

**Draft MINUTES**

Washoe County Open Space and Regional Parks Commission

June 1, 2021

The Washoe County Open Space and Regional Parks Commission met in a scheduled session on Tuesday, June 1, 2021, in the Washoe County Commission Chambers, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada.

The meeting was televised live and replayed on Washoe Channel at:

<https://www.washoecounty.us/mgrsoff/Communications/wctv-live.php> also on YouTube at:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/WashoeCountyTV>

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Commissioner Chen called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

**1. Roll Call**

**Members Present:** Doug Doolittle, Chris Nenzel, Stephanie Chen, Heidi Anderson, Greg Shorts, Darla Lee, Jennifer Oliver

**Staff Present:** Colleen Wallace-Barnum, Denise Evans, Jennifer Penland, Sophia Kirschenman, Eric Crump, Lindsay Liddell, Bill Carlos

**Absent:** Doug Doolittle, Thomas Guinn, Chris Nenzel

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

The pledge was recited.

**3. Public Comments**

No Public Comments

**4. Approval of the Agenda for the Open Space and Regional Parks Commission Meeting of June 1, 2021.**

Motion by Commissioner Oliver to approve the Agenda for the Open Space and Regional Parks Commission Meeting of April 6, 2021. Second by Commissioner Shorts. Motion carried unanimously.

**5. Approval of the Minutes for the Open Space and Regional Parks Commission Meeting of May 4, 2021.**

Motion by Commissioner Shorts to approve the Minutes for the Open Space and Regional Parks Commission Meeting of May 4, 2021. Second by Commissioner Anderson. Motion carried unanimously.

**6. Acknowledgement and recognition of Park Operations staff for their outstanding service and contributions to Washoe County**

No items

**7. Eagle Scout Presentation**

No items

**8. Resolution of appreciation for Thomas Guinn, Washoe County Open Space and Regional Parks Commission, for his outstanding service and contributions to Washoe County. (For Possible Action).**

Commissioner Oliver read the resolution.

Chair Chen thanked Commissioner Guinn for years of service and wished him the best of luck on his future endeavors.

Commissioner Shorts moved to adopt resolution of appreciation for Thomas Guinn, Washoe County Open Space and Regional Parks Commission, for his outstanding service and contributions to Washoe County. Second by Commissioner Lee.

Chair Chen opened for public comments, there were no public comments.

Motion carried unanimously.

**9. Presentation, discussion, and possible recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners to approve proposed changes to Washoe County Code Chapter 95. (For Possible Action).**

Colleen Wallace Barnum, Park Operations Superintendent, gave a presentation on the proposed changes to Washoe County Code Chapter 95.

Lindsay Liddell, District Attorney gave a presentation on the process for approval by the Board of County Commissioners and proposed timeline.

In response to Commissioner Oliver's questions on if seasonal and full-time staff would take on this role, Colleen said that it would be full time rangers and potentially district managers. In response to Commissioner Oliver's question if this is common among other parks departments in the country, Colleen said it was and that staff would go through a training for the interactions with the public.

In response to Chair Chen's question about monitoring verbal warnings and written citations, Colleen said there is a tracking system and multiple offenses of same issue can become criminal. Lindsay said that this will mirror general code enforcement, fines can range from \$100-\$1000. The way the code is

currently written allows enforcement official some discretion on the amount of the fines incurred and whether it will be civil or criminal.

In response to Commissioner Shorts asking if Park Commission is only approving staff being able to give citations or if other details such as legal penalties and the training process would come back to Park Commission, Colleen said, if approved, training program, citations and policies would come before park commission for updates and approvals.

Eric Crump explained current code is very outdated, and Parks staff understands concerns about moving to citation authority and is confident this is a good decision. Eric confirmed, that if change is adopted, training programs and policies and procedures will come back before Park Commission.

No public comment.

Commissioner Shorts moved to recommend the Board of County Commissioners to approve proposed changes to Washoe County Code Chapter 95.

Commissioner Oliver second.

Motion carried unanimously.

**10. Presentation, discussion, and possible recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners to adopt the Regional Archery Facility Master Plan. (Commission District 5.) (For Possible Action.)**

Sophia Kirschenman, Park Planner said Washoe County was awarded a grant from the Nevada Department of Wildlife and introduced Kevin Kemner with TSK Architects. Master planners are on the line for questions.

Kevin Kemner gave a presentation on the Regional Archery Facility Master Plan.

In response to Commissioner Shorts' question about support from the archery community, Sophia said Washoe County holds a sublease with Silver Arrow Bowmen, who are partners through the existing facility and new master plan. Kevin said the archery community is committed to the success of the facility. In response to Commissioner Shorts asking if this will have a positive impact on future grants, Kevin said that it would.

Aaron Keller, Nevada Department of Wildlife, said NDOW is in support and is glad to be a part of this partnership and master plan.

Commissioner Oliver thanked Kevin for his presentation.

In response to Commissioner Lee's question on what type of archery people use or if there are any limitations on type of bows allowed, Kevin said that people could use traditional or compound bows but not crossbows.

In response to Chair Chen asking if there were any programs or training opportunities for people who want to get into archery and to gain more support, Kevin said there were.

No public comment.

Commissioner Shorts motion to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners to adopt the Regional Archery Facility Master Plan.

Commissioner Anderson second.

Motion carried unanimously.

**11. Program/Park of the Month – Wilbur D. May Arboretum’s Cactus and Succulent Garden Design by Rod Dimmitt, May Arboretum Society.**

Bill Carlos introduced the project and members of the May Arboretum Society and gave background on the arboretum.

Frances Munoz, May Arboretum Society President, gave an introduction to Cactus and Succulent Garden Design and introduced Rod Dimmitt.

Rod Dimmitt gave a presentation on Wilbur D. May Arboretum’s Cactus and Succulent Garden Design.

Chair Chen thanked everyone for the presentation and asked about the cost. Rod said they estimate \$1 million/ acre so \$2.5 million to build in addition to staff so about \$4 million.

In response to Chair Chen’s question about the cost and timeline of fundraising, Rod said that total project cost is about \$4 million, and they will first present to Park Commission and the Board of County Commissioners, lastly, they will do a press release and conference on site with local businesses, park commissioners, county commissioners and potential donors to kick off the fundraising efforts.

Commissioner Lee thanked Rod for his presentation and his time.

**12. Parks Reports**

Colleen Wallace Barnum, Park Operations Superintendent, said Parks department is still hiring. The opening of Bowers Pool and North Valleys Splash Park was pushed back, but Melio Gaspari opened. There are a lot of reservations, and the parks are very busy.

No commissioner questions or comments.

**13. Director’s Report to include updates on Board of County Commissioners actions, future meeting locations/Commissioner field trips, community sponsorship requests, department updates and community partnerships on Integrated Vegetation Management Plan.**

Eric Crump said that on May 11<sup>th</sup>, the Board of County Commissioners approved two items that previously came before Park Commission. The Board of County Commissioners approved the residence agreement for Eduardo Ruiz and the lease agreement for the Boys and Girls Club of Truckee Meadows.

On May 18<sup>th</sup>, the Board of County Commissioners recommended the County Manager's budget recommendations to the state. Parks received some above base requests, a re-classification from inmate work program leader to lead maintenance worker with an increase in pay, full time trails program coordinator, four seasonal trail crew positions. Parks received \$70,000 that can be used for multiple things as well as \$20,000 for AmeriCorps to help with programs.

Chair Chen & Commissioner Shorts thanked Eric for his help getting parks funding.

#### **14. Commissioners Comments**

No Commissioner comments.

**15. Public Comments: Comments heard under this item will be limited to three minutes per person and may pertain to matters both on and off the Commission agenda. The Commission will also hear public comment during individual action items, with comment limited to three minutes per person. Comments are to be made to the Commission as a whole.**

No public comment.

#### **16. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 4:23p.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Penland, Office Assistant III.