the agenda materials. Mr. Terrill thanked the commission for their consideration.

(1-0250) Lynn Remick discussed her disappointment over the ice rink proposal being withdrawn. She advised that having an ice rink, whether at the Pavilion or in another location, would be a huge draw and benefit to the community. Morgan and Brian Remick responded to questions regarding their interest in having an ice rink in Carson City.

(1-0338) Gary Windisch, a Carson City resident, advised of having attended the May 17th commission meeting. He further advised of having subsequently visited the Pavilion on four separate occasions and of not finding any activity there. He discussed various activities and events which take place in City parks and recreation facilities. He reviewed the benefits to the community of the proposed ice rink.

(1-0403) Janice Moskowitz advised of having provided written comments to the commissioners, and expressed support for an ice rink facility.

(1-0415) Uriah Wise, of Sierra In-Line Hockey League, referred to comments provided at the May 17th commission meeting, and reiterated the opinion that an ice rink should be “done right” in an enclosed building. He reviewed SIHL programs and use of the Pavilion.

(1-0442) Pat Glick, Chairman of the Carson City Library Foundation, expressed appreciation for Mr. Terrill’s willingness to withdraw the proposal to avoid displacing existing users.

Commissioner Curtis suggested considering an ice rink facility as part of the parks, recreation, and trails master planning process.

In response to a question, Mr. Suglia advised that NRS 244.283 provides a procedure for the Board of Supervisors to lease property for recreational purposes. He provided an overview of the process and advised that, in this case, it would be perfectly legal and appropriate for the Board of Supervisors to lease the property for \$1 per year in exchange for the facility being operated by a private party. There would be

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no concern provided the Board of Supervisors made the appropriate findings. Mr. Suglia further advised that the Board of Supervisors has broad powers regarding county property.

In response to a question, Commissioner Livermore provided historic information with regard to the original purpose of the Pony Express Pavilion. He discussed costs associated with relocating the existing Pavilion users. In response to a question, Vice Chairperson DePauw advised of two privately-owned roller skating rinks in the community which subsequently closed. Commissioner Patton expressed disappointment over the proposal being withdrawn. He suggested there may be other, creative solutions to the issues associated with the proposal. Chairperson Keeton encouraged Mr. Terrill to work with Parks and Recreation Department staff and the Board of Supervisors to keep the proposal alive, if possible. He noted the existence of a user group as demonstrated by the public comment received at this meeting and the May 17th meeting. No formal action was taken.

3-B. ACTION TO MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGARDING CHOOSING A PREFERRED SCENARIO FROM THE LAND USE MASTER PLAN (1-0623) - Mr. Krahn provided background information on this item, reviewed the staff report and the pertinent agenda materials. In response to a series of questions, he advised that the Board of Supervisors will be asked by staff, at their July 7th meeting, to choose a preferred land use plan or components thereof. The commission has the opportunity to provide input to the Board of Supervisors prior to that meeting. As part of the parks, recreation, and trails master plan, staff will present issues for consideration within the “broader umbrella of the preferred land use plan.” In response to a further question, Mr. Krahn advised that the parks, recreation, and trails master plan will respond to the land use plan. Mr. Moellendorf further explained that the preferred scenario selected by the Board of Supervisors will inform the parks, recreation, and trails master plan. Extensive discussion took place with regard to the purpose of this item, and the appropriate action. Commissioner Herst suggested tallying the results of the survey included in the agenda materials. [Chairperson Keeton recessed the meeting at 6:35 p.m., and reconvened at 6:41 p.m.]

Consensus of the commission was to provide an individual response to each of the Alternative Land Use Scenario Survey questions. The results are as follows:

	Downtown	So. Carson Residential	No. Carson Street	Hwy. 50 East	Central Freeway	So. Carson Street	BLM Lands	Eastern Portal	Future Land Use
DePauw	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Patton	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Herst	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	1
Hoffman	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Keeton	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Felesina	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	2
	Downtown	So. Carson Residential	No. Carson Street	Hwy. 50 East	Central Freeway	So. Carson Street	BLM Lands	Eastern Portal	Future Land Use

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Curtis	1, 2 and the last part of 3 to focus on public street landscape	1	2 and the last bullet of 3 to focus on public street landscape	2	2 and the last bullet of 3 - explore regional parks area	2	2	2	2
Livermore	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

Commissioner Curtis changed her response with regard to the Eastern Portal, as follows: “Number 2 and the bullet on number 3 that says, ‘focus on neighborhood parks as residential area develops.’” With regard to the Highway 50 East area, she suggested adding, to Scenario 2, paths and trails to foster connectivity for employees in the commercial areas. [Commissioner McKenna arrived at 6:46 p.m.] Chairperson Keeton advised that Commissioner McKenna had expressed a preference for the Mixed Use Option and no expansion on the east side of the River.

In response to a question, Mr. Krahn suggested that staff could formulate a report to the Board of Supervisors based on the commissioners’ responses to the survey. **Chairperson Keeton entertained a motion to request staff to report to the Board of Supervisors the results of the commissioners’ responses. Commissioner Herst so moved. Commissioner Felesina seconded the motion.** In response to a comment, Mr. Plemel advised that the commission will have the opportunity to address the parks, recreation, and trails master plan. Discussion took place with regard to the commission’s recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Krahn acknowledged that the commissioners’ responses to the survey questions do not “lock them in.” In response to a further question, he agreed to provide the staff report to the commissioners prior to its presentation to the Board of Supervisors. Chairperson Keeton called for a vote on the pending motion; **motion carried 9-0.**

3-C. DISCUSSION ONLY AND PRESENTATION FROM STAFF REGARDING THE RECREATION DIVISION’S SUMMER ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS (1-1305) - Ms. Singer provided background information on this item. Mr. Keith provided an overview of development of the Recreation Division inclusion policy. He advised that all registration forms now include a question with regard to accommodation, and reviewed the process by which the information is evaluated and acted upon. Ms. Singer pointed out the inclusion policy in the *Discover Us* publication, and read the language into the record. Mr. Keith advised that the list of accommodations is rather extensive, and that he is pleased with the outcome of the process. He responded to questions regarding the responses received, to date.

Commissioner Herst commended the Recreation Division staff on the inclusion policy. She expressed an interest in determining whether more funding will be necessary to make recreation programs more inclusive. In response to a question, Ms. Singer advised that \$15,000 in scholarship funding is provided annually through the general fund. She advised of requests to accommodate children free of charge through the State Division of Children and Family Services (“DCFS”). She pointed out the announcement in the

Discover Us publication regarding available scholarships. Mr. Keith reviewed the approximate cost for accommodating the DCFS request. Commissioner Herst requested documentation of the exact costs. Mr.

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Keith reviewed subsidy programs through Children's Cabinet and other providers.

Mr. Keith reviewed details of the Youth Programs listed in the staff report. He responded to questions regarding participant ages, specialty camps, and waiting lists. Ms. Singer reviewed details of the programs listed under the "Other" category of the staff report.

Commissioner Livermore commended the Recreation Division staff on their professionalism and dedication. In response to a question, Mr. Keith advised that Recreation Division staff and Boys and Girls Club staff are in constant communication. Discussion took place regarding the number of Boys and Girls Club participants and programs. Commissioner Livermore advised that the Youth Sports Association has made Governor's Field and the Edmonds Sports Complex available to the Boys and Girls Club for summer programs.

Mr. Meyer reviewed details of the Aquatic Programs listed in the staff report. He responded to questions regarding the drop-in water polo program, and the number of people which use the facility each month. Commissioner Livermore complimented Ms. Singer and the Recreation Division staff on the programs. Ms. Singer displayed the expanded version of the *Discover Us* publication. Chairperson Keeton thanked the Recreation Division staff for their presentation.

Ms. Singer responded to questions regarding the scholarship funding provided through the general fund. Commissioner Patton suggested approaching community and service groups for scholarship funding. Mr. Keith advised that no child has been turned away this year. Recreation Division staff always "makes a way" to accommodate children. Commissioner Livermore discussed the Question #18 funding which subsidizes the Aquatic Facility operation. Ms. Singer offered to request Recreation Supervisor Joel Dunn to provide a presentation, at a future meeting, regarding adult softball tournaments and tracking the economic impacts of children's soccer, swim meets, etc.

3-D. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING A SERIES OF SPECIAL EVENTS CALLED THE CARSON CITY RACEWAY AT FUJI PARK (1-2053) - Mr. Moellendorf provided background information on this item, and reviewed the staff report. He advised of receiving complaints from three citizens, to date. He reviewed the agenda materials pertinent to this item. He acknowledged that the event coordinator is paying a fee for use of the facility.

In response to a question, Mr. Moellendorf advised that the event coordinator, Mr. Onweiler, provides concessions within the Fairgrounds arena. Conceivably, another event could be held in the park as well as in the event center. Mr. Moellendorf acknowledged that Mr. Onweiler's rental is designated for the Fairgrounds arena only. Commissioner Hoffman advised of speaking with some of the equestrian users following one of the raceway events, who indicated no problem with the clean up efforts. They expressed appreciation that the raceway events were limited to eight in order to accommodate other uses. Vice Chairperson DePauw advised of having attended the Planning Commission meeting at which this matter was agendized. She provided an overview of the concerns expressed by Mr. Kynett and Mr. Lepire.

Mr. Moellendorf expressed appreciation for Vice Chairperson DePauw's comments at the Planning Commission meeting. He discussed the Planning Commission's request that Parks and Recreation Department staff stipulate to enforcing a 9:00 p.m. shut down to the raceway events. He explained the undue hardship this would have placed upon the event coordinator due to advertising and publicity which

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had already been done. He reviewed concerns expressed earlier in the day, by telephone, from Mrs. Gene Lepire, and steps both staff and the event coordinator are taking to address them.

Commissioner Livermore expressed concern with regard to the existing Fuji Park / Fairgrounds users being displaced by the event, and the perception that the name of the Fairgrounds had been changed to Carson City Raceway. Mr. Moellendorf provided background information on the name of the raceway event. Mr. Fahrenbruch advised that the event coordinator did not charge for parking at the last event. The event fee covered parking and attendance. In response to a comment, Mr. Fahrenbruch reiterated that parking attendants provided guidance but were not collecting fees.

Mr. Moellendorf commended Mr. Fahrenbruch on working with the event coordinator to ensure the Fairgrounds arena is restored following each raceway event. He commended the event coordinator for his diligence in adhering to the City's requirements.

In response to a question, Mr. Moellendorf advised that the event coordinator was informed of the possibility of the events being canceled if "numerous complaints" were received by the Parks and Recreation Department. He reiterated the three complaints received, and advised that there have been a number of favorable comments due to the family-oriented nature of the events. In response to an earlier question, Mr. Moellendorf advised that long-term, regular users of the facility are given priority in scheduling events. They are allowed to schedule up to one year in advance. He acknowledged that most of the users are non-profit, but noted there are many for-profit events scheduled at the facility as well.

3-E. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING CURRENT FEES AND CHARGES FOR THE CARSON CITY FAIRGROUNDS (1-2748) - Mr. Moellendorf reviewed the staff report and the pertinent agenda materials. He suggested considering and analyzing the fee structure for all parks and recreation facilities to determine the need for revision. Discussion took place with regard to the same, and with regard to developing a policy on event coordinators charging parking fees. Commissioner McKenna discussed the importance of keeping in mind the many organizations which are served by taxpayers and very worthwhile to the community. He noted the importance of keeping Parks and Recreation facilities available for the community. He advised that the Pioneer High School graduation, held earlier in the evening, took place in the Community Center Gymnasium because the building used last year "charges too much."

Mr. Moellendorf noted the many-faceted aspects of this topic, and expressed appreciation for Commissioner McKenna's comments. He discussed the issue of event coordinators charging parking fees, and offered suggestions. Commissioner Hoffman noted the importance of considering the fees in October because of the set percentage by which they can be raised each year. Mr. Fahrenbruch cautioned the commission against considering charging fees on a percentage basis as this has been attempted in the past and not worked well. Chairperson Keeton suggested considering the existing resolution, and that it may need to be changed to allow more of an annual increase.

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4. NON-ACTION ITEMS:

STATUS REPORT ON QUESTION #18, RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION TAX, AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (1-3345) - Mr. Moellendorf advised that the Silver Oak Park plan will be presented to the Board of Supervisors at their June 16th meeting. Staff is continuing to work on the recreation center, particularly with regard to funding, amenities, and location. He distributed to the commissioners an article from *Recreation Management* magazine, and reviewed the same. He discussed a trip to Fort Luften, Colorado to visit a recreation center and to tour at least four other nearby recreation centers. He requested the attendance of 1-2 of the commissioners, and suggested the appropriateness of having Chairperson Keeton and Commissioner Livermore participate. He advised that the trip would most likely be scheduled during the month of July. (2-0171) Chairperson Keeton expressed an interest in participating in the trip. He requested any other interested commissioners to advise Mr. Moellendorf.

Mr. Fahrenbruch provided a status report on the Governor's Field lighting project. In response to a question, he advised the project is anticipated to be complete by the end of July. (2-0011) Mr. Fahrenbruch discussed the asphalt replacement project which will be done concurrently with the lighting project.

STATUS REPORT ON UPDATE OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION ELEMENT TO THE MASTER PLAN (2-0023) - Mr. Moellendorf advised that approximately 886 surveys had been received, to date. Mr. Moellendorf hopes to have the results tabulated by mid-June. He anticipates the next master plan status report to be agendized for the July commission meeting.

STATUS REPORT ON STATEWIDE BALLOT QUESTION #1 PROGRAM, GRANT APPLICATIONS, AND PROJECTS (2-0122) - None.

STATUS REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM STAFF (2-0048) - Mr. Moellendorf commended Cemetery staff on preparations for Memorial Day ceremonies. He commended Parks and Streets staff on preparations for the Korean War Veterans Memorial dedication ceremony. Commissioner Livermore noted the attendance of a Congressman, the Lieutenant Governor, the present and former Mayor, and many other dignitaries, including representatives of the Korean population in Carson City.

Mr. Moellendorf advised that the City's portion of the timber harvest operation in the Waterfall Fire burn area is now complete. He advised that the roads will remain closed as the U.S. Forest Service begins its timber harvest operation which is anticipated to last for the next couple months.

STATUS REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS (1-3277) - Chairperson Keeton reviewed the "FYI" items included in the agenda materials. (1-3332) Vice Chairperson DePauw discussed a newspaper article regarding the new gymnasium. (1-3515) Commissioner Curtis advised of having recently visited recreation centers in the Salt Lake City area. She will provide a report at a future meeting. (2-0133) In response to a comment, Commissioner McKenna advised that the Tahoe Rim Trail Association recently trained 23 new sawyers. These sawyers will be clearing the 165 miles of Tahoe Rim Trail, except for those portions in designated wilderness areas. Commissioner McKenna acknowledged having served as one of the instructors.

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FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS (1-3285) - Commissioner Curtis advised of a list she had prepared, and requested that it be provided to the commissioners prior to the June 18th meeting. Mr. Moellendorf agreed to provide the list to the commissioners. (2-0144) Commissioner Curtis discussed a recent newspaper article regarding equestrian access across the freeway bypass. She suggested agendaizing discussion for a future meeting regarding the equestrians' concerns.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM STAFF (2-0164) - Previously covered.

5. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (2-0175) - Commissioner Herst moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m. Commissioner Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-0.

The Minutes of the June 7, 2005 meeting of the Carson City Parks and Recreation Commission are so approved this 16th day of August, 2005.

THOMAS N. KEETON, Chair