



Recreation and Parks Commission

ACCEPTED MINUTES

Tuesday ~ March 4, 2014 ~ 6:00 p.m.

McKinley Arts & Culture Center
925 Riverside Drive – Reno

MEMBERS

Vacancy, Chair
Nate Daniel, Vice-Chair
Mike Ginsburg
Gerry Taylor
Joe Arrascada
Tom Stille
Layne Van Noy
Troy Harsh
Erik Scalise

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Daniel called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. A quorum was established.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nate Daniel, Mike Ginsburg, Troy Harsh, Erik Scalise, and Layne Van Noy

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joe Arrascada, Gerry Taylor, and Tom Stille

POSITIONS VACANT: One position vacant

ALSO PRESENT: Julee Conway – Director
Leslie Smith – Program Assistant
Andy Bass – Recreation Manager
Allen Tryon – Associate Civil Engineer, Public Works, City of Reno

II. PUBLIC COMMENT – This item is for either public comment on any action item or for general public comment and is limited to no more than three (3) minutes for each commentator.

Margie Hicks requested that the Plumas Park dog off-leash citizen request be placed on the April 1, 2014, agenda.

Julee Conway introduced Leslie Smith as the new Program Assistant in Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 4, 2014 MEETING OF THE RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION (For Possible Action)

It was moved by Commissioner Ginsburg; seconded by Commissioner Harsh, to accept the February 4, 2014 minutes as presented. The motion carried: Commissioners Daniel, Ginsburg, Harsh, Scalise and Van Noy assenting; Commissioners Arrascada, Stille and Taylor absent; and one vacant position.

IV. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Review, Discussion, and Selection of Commission Chair and/or Vice-Chair to fill a Vacancy (For Possible Action)

It was moved by Commissioner Ginsburg; seconded by Commissioner Harsh, to nominate Nate Daniel to fill the vacant chair position. Commissioner Daniel accepted the nomination. The motion carried: Commissioners Daniel, Ginsburg, Harsh, Scalise and Van Noy assenting; Commissioners Arrascada, Stille and Taylor absent; and one vacant position.

It was moved by Commissioner Ginsburg; seconded by Commissioner Scalise, to nominate Layne Van Noy to fill the vacant vice-chair position. Commissioner Van Noy accepted the nomination. The motion carried: Commissioners Daniel, Ginsburg, Harsh, Scalise and Van Noy assenting; Commissioners Arrascada, Stille and Taylor absent; and one vacant position.

2. Update on the Northwest Pool Facility Improvements Project and 2014 Pool Schedules.

Julee Conway introduced Andy Bass, Recreation Manager. He informed the Commission that the City Council set forth strategic priorities and that the Northwest Pool meets two of those priorities – Provide Efficient and Responsible Services and Provide Safe and Livable Neighborhoods. He then introduced Allen Tryon, Associate Civil Engineer, City of Reno Public Works, who also leads the Capital Improvement Project group for the City of Reno. Mr. Tryon gave an in depth description of the poor condition of the Northwest Pool facility roof. Through a power point presentation, he showed various areas of the pool and property surrounding the pool, the current condition of the facility, and the necessary improvements. He explained that the roof used to be fully retractable but is now non-operational and dangerous to maintenance workers, the gables are in disrepair and will either be repaired or replaced where necessary, parking is inadequate and areas of the facility are no longer ADA compliant.

The Northwest Pool facility renovations will include construction of a new roof, repair and/or replacement of the north and south gables where necessary, ADA-compliant improvements and improved driveway entrance and parking area.

The funding for the project will come from various sources. Public Works Capital Maintenance Project funds of \$885,000 will be used to replace the roof, enhance the parking area for City of Reno staff and deliveries, and, if funds are available, possibly include a hot water system and ventilation system. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funds totaling \$100,000 will be used toward ADA improvements such as accessibility to locker rooms, ADA-compliant showers, toilets and sinks, as well as an access route for ADA-compliant parking. Other funding sources will be pursued including private sources so that as many improvements as possible can be addressed. Additional outlay of the project includes \$102,000 for the cost of the architect. Future projects for Northwest Pool would include a UV water filtration system, as well as a separate filtration system for the small pool.

The bid for the project will be released to the public March 7, 2014, and March 14, 2014, with bids due back to the City of Reno by March 20, 2014. The contract will be awarded on April 16, 2014, by the City Council.

Northwest Pool will close June 15, 2014, for renovation. Idlewild Pool will open June 16, 2014 and will remain open until September 30, 2014. This timeframe will extend the regular outside pool

season by approximately three weeks. Northwest Pool will reopen October 1, 2014. It is considered the “flagship facility” and a grand reopening will be planned.

Questions from Commission:

In response to Commissioner Scalise’s question regarding the City’s plan for compensating for the closure of Northwest Pool by potentially opening other pools. Staff responded there are four weeks funded in the budget next year for Traner Pool. Last year the City worked with the Boys and Girls Club, who contributed \$5,000 to operate the pool which benefited their youth. We also received money from the Trainer Foundation. Traner Pool opens mid-June. Additional hours of operation are dependent upon available funding

In response to adding additional projects, add alternates will be considered as funds are available. The ventilation system will be one alternate. Roof Gables and ADA will be combined into one number. Third, the ventilation system. Anticipates to have base bid cover roof, gables and ADA, and possibly the ventilation system as alternate one. Change order is possible but may not be recommended. It would be \$300,000 to do the UV system, money that the City does not have. Originally in the budget so if money is identified, the UV system project may be completed in the timeline because it was originally in the scope of services. Staff stated that the timeline has changed once in this project.

Commissioner Scalise asked if Idlewild Pool could open early with pool preparation. Staff responded that they will get the pool ready as usual weeks prior to the scheduled opening. The Commission discussed the idea of an Adopt-A-Pool event weekend and suggested June 7, 2014.

Staff commented that Parks, Recreation and Community Services will work with the Office of Communication and Community Engagement to get the word out about the bid award and to let neighborhoods know the project status and timing.

Idlewild Pool will open the same as last year, but will stay open longer this year.

Commission discussed Saturday, September 27, 2014, for Aquafest. A proposed plan would be to go to Idlewild Pool or Northwest Pool. This might be a good time for the grand opening, but it might be risky as far as having the project completed on time. This plan might be too tight of a timeline. Idlewild is a safe bet. Staff recommended Idlewild Pool over Northwest Pool and then have a very special re-grand opening for Northwest Pool.

A 10-week construction timeline will start April 16, after City Council awards the bids.

Because of its size (more lanes), Northwest Pool is really the only indoor pool used. If Northwest Pool is not available, then there will be no winter aquatics. It is important to the community.

In response to Commissioner Van Noy’s question regarding the City’s bid selection process. What are the qualifiers, strictly bottom line? Allen Tryon responded that due to the size of the project, it will

go out as a general bid, advertised in the paper and will be advertised nationally. It is generally a roofing contract; any qualified roofing contractors can bid.

In response to Commissioner Van Noy's question about any consideration for additional parking at Northwest Pool because it is currently inadequate. Allen Tryon agreed. Reno Access Advisory Committee brought the matter to Public Work's attention, and he was able to find money for the ADA parking part of the project.

Citizen Renee Heidacker asked for clarification regarding the UV System. Staff explained that a typical pool uses chlorine to treat the pool and keep a pool clean. A UV system uses ultraviolet lights to do the same thing without using chlorine. It is the most effective cleansing system to put in a pool.

3. Update on Rosewood Lakes Golf Course:

Commission requested that this matter be a standing item on the agenda.

Julee Conway updated the Commission on the condition of the course due to the dry winter and significant winds. Full-time staff has been hired back and are focused on maintaining the course so that its condition does not regress so far that it cannot be brought back to a certain level. Currently, it is operating with four full-time staff and some part-time staff to get the water on, equipment back up and running and in good condition. The course is open nine months of the year and closed three months in winter. Staff knows that the City Council is contemplating the overall disposition of the golf course due to the budget situation. The City of Reno subsidizes the course between \$400,000 and \$500,000 a year. Of that amount, approximately \$250,000 is for the bond issue that is outstanding against the course. The remainder amount is used to subsidize the operation of the course because it does not bring in sufficient revenue during the nine months it is open in order to pay for its operation and the bond payments. While the disposition of the course is being discussed by the City Council, the cost for operating the course is included in this year's budget ending June 30, 2014. The driving range is tentatively scheduled to open around March 8 or mid-March and there have already been inquiries from the public as to the opening date. Regarding the matter of the permits for RTC and Army Corps of Engineers, there is no additional news. At this time, these issues are still outstanding. Staff will be advised when this comes forward to the City Council, possibly later in March. The goal is to be open within two days of notice from the City Council.

V. Council Liaison Report – Council Member Oscar Delgado - *No action may be taken on announcements. Limited to items that do not appear elsewhere on the agenda.*

None

VI. Staff Liaison Report /Updates – FY14-15 Budget Process Update; Senior Winter Games; EMNECC Community Garden enhancements; Special Events Subcommittee of the Reno City Council.

Julee Conway reminded the Commission that this is a two-year budget cycle, FY14/15 and FY15/16. A public meeting has been added to the FY14/15 budget process for April 23, 2014, to discuss the

strategic planning process. Additional public meetings are scheduled for May 6 and May 7 to discuss proposed department budgets with a follow-up meeting on May 20 if needed. Departments have submitted their budget proposals to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to be reviewed by the City Manager's office. The OMB will also be looking at the projection of revenue.

The Senior Winter Games was a huge success (February 3-14, 2014). There were approximately 150 participants on average for the games at various locations. Harrah's Hotel & Casino was the hotel sponsor and Senior Care Plus was the underwriter. Harrah's sponsored the Valentine's Day dinner and dance on February 14, 2014, which was a sold out event with 400 people in attendance. The closing event held at Harrah's was also very successful. Congratulations go out to the staff of the Youth and Seniors Division of Parks, Recreation and Community Services and the many volunteers for an incredible event.

One of the goals of the Commission is to enhance the community gardens at EMNECC. Commissioner Stille started the ball rolling and, as a result, three individuals met with Julee Conway and Councilmember Brekus to discuss the possibility of a community garden. The community garden at Paradise Park was a suggested location because a garden currently exists there, however, it is in need of attention. The Paradise Park project is overseen by the seniors at Teglia Paradise Park Activity Center. As a joint project, they are willing to put more money into it and to get more people involved to make it a success. It was suggested that the project is worthy of a before and after presentation because it not only will provide food for seniors, it will also help to educate youth on where vegetables come from. A dedicated group of volunteers at Teglia Activity Center will provide some technical guidance and are willing to look for additional funding resources to help improve upon what is currently there. There may be some kind of assistance or scholarships available to help offset the fee for the plots.

At the last meeting, the Commission inquired about the Special Events Sub-Committee members of the Reno City Council. Julee Conway reported that the members are Sharon Zadra, Ward 2; Oscar Delgado, Ward 3; and Neoma Jardon, Ward 5. They don't meet on a regular basis; however, they will meet as needed.

VII. Commissioner/Liaison Reports & Announcements – *No action may be taken on announcements. Limited to items that do not appear elsewhere on the agenda.*

Commissioner Van Noy expressed an interest in more collaboration with UNR and meeting with Doug Knuth, UNR Athletic Director, to explore the idea. Julee Conway shared that she has met with him on other occasions and encouraged this meeting. He is a very approachable Director and is also interested in making some inroads into the community. Commissioner Scalise expressed interest in this as well.

Commissioner Daniel announced that the Truckee Meadows Park Foundation (TMPF) is approaching its one-year anniversary in April. He is the Director of TMPF and shared with the Commission what they do to promote the Truckee Meadows area and how the community can become more engaged. He presented a flyer to the Commission promoting the Truckee Meadows Trails Challenge.

VIII. Identify Agenda Items for Future Meetings – Update on Sky Tavern, Park Maintenance Plan Updates (Quarterly), Update on Moana Springs Aquatic Center project, proposed no smoking in parks ordinance, proposed Plumas Park landscaping improvements, Dog off-leash designation.

Commissioner Harsh asked about Sky Tavern and whether their location on Mt. Rose is leased or was donated for use. Staff responded that the Junior Ski Program has been offered the use of the Mt. Rose facility because of the lack of snow at their site. A long-term relationship exists between Mt. Rose Ski Resort and the Junior Ski Program which does not involve the City of Reno.

Public Comment

Brad Allured – Mr. Allured asked whether specific parks were identified regarding the no smoking in parks ordinance and the dog off-leash designation. Julee Conway commented that the issue was brought up at the October meeting by Joseph Magnum, who did not specify what park. His public comment was made as a general interest comment.

Rayna Brachmann – Ms. Brachmann lives three doors down from Plumas Park. It is her understanding that Plumas Park is not officially designated as a dog park; however it is used as a mixed-use dog park routinely. It has been her experience recently that there has been some enhanced enforcement of the off-leash laws, and she believes that it is contrary to the actual use of the park. She asked that the matter be put on the next agenda so that it may be publicly addressed. She wants the neighborhood to have some input into what happens with the park.

Ted Levatter – Mr. Levatter introduced himself as Senior Dog Sanctuary and official adopter of Plumas Park. He is concerned about the issues being raised concerning the multiple uses of Plumas Park and he previously requested in October that he be notified when the matter is put on a future agenda. He feels that everyone is in agreement that the best Plumas Park possible is the main objective. The disagreement is how to accomplish this. He believes by giving a park user ownership, it increases volunteerism and contributes to the improvement of the park. He feels that meeting all of the desired uses of all the park users makes for a better park. He is requesting that the matter be put on the next agenda for discussion.

Denise Schutte – Ms. Schutte asked how people will be notified of the next Recreation and Parks Commission meeting. Commissioner Daniel explained where the notices for the meeting are posted including the City of Reno website. The Commission will determine if the matter is heard in April or May and the agenda will be prepared and posted with the topics to be discussed and any staff reports.

Margie Hicks – Ms. Hicks inquired as to how long it would take to put an item on the agenda. Chair Daniel said the most pressing items are on the agenda.

Nick Dols – Mr. Dols expressed that this is a matter of concern for him as well as others who live around the park.

It was moved by Commissioner Harsh; seconded by Commissioner Ginsburg, to put the dog

off-leash issue on the agenda for next month. The motion carried: Commissioners Daniel, Ginsburg, Harsh, Scalise and Van Noy assenting; Commissioners Arrascada, Stille and Taylor absent; and one vacant position.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

X. ADJOURNMENT (For possible action)

It was moved by Commissioner Ginsburg; seconded by Commissioner Scalise; to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. The motion carried: Commissioners Daniel, Ginsburg, Van Noy, Harsh, and Scalise assenting; Commissioners Taylor, Stille and Arrascada absent; and one vacant position.