

## MINUTES

### Washoe County Open Space and Regional Parks Commission May 1, 2012

Commissioner Bill von Phul called the meeting to order at 2:31 p.m.

#### **1. Roll Call.**

**Members present:** Sarah Chvilicek, Bob Jacobson, Bill von Phul, Patty Moen and Anne Buckley  
Ed Harney arrived at 2:40pm  
Cliff Young arrived at 3:08pm

**Staff present:** Al Rogers, Eric Crump, Deputy District Attorney Leslie Admirand and Denise Evans.

#### **2. Approval of the Agenda for the Open Space and Regional Parks Commission Meeting of May 1, 2012.**

Commissioner Chvilicek moved to Approve the Agenda for the Open Space and Regional Parks Commission Meeting of May 1, 2012. Seconded by Commissioner von Phul. Motion carried.

#### **3. Approval of the Minutes for the Open Space and Regional Parks Commission Meeting of March 6, 2012.**

Commissioner Chvilicek moved to Approve the Minutes for the Open Space and Regional Parks Commission Meeting of March 6, 2012. Seconded by Commissioner Buckley. Motion carried.

#### **4. Public Comment**

No public comment.

#### **5. Update on Volunteer Program**

Denise Evans, Volunteer Coordinator, presented to the Commission an update on the Volunteer Program.

Commissioner von Phul thanked Ms. Evans for the wonderful job she is doing as the Volunteer Coordinator.

Al Rogers, Acting Director, also thanked Ms. Evans as well for the great job she is doing and for picking up and moving forward with the program. Mr. Rogers also thanked the sponsors and volunteers for their work in the parks.

#### **6. Update and presentation on Dog Issues in Parks**

Al Rogers, Acting Director, presented to the Commission an update on the dog issues in the parks.

Commissioner Chvilicek said this is a great idea. She suggested that when they bring in the partners they might have Wolfie come out help pick up. Ms. Chvilicek commented on the logo saying that the dog isn't the biohazard and this may have a negative reaction. A donation site for plastic bags would also be an idea to consider so these can be available at the parks for dog owners. Mr. Rogers thanked Commissioner Chvilicek for her comments and suggestions. They will contact UNR about Wolfie and that there are Mutt Mitt stations in the parks, but not all users are using them.

In response to Commissioner Buckley regarding will there be park and trail signage, Mr. Rogers said there will be in the next phase and anticipating doing this in all park systems – Reno and Sparks included. Commissioner Buckley used the example of how Disney and some of the high schools have adopted the practice of if people don't see litter around the area then people don't tend to litter. She suggested adopting a similar practice. Mr. Rogers said clean ups are a piece of the solution.

Commissioner von Phul said that he feels it's irresponsible to have your dog off leash. He has even heard dog owners yelling at other owners to leash their dog. Mr. Rogers said that this is something that will be discussed with the Board of County Commissioners in regards to enforcement regulations, which are lacking, to hopefully give those capabilities to the department.

In response to Commissioner von Phul regarding goose droppings as a biohazard, Mr. Rogers said to his knowledge there is a difference because of the different diets.

In response to Commissioner Chvilicek regarding has anyone talked to anyone about parasitic transfer, Mr. Rogers said we have worked with local veterinarians and Washoe County Health Department to ensure we are not overstating the information being put out.

## **7. Update on Department FY 12/13 budget**

Al Rogers, Acting Director, updated the Commission on the FY 12/13 budget.

In response to Commissioner von Phul regarding expenditures per acre of land to manage, Mr. Rogers this has to do with the amount of operating available matched with the number of acres. This has always been under the national average.

In response to Commissioner Young regarding parking fees, user fees and any ideas to increase revenue, Mr. Rogers said that one first initiative is to have a comprehensive fee that includes all departments. There are opportunities for parking and other jurisdictions have the ability to charge for parking. The first step is to put together a policy on fees and charges for the Board of County Commissioners to approve.

## **8. Park Operations Reports**

Eric Crump, Operations Superintendent, highlighted the Park District and May Center reports.

## **9. Director's Report**

Al Rogers, Acting Director, highlighted the Board of County Commission Actions, North Valleys Regional Park Phase IV, Community Services Department, Golf and Planning reports.

Mr. Rogers explained that there has been a change in agreement with the golf course vendors. Based on the new agreement the due date for their financial and rounds report is on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month so the golf report will have a one month delay in reporting.

Commissioner Chvilicek requested that the North Valleys Regional Park planning phase meetings and public meetings be scheduled around the CAB's July meeting so a special meeting does not have to be called. Mr. Rogers said that timing may be such that that would work out.

#### **10. Commissioners Comments**

None

#### **11. Public Comment**

Bonnie Foard, Liaison for the Reno Women's Golf Club, said that on April 5<sup>th</sup> the club had an event to celebration the 75 years of Washoe Golf Course. Washoe opened in 1937 with a membership of a 100, and now has 200. In her liaison report she relayed to need for volunteers in Washoe County parks.

Meeting adjourned at 3:54 pm.