



WASHOE COUNTY Regional Street Naming Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 12, 2021
10:00 am

Washoe County Administrative Complex
Slide Mountain Conference Room
1001 East 9th Street (Building A, 2nd Floor)
Reno, NV 89512

ZOOM via: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88050333612>

Members Present

Jessica Damole, City of Reno
Wayne Handrock, Washoe County Community Services Department
Julie Orvald, Washoe County, Coordinator
Rebecca Reid, NV Energy
Jon Walker, City of Sparks
Jennifer Felter, Washoe County Public Safety
Amanda Duncan, Truckee Meadows Water Authority

Members Absent

Sean Chambers, City of Sparks Police Department
Robert Johnson, City of Reno
Teresa Parkhurst, City of Sparks
Randy Baxley, Washoe County School District
Elaina Hooper, City of Reno

Alternate Members Present

Dixie Rudebusch, Washoe County GIS

Alternate Members Absent

Heather Edmunson, Truckee Meadows Water Authority
Doug Campbell, City of Sparks Police Department
Patty Shinault, NDOT Roadway Systems
Patricia Silvestre, City of Reno

Legal Counsel

Chaz Lehman, Washoe County District Attorney's Office
Wade Carner, Washoe County District Attorney's Office

Non-Members Present

Lacey Kerfoot, Office Support Specialist, Washoe County Community Services Department
Laura Rose, Administrative Assistant, Washoe County Community Services Department

Guests/Other parties present

Brian Sandoval, President, University of Nevada Reno
Troy Miller, Director of Real Estate, University of Nevada Reno

1. Call to Order/Determination of Quorum

Meeting was called to order by Chair Wayne Handrock at 10:05 a.m. A quorum of the Committee was established.

2. Public Comment

Chair Handrock called for public comment. There was no response to the call for public comment.

Recording Secretary Kerfoot stated for the record that she did receive one e-mailed public comment which was posted online and emailed to the committee members prior to the meeting.

3. Approval of the Agenda for the August 12, 2021 meeting of the Regional Street Naming Committee

Upon motion by Amanda Duncan, second by Rebecca Reid, the agenda for the July 15, 2021 meeting of the Regional Street Naming Committee was approved as written. Motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes from the July 15, 2021 meeting of the Regional Street Naming Committee

Upon motion by Amanda Duncan, second by Jon Walker, the minutes from the July 15, 2021 meeting of the Regional Street Naming Committee was approved as written. Motion carried.

5. New Business

- A. [University Way](#) [For possible action] – Discussion and possible action on a request to rename N Center Street, a .9 mile street that runs north-south between the Truckee River in downtown Reno and the UNR entrance on E Ninth Street, crossing Interstate 80 West, from:

N Center Street to University Way

Julie Orvald provided background on the project. This request was originally heard at the July 15, 2021 RSNC meeting. The item was tabled to allow the Committee time to reach out to the emergency services community for comment. The Committee received three formal email responses from USPS, REMSA and City of Reno Dispatch.

Ms. Orvald pointed out a correction in the table for the revised meeting memo. The number of addresses in the table for N Center St should be 236, not 137.

Chair Handrock asked for confirmation that the three letters the Committee received from requested agencies were recommendations for denial. Ms. Orvald confirmed. Chair Handrock opened the floor for Committee comments and discussion.

Jennifer Felter with Washoe County [Public Safety] Communications stated that when there are too many street names with the same name, it makes it hard for call takers and 911 operators to get the help to the right place; especially if the addresses are the same or start the same. It's difficult to allow that. Ms. Felter stated that she understands what the University is trying to do, however, she does not believe it is beneficial to the community and members of the community that live on those other streets.

Chair Handrock states that the public safety issue trumps the connectivity issue. He

pointed out that there are several vacant lots, which increases the probability that someone calling 911 may state "I'm on University," without providing an address number. Having two other streets with the root name "University" in the vicinity, Mr. Handrock thinks the name duplication could cause problems and result in extra time for emergency services to respond.

Chair Handrock clarified, as a point of order, that the Committee is making a recommendation to the City of Reno. If the Committee does not recommend approval of the applicant's request, the applicant can appeal to the City of Reno for the final determination.

Brian Sandoval, President of University Nevada Reno, greeted the Committee and asked to yield the floor to Troy Miller, Director of Real Estate for University of Nevada, to share his outreach efforts.

Mr. Miller stated that he has been in contact with the RSNC Chair via email, as well as other members of the Committee. He was not made aware of the three positions opposing the request. Mr. Miller stated that he requested information from various people three different times. Mr. Miller stated that the Real Estate group had done its own research and only found three addresses that were conflicting with any of the University streets. The three properties with overlapping addresses are the County Parking Garage, the Reno Events Center, and the Reno Ballroom; they conflict with three residential addresses on University Terrace. Five of the streets with "University" in it that didn't have the same range of address numbers. The address range for the portion of N Center St that the applicant is requesting to change runs from 1 to 895. Five of those streets start at 900 or above. The only conflicts were on the one street with three residential properties. Mr. Miller understands the importance of emergency services responding but pointed out that anyone calling in from the County Parking Garage, Reno Events Center or Reno Ballroom is unlikely to know what the addresses are. Mr. Miller stated that the applicant has letters of recommendation from the City of Reno Mayor, Hillary Schieve, and the Reno Downtown Management Project. Mr. Miller offered that a number address change could be discussed. He pointed out that when discussing the matter from a relatively high level of conversation, people had some problems, but the specifics his team found were different.

Chair Handrock asked for Committee questions; there were none. Chair Handrock asked for public comment. Recording Secretary Kerfoot indicated that there was no public comment but provided instruction for accessing the County website to review the agency comments that were received.

Brian Sandoval stated that he would like to have a meaningful chance to review what was in the communications that the Committee received. Mr. Sandoval stated that he has not had a meaningful opportunity to understand and respond. Jon Walker, City of Sparks, stated that he did not know the comments were received. Ms. Kerfoot stated that the comments were emailed to all Committee members on the day prior to the meeting. Ms. Kerfoot shared her screen and pulled up the agency comments for the Committee to review. Chair Handrock asked Ms. Kerfoot to read the emails into the record.

Ms. Kerfoot read the three comments received from City of Reno Dispatch, REMSA and USPS. **These emails are included at the end of the meeting minutes.**

Chair Handrock asked if the Committee had comments on the letters that were read. The Committee members had no questions. Chair Handrock asked if the applicant had any comments. Mr. Sandoval asked for the opportunity to review the documents and asked

for a continuance of the item. Mr. Sandoval also asked for the inbound emails that prompted the agency comments. Chair Handrock asked for a motion.

Amanda Duncan asked for confirmation that Mr. Miller and Mr. Sandoval understand the process – that if the Committee denies the item, it can be taken to Reno City Council for hearing. Mr. Sandoval acknowledged that they understand the procedure. He continued that they (the applicant) had less than 24 hours to review the agency comments and that without the opportunity to review the inbound emails, did not have an opportunity to see the full picture.

Amanda Duncan motioned to continue the item to the next Regional Street Naming Committee meeting. Recording Secretary Kerfoot asked for clarification on whether Ms. Duncan was moving to continue the item to the next regularly scheduled RSNC meeting on Thursday, October 21, 2021.

Jon Walker, City of Sparks, said the Committee should not push the meeting off for two months. Mr. Walker believes that the University should be given sufficient time to review the documents and stated that he will do more. Mr. Walker brought up that duplication of names between University Ridge and University Terrace. If those streets were able to be duplicated, he believes more research should be done. Mr. Walker recommended that the Committee hold another special meeting in September.

Ms. Kerfoot asked that the motion include a time frame no earlier than Monday, September 13, 2021.

Amanda Duncan amended her motion to stay the item to a special meeting to be held in September, no earlier than September 13, 2021. The motion, seconded by Jon Walker, carried unanimously.

6. Miscellaneous / Announcements

None.

7. Public Comment

Brian Sandoval thanked the Chair and the members of the Committee for their willingness to hear the item again.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

8. Adjournment

Chair Handrock adjourned the meeting at 10:36 a.m.