

**CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS
MINUTES
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

April 20, 2005

CALL TO ORDER: 4:35 P.M.

VERIFICATION: Karen L. Storms, CMC
City Clerk

ROLL CALL COUNCIL PRESENT:

Mayor Michael L. Montandon
Mayor Pro Tempore William E. Robinson
Councilwoman Stephanie S. Smith
Councilman Shari Buck
Councilman Robert L. Eliason

STAFF PRESENT:

City Manager Gregory Rose
City Attorney Sean McGowan
City Clerk Karen L. Storms
Finance Director Phil Stoeckinger
Human Resources Director Ali Freeman
Parks and Recreation Director Mike Henley
Planning and Zoning Director Jory Stewart
Planning and Zoning Manager Marc Jordan
Police Chief Mark Paresi
Deputy City Clerk Anita Sheldon

BUSINESS:

1. DISCUSSION REGARDING AMENDING TITLE 12, SECTION 030, PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITY NAMING POLICY.

Parks and Recreation Director Mike Henley noted corrections to the Staff report. He said B3 should be changed to 3A. He said the language "who is the present individual that the park or facility is to be named after," and "who is presently holding an elected office, and include those currently alive" should be stricken. Item G, regarding dedications of amenities within parks, should be added. A maximum of two dedications per ten acres would be allowed for a park.

Director Henley stated Staff had researched facility naming policies from four U. S. cities. He explained that all of the policies provided that park and recreation facilities may be named after individuals or organizations, geographic, historic, cultural, or geologic features, such as the County's Wetlands Park.

Mayor Montandon asked if dedications of amenities in a park could be based upon financial contributions. Director Henley suggested that would work best in a large park setting, for example, a ball field named after someone who worked for the Little League. Staff felt it would not work in smaller park settings.

Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson said that as long as a person was not in a policy making position, he believed they should be honored for their contributions while they were alive and not after they had passed. Director Henley stated other cities had adopted that philosophy.

Director Henley said the current park naming policies stated parks could be named after individuals or organizations that had made significant contributions toward improving the quality of life in the City and Council could add language that referred to a local or national hero such as in the case of the Willie McCool Regional Park. Director Henley cautioned that problems could arise from naming parks after people who were alive if facts about the person came to light after they had died. Some cities required the person to be deceased for a few years before naming a park after them. Councilwoman Smith stated she would prefer that parks be named after people who were deceased as long as amenities within the park could be named after people who were still living. She stated she did have concerns about having to remove the park name if there were problems. Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson said language could be added to the naming of a park so the name could be removed.

Mayor Montandon clarified that the discussion was about two separate issues, naming of the entire park and the dedication of facilities within the park. Director Henley recommended amending the Park Board's recommendation of ten acres to larger community and regional parks where dedication of specific amenities within the parks could be allowed.

Councilman Buck said the policy should require a person to be deceased before having a park named after them. If there was a special reason to name them after a person, then that person needed to be above reproach and a role model. She would prefer to name parks more by location than people's names. She was also interested in discussing situations where property might be donated to the City, with an understanding that the park or facility would be named after the donor. If the policy prohibited such naming, the property donation would have to be turned down. Director Henley stated the policy would be written to provide Council with flexibility to make responsive decisions based on the circumstances at the time nominations were received.

Director Henley said he believed Item G, the Dedication of Amenities within the park, would be one that the Council needed to discuss. He indicated that Staff's recommendation was to strike the ten acres and make it applicable to parks greater than 20 acres in size where there would be community-scale facilities, such as ball fields.

Councilwoman Smith asked about the dedication of something small, such as a bench. Director Henley responded that would go into a City-wide donation policy, rather than a naming policy.

Councilwoman Smith stated she would like Staff to bring recommendations to Council that included language as written in Item G and added that it would be less problematic to have a policy requiring parks to be named only after deceased persons. Councilman Buck agreed.

City Manager Gregory Rose said Staff would bring the proposal relating to the dedications to Council and would delay bringing back the issue of the actual naming until some of the options had been further considered by Staff.

ACTION: DISCUSSION HELD

2. UPDATE REGARDING THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE COMPLIANCE REVIEW OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) AUDIT.

City Manager Gregory Rose asked Safety Officer/Training Administrator Larry Mundy to make the presentation.

Administrator Mundy stated the Department of Justice conducted a city-wide audit in January 2004 under Project Civic Access. During the past year, a number of the items identified had been corrected and approximately seventy thousand dollars had been spent to include staff specialized training, oversight of various facilities from an ADA consultant, and repair of items within facilities, parks and parking lots. The City Attorney's office was working with the Department of Justice to negotiate a proposed settlement agreement.

City Manager Gregory Rose added that the City worked in partnership with the Department of Justice to identify areas to improve and to comply with the ADA laws. The City had been very aggressive in working to remedy those areas that could be remedied quickly. Some areas of improvement required significant amounts of resources. Those areas were identified and placed in a settlement agreement negotiation which would be brought forward to the City Council to consider.

Mayor Montandon said having a plan in place was one of the key requirements of the Department of Justice in conjunction with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). He stressed that training be ongoing in order to avoid ADA compliance problems and recommended including Public Works and Engineering to avoid problems in upcoming approved subdivisions.

Mayor Montandon inquired if any action was required and City Manager Gregory Rose indicated no action was required.

ACTION: DISCUSSION HELD

3. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING PROPOSED CITY COUNCIL AGENDA CHANGES TO CONSIDER AN ADDITIONAL PUBLIC FORUM SECTION, ADD CITY CLERK'S OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION, AND TO CONSIDER AN ALTERNATIVE MAILING METHOD TO REDUCE COSTS.

City Manager Gregory Rose introduced City Clerk Karen Storms to present these items.

City Clerk Storms stated Councilman Buck had requested Staff to research whether the Public Forum section of the agenda could be moved to the beginning of the meeting. Staff conducted surveys of other cities and most had Public Forum at the end or the middle of their meetings. City Clerk Storms said neither the Open Meeting Law nor the City Charter dictated when the Public Forum section should be held. She recommended two Public Forum sections, one at the beginning and one at the end of each meeting. She explained the Mayor would have the discretion to end the earlier Public Forum if it began to overlap into the Public Hearing time. Those who wished to speak would then be allowed to speak at the end of the meeting.

Council directed Staff to move forward and place two Public Forum sections on future agendas. City Clerk Karen Storms stated the blue Public Forum speaker's cards would be redesigned to better define the speaker's topic and Mayor Montandon agreed.

City Clerk Storms explained that agendas were required to contain a statement regarding ADA compliance, which included the phone number for the Clerk's office. Council directed Staff to add the telephone number to future agendas.

City Clerk Storms provided copies of suggested new formats for agendas which required less time and cost to prepare and mail. Council directed Staff to continue to work with vendors to reduce the lead time and the cost required to produce a professional appearing agenda.

ACTION: STAFF DIRECTED TO MOVE FORWARD

PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public participation

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:06.

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson

SECOND: Councilman Eliason

AYES: Mayor Montandon, Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson, Council Members Smith,
Buck and Eliason

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None