



MAYOR
Geno Martini

CITY COUNCIL
Julia Ratti, Ward I
Ed Lawson, Ward II
Ron Smith, Ward III
Charlene Bybee, Ward IV
Ron Schmitt, Ward V

CITY ATTORNEY
Chet Adams

CITY MANAGER
Steve Driscoll

**SPARKS CITY COUNCIL CONCURRENT MEETING
WITH THE RENO CITY COUNCIL AND THE WASHOE COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES**

8:30 a.m. Monday, May 2, 2016
Washoe County Administrative Complex, Commission Chambers,
1001 Ninth St., Reno, NV

1. Call to Order (Time: 8:31 a.m.)

The concurrent meeting of the Sparks City Council, Reno City Council and Washoe County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Washoe County Commissioner Kitty Jung at 8:31 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance (Time: 8:31 a.m.)

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sparks Mayor Geno Martini.

3. Roll Call (Time: 8:32 p.m.)

Mayor Geno Martini, Council Members Ed Lawson, Ron Smith, Charlene Bybee, Acting City Manager Neil Krutz, City Attorney Chet Adams and City Clerk Teresa Gardner, PRESENT.

ABSENT: Council Members Julia Ratti, Ron Schmitt

4. Public Comment (Time: 8:35 a.m.)

- Gary Duarte of the US Nuclear Energy Foundation commented on a sustainable grassroots educational program on nuclear technology and submitted written information.
- CJ Manthe of the Nevada Housing Division commented on the success of the integrated model and the Nevada Housing Division's involvement with the NV Interagency on Homeless.
- Betsy Aiello of NV Interagency on Homeless and Nevada Division of Health Care Financing and Policy commented on Medicaid and the Interagency Council on Homelessness and submitted written comments.
- Lisa Lee of Northern Nevada HOPES commented on the need for affordable housing and current challenges.
- Ardena Perry commented on the interlocal agreement regarding animal control and submitted written information.

- Aria Overli of ACTIONN commented on increased homelessness related to new development.
- Fernando Leal of the Siena Hotel said he would like to donate furniture, art, etc. to community organizations as he remodels the hotel.
- Jacob Harmon and Jennifer with the Alzheimer's Association talked of the volunteer led walks at Idelwild Park every other Tuesday at 10 a.m. for those with Alzheimer's and their caregivers to enjoy.
- Pat Cashell of Volunteers of America commented on the increase of violence associated with loss of affordable housing and said he hopes the region can work together as one community to address affordable housing.
- Ken Koeppe commented on a dangerous intersection at Las Brias and McCarran.
- Kelly Marschall with Social Entrepreneurs, Inc. commented on a strategy to address homelessness to include housing, support services and job training.
- Kathleen Harris commented on the displacement of 97 people from the sale of an apartment building.
- Ivy Spadone of Northern Nevada HOPES told a story of challenges faced by homeless people trying to improve their lives.

5. Approval of the Agenda (For Possible Action) (Time: 9:10 a.m.)

Consideration of taking items out of sequence, deleting items and adding items which require action upon a finding that an emergency exists.

A motion was made by Council Member Smith, seconded by Council Member Bybee, to approve the agenda as submitted, utilizing Washoe County's 10 minute presentation rule. Council Members Lawson, Smith, Bybee, YES. Council Members Ratti, Schmitt, ABSENT. Passed unanimously with those present.

6. Presentation and update on Operation Downtown (Time: 9:11 a.m.)

A presentation from Operation Downtown Blue Ribbon Commission Chairman Kenneth Krater regarding the growing small business environment in downtown Reno, along with the University of Nevada Reno. Mr. Krater said he would request addiction be treated as a mental health issue not a crime and new development merge with affordable housing. Mr. Krater presented information that has been attached to the electronic agenda packet.

7. Presentation of Northern Nevada Housing and Behavioral Health Strategic Plan (Time: 9:25 a.m.)

A presentation from Reno Area Alliance for the Homeless (RAAH) Chairman Brian Burriss including homeless numbers in Washoe County, an outline for RAAH's strategic plan for addressing homeless housing needs and current achievements. Mr. Burriss commented on the importance of wrap around services linking health care, human services and housing. Mr. Burriss said it is true the cost to treat is high; however, the cost to not treat is even higher. Mr. Burriss wants the region to stop planning and start doing. Discussion was held on the need for additional mental health and substance abuse professionals, predatory lending, importance of showing a regional effort for congressional assistance, concerns with weekly housing, subsidies, the need for integrated affordable housing and the option of creating an RV park as temporary housing. Mr. Krater's presentation has been attached to the electronic agenda packet.

8. Update and presentation on the CrossRoads Program (Time: 10:00 a.m.)

A presentation from Assistant Washoe County Manager Kevin Schiller, Washoe County Director of Social Service Amber Howell and Deputy Shawn Marston on the Crossroads Program, a collaboration between social services and catholic charities, that provides tiered housing that targets the super-utilizer homeless clients to identify, intervene and stabilize clients by offering tools for anyone to be successful upstanding citizens of our community while being drug and alcohol free. There are high costs to the community related to untreated clients utilizing ambulance, hospital emergency room, and jail. The average age of clients at the beginning of the program was 48 and currently the average age is 28. Approximately 60% of clients are court influenced, with 40% as volunteer clients. Crossroads would like to expand but needs additional space; they are working on various options including partnerships with the State. Crossroads currently offers in-house treatment and are piloting a compliance program with wrap around service called Sober 24. In addition, Crossroads is working on adding an out-patient wrap around service program.

9. Update and discussion on the Community Assistance Center (CAC) selected vendor for FY17, and direction to staff on the Interlocal Agreement and related matters. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION) (Time: 10:18 a.m.)

A presentation from Assistant Washoe County Manager Kevin Schiller and City of Reno Management Analyst Elaine Wiseman with an update on the CAC and request for proposals and vendor selection for shelter operations. Additional beds are necessary to allow police to relocate homeless camping on the river. Two vendors were interviewed and Volunteers of America (VOA) was selected; their proposal includes shelter and services. The Transitional Governing Board (TGB) approved the selected vendor on April 29, 2016; the contract will go before the City of Reno on June 8, 2016. Ms. Wiseman and Mr. Schiller explained the new funding formulas. Option B recommended by the TGB increases funding to \$.01 from both the cities of Reno and Sparks (previously \$.005) and to \$.015 from Washoe County (previously \$.01). Mr. Schiller requested approval of the interlocal agreement for the new vendor including establishment of the lead agency and the funding source.

- Sharon Chamberlain of Northern Nevada HOPES provided written comment in favor of this item; HOPES recognizes the need of increased funding throughout our entire community of Reno, Sparks and Washoe County.

Discussion included the possibility of using vacant warehouse space to develop a shelter with services, working with commercial real estate professionals to identify space, code changes to allow for overnight parking, use of CDBG funding, rehab of flood properties and regional cooperation. City of Reno Acting Community Services Director Alex Woodley said VOA has hired a property manager to pursue property. Reno Mayor Schieve said she would like the city to pursue both directions at the same time. Reno Mayor Schieve thanked Sparks Mayor Martini and Commissioner Berkbigler for signing the Veterans Homelessness initiative.

Mayor Martini apologized for not having the TGB address these issues earlier; at this point in time, amendment of the Sparks budget would have to be brought to the full Council at a regular meeting and the Sparks Council will not be able to take action on this item today.

Sparks City Attorney Chet Adams said the agenda does not allow for a vote on a fiscal change to commit budget. Deputy District Attorney Paul Liparelli said approval of the interlocal agreement is not on the agenda, only direction to staff to create an interlocal agreement. Washoe County

Commission Chair Jung and Reno Councilman Bobzien were under the impression the interlocal agreement would be approved at this concurrent meeting.

Commission Chair Jung questioned the viability of the TGB and asked if it should continue. Sparks Mayor Martini said the TGB has worked well previously, this year the meeting was held too late. Mayor Martini said he made the recommendation through the TGB because he believes it is the right thing to do; however, it is up to the Sparks Council to vote on the issue. Sparks Council Member Bybee said she believes each entity should address the interlocal agreement and funding independently and give direction to their staffs.

10. Comments from the Councils, Commissions, Boards or Managers (Time: 11:01 a.m.)
Washoe County Commission Chair Jung would like to explore regional cooperation to share resources and services to address blight, graffiti and pot holes and to share graffiti information with law enforcement. Reno City Council Members Jardon and Bobzien commented on direction to Reno staff to be able to ratify the TGB recommendation at the next Reno City Council meeting.

11. Public Comment (Time: 11:03 a.m.)

- Executive Director Michele Gehr and Lynette Eddy of the Eddy House Youth Resource Center spoke on the social, emotional and life skills taught at the Eddy house and the need for transitional housing for youth. Ms. Gehr also invited all to an open house happening on Friday from 3-6. Ms. Eddy commented on the Housing First model to provide housing and support services and the use of creative funding streams.
- Kelly Marschall, Social Entrepreneurs, Inc. (not present)
- Reno Housing Authority Executive Director Amy Jones commented on limited funding and said the only new funding is for Veterans; and affordable housing units are shrinking. Ms. Jones said she sees the effects of predatory lending on her clients.
- Juanita Cox of People Organized for the Next Generation commented on the importance of housing and services for homeless and said she appreciates a regional effort.
- Cathy Brandhorst spoke on miscellaneous topics.

12. Adjournment (Time: 11:13 a.m.)
Council was adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

GENO R. MARTINI, Mayor

ATTEST:

Teresa Gardner, City Clerk

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