



Recreation and Parks Commission

APPROVED MINUTES

Tuesday ~ January 19, 2021 ~ 6:00 p.m.

*Meeting held via teleconference
Action Minutes provided.
Recording of meeting can be requested.*

MEMBERS

Michael Ginsburg, Chair
Susan Burkhamer, Vice Chair
Emily Lande
Peggy Nelson-Aguilar
Thomas Petersen
David Pritchett
Mac Rossi
Erik Scalise
Austin Youngblood

1. Call to Order/Roll Call –

Chair Ginsburg called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. A quorum was established.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael Ginsburg, Susan Burkhamer (left meeting 6:44 pm), Emily Lande, Peggy Nelson-Aguilar, Thomas Peterson, David Pritchett, Mac Rossi (joined the meeting at 6:51 pm), Eric Scalise, Austin Youngblood (joined the meeting at 6:10 pm)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

POSITIONS VACANT: None

COUNCIL LIAISON: Council Member Bonnie Weber

STAFF ALSO PRESENT: Jaime Schroeder, Director, Parks and Recreation (“Parks and Rec”)
Matt Brezina, Interim Parks Manager, Parks and Recreation
Julie Towler, Deputy City Attorney, City Attorney’s Office
Calli Wilsey, Sr. Management Analyst, City Manager’s Office
Leslie Smith, Administrative Secretary, Parks and Recreation

2. 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.

A public comment was received via email from David von Seggern regarding Sierra Vista Park. It was distributed to the Commissioners prior to the meeting.

3. Approval of Agenda for January 19, 2021 Recreation and Parks Commission (“RPC”) meeting (For Possible Action).

It was moved by Commissioner Nelson-Aguilar; seconded by Commissioner Scalise to approve the Agenda for the January 19, 2021 Recreation and Parks Commission meeting. The motion carried: Commissioners Ginsburg, Burkhamer, Lande, Nelson-Aguilar, Petersen, Pritchett, and Scalise assenting; Commissioners Rossi and Youngblood absent.

4. Approval of Minutes for February 18, 2020, Recreation and Parks Commission meeting (For Possible Action).

It was moved by Commissioner Pritchett; seconded by Commissioner Petersen to approve the Minutes for the February 18, 2020 Recreation and Parks Commission meeting. The motion carried: Commissioners Ginsburg, Burkhamer, Lande, Nelson-Aguilar, Petersen, Pritchett, and Scalise assenting; Commissioners Rossi and Youngblood absent.

Commissioner Youngblood joined the meeting at 6:10 pm.

5. Business Items:

- a. Discussion and potential direction on whether to extend the current RPC Chair and Vice-Chair terms through 2021 due to the lack of meetings in 2020 (For Possible Action) – Jaime Schroeder, Director, Parks and Recreation.**

The Commission heard items 5.a. and 5.b. at the same time. The Commission voted to extend the current RPC Chair and Vice-Chair terms through 2021 due to the lack of meetings held in 2020.

It was moved by Commissioner Petersen; seconded by Commissioner Lande to extend the current RPC Chair and Vice-Chair terms through 2021 due to the lack of meetings held in 2020. The motion carried: Commissioners Ginsburg, Burkhamer, Lande, Nelson-Aguilar, Petersen, Pritchett, Scalise and Youngblood assenting; Commissioner Rossi absent.

- b. Discussion and potential reappointment and/or appointment to the RPC Chair and Vice Chair positions for 2021 from the following pool of RPC Commissioners, listed in alphabetical order: Susan Burkhamer, Michael Ginsburg, Emily Lande, Peggy Nelson-Aguilar, Thomas Petersen, David Pritchett, Mac Rossi, Erik Scalise and Austin Youngblood (For Possible Action) – Jaime Schroeder, Director, Parks and Recreation.**

The Commission heard items 5.a. and 5.b. at the same time. The Commission voted to extend the current RPC Chair and Vice-Chair terms through 2021 due to the lack of meetings held in 2020.

It was moved by Commissioner Petersen; seconded by Commissioner Lande to extend the current RPC Chair and Vice-Chair terms through 2021 due to the lack of meetings held in 2020. The motion carried: Commissioners Ginsburg, Burkhamer, Lande, Nelson-Aguilar, Petersen, Pritchett, Scalise and Youngblood assenting; Commissioner Rossi absent.

- c. Review, discussion and possible approval of the 2021 Recreation and Parks Commission meeting schedule (For Possible Action) – Jaime Schroeder, Director, Parks and Recreation.**

The park tour in June was discussed. Currently, the plan is to do an in-person park tour. If this has to be changed, a list of parks to visit can be discussed and created at the May meeting to be

agendized for the June meeting. Commissioners can then tour the parks on their own and meet virtually for discussion at the June meeting. This will have to be confirmed so we are in compliance with Open Meeting Laws.

It was moved by Commissioner Scalise; seconded by Commissioner Burkhamer to approve the 2021 meeting schedule for the Recreation and Parks Commission. The motion carried: Commissioners Ginsburg, Burkhamer, Lande, Nelson-Aguilar, Petersen, Pritchett, Scalise and Youngblood assenting; Commissioner Rossi absent.

- d. Presentation and discussion regarding updating a Parks and Recreation Service Plan and Senate Bill (SB) 73: a request for a ballot initiative for parks and recreation funding (Information Only) – Jaime Schroeder, Director, Parks and Recreation.**

Presentation by Director Schroeder and Calli Wilsey, Legislative Affairs Program Manager for the City of Reno, regarding the Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Service Plan (“PROS Service Plan”) and Senate Bill 73 (“SB 73”). SB 73 is a request for a ballot initiative for parks and recreation funding. The Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Service Plan presented in 2008 is being updated. The purpose of the update is to confirm current conditions of facilities and services, to identify the gaps in services and costs to meet needed improvements and expectations. Reno residents had expressed their community vision to become a base for outdoor activities, arts and culture center, technology center, and a university town. This includes ensuring that parks, recreational facilities, trails, and open space areas are well maintained, accessible to all, and meets the demands and needs of residents. Recognized challenges include growth and the demand for and maintenance of facilities and amenities. SB 73 is the next step moving forward. This bill is driven by community input. The funds can only be used for specific purposes. If this bill passes, there will be a four-month process talking with lawmakers and stakeholders. The ballot initiative will then go before the City of Reno voters in November 2022. The PROS Service Plan will continue to be updated to have a road map for the future regardless of the outcome of SB 73. However, as the bill proceeds through the legislative process, the service plan will help support SB 73 because it shows up-to-date needs for all of parks and recreation and open space in the community. There was discussion by the Commission on the item.

Commissioner Burkhamer left the meeting at 6:45 pm.

Commissioner Rossi joined the meeting at 6:50 pm.

- e. Update and discussion on General Fund and Room Tax budget, operational impacts due to COVID-19 (Information Only) – Jaime Schroeder, Director, Parks and Recreation.**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the decreased amount of revenue, departments were asked to submit 5%-10%-15% budget reduction scenarios to Finance. Managers were strategic on presenting budget cuts and came up with eight priority reductions as proposed budget cuts. After all of the recommendations were made and accepted, Parks had to cut only 2.6% of the budget in Tier 1 Plan (5%). A more detailed list was provided that showed what cuts made up the 2.6%

budget reduction. Due to the amount of reductions presented, the Parks portion of the room tax was not reduced and remained at \$1,450,000. Operations were drastically affected early in the pandemic with the closure of facilities and programs. Certain parks amenities remained open. Facilities and programs are currently operated under strict COVID guidelines following the CDC guidelines and the Governor's Directives.

- f. **Discussion, review and possible approval of the minutes and suggestions regarding draft City guidelines and policy relating to naming or renaming City streets, parks and other facilities from the joint meeting held by the Historical Resources Commission, Human Rights Commission, and the Recreation and Parks Commission on August 13, 2020 (For Possible Action) – Jaime Schroeder, Director, Parks and Recreation.**

It was moved by Commissioner Lande; seconded by Commissioner Scalise to approve the Minutes of the August 13, 2020 Joint Meeting. The motion carried: Commissioners Ginsburg, Lande, Nelson-Aguilar, Petersen, Pritchett, Rossi, Scalise and Youngblood assenting; Commissioner Burkhamer absent.

There was discussion regarding page 3 of the Joint Meeting Suggestions with the question of adding the Nevada Historical Society to the committee list. Director Schroeder made a note to include in the comments back to Claudia Hanson to make clear in the bullet that it be a consideration to add the Nevada Historical Society to the committee review list.

With this motion, there is still opportunity for further discussion on this issue and to provide input in the future.

It was moved by Commissioner Lande; seconded by Commissioner Petersen to approve the August 13, 2020 Joint Meeting Suggestions. The motion carried: Commissioners Ginsburg, Lande, Nelson-Aguilar, Petersen, Pritchett, Rossi, Scalise and Youngblood assenting; Commissioner Burkhamer absent.

6. **Council Liaison Report – Council Member Bonnie Weber** – No action may be taken on announcements. Limited to items that do not appear elsewhere on the agenda.

Council Member Weber expressed her gratitude that the Recreation and Parks Commission is meeting again.

7. **Staff Liaison Report/Updates** – Updates will be given about general Department operations including, but not limited to, FY21/22 Budget and Fee Schedule Process, Moana Springs Park and Aquatics Center, proposed Rosewood Lakes Nature Study Area, and Disc Golf Course at Mayor's/McAlinden Park, Senate Bill (SB) 73: a request for a ballot initiative for parks and recreation funding.

- FY21/22 Budget and Fee Schedule Process – Currently working on submitting documents to Finance for next fiscal year budget. The 2.6% reduction remains in place. If there is something that is a one-time reduction on the list, it will be brought back into the budget for

the future fiscal year but something else will have to be removed. There is some flexibility. The fee schedule will be brought back to the RPC in February. The minimum wage increase and the Health and Wellness pass will be discussed. The budget workshops will start in March with the budget being adopted in May.

- Moana Springs Park and Aquatics Center – Fund raising has stalled due to the pandemic. The Pennington Foundation has extended by one year the milestones set in place. Still looking for funding sources.
- Proposed Rosewood Lakes Nature Study Area – Bringing this item to City Council for review and approval on January 27, 2021. The Truckee Meadows Park Foundation is ready to go. Council will be reviewing a 30-year lease agreement with the option of a 20-year extension. The sports developers on the north parcels have asked for another year extension due to the pandemic and economic climate.
- Disc Golf Course at Mayor's/McAlinden Park – An 18-hole disc golf course was installed with the help of CARES Act funding.
- Parks Manager Jeff Mann retired on January 7th after 26 years of service. Matt Brezina is Acting Parks Manager. Thank you Matt.

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

Commissioner Pritchett – Liaison to Arts and Culture Commission (“ACC”). Gave an update on what the ACC has been doing.

9. Identify Agenda Items for Future Meetings – Reno Parks Master Plan update; Nevada Land Trust update; Yori Park update; ReLeaf Reno update; Moana Springs Park and Aquatics Center.

-- Update from Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation on the status of their project.

10. Public Comment (*This item is for either public comment on any action item or for any general public comment and is limited to no more than three minutes. Comments are to be addressed to the Commissions as a whole and not directed to or at individuals, presenters or staff members.*)

None.

11. Adjournment (For possible action)

It was moved by Commissioner Nelson-Aguilar; seconded by Commissioner Lande to adjourn the RPC meeting at 8:04 p.m. The motion carried: Commissioners Ginsburg, Lande, Nelson-Aguilar, Petersen, Pritchett, Rossi, Scalise and Youngblood assenting; Commissioner Burkhamer absent.