

MEETING MINUTES

COALITION BOARD

SOUTHERN NEVADA REGIONAL PLANNING COALITION

March 24, 2005

In attendance:

Trustee Denise Brodsky, CHAIR, Clark County School District
Councilwoman Stephanie Smith, City of North Las Vegas
Councilman Shari Buck, City of North Las Vegas
Councilman Lawrence Weekly, City of Las Vegas
Mayor Oscar Goodman, City of Las Vegas
Mayor Robert Ferraro, City of Boulder City
Councilman Steve Kirk, VICE CHAIR, City of Henderson
Commissioner Lynette Boggs McDonald, Clark County

Sec. 1. OPENING ITEMS AND STAFF EVALUATIONS

Agenda Item 1. Call to order; notice of agenda conformance with the Open Meeting Law requirements.

The meeting of the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition Board was called to order by Trustee Denise Brodsky, Chair, Clark County School District, at 3:06 p.m., on Thursday, March 24, 2005, in City Council Chambers, City of Boulder City, 401 California Street, Boulder City, Nevada.

The agenda for the March 24, 2005, meeting was duly posted in compliance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law requirements.

Agenda Item 2. Approval of the agenda for March 24, 2005.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda for the March 24, 2005, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 3. Performance Evaluations - Continued.

A motion was made and seconded to close the meeting at 3:08 p.m. and discuss, in a closed door session, the performance evaluations of Edward Probyn James, SNRPC Regional Planner and Patricia Battie, Coalition Secretary. The motion was approved unanimously.

Sec. 2. REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

Agenda Item 4. Performance Evaluations. Recommended action – Take appropriate action.

The Board reconvened the meeting, and a motion was made and seconded to re-open the meeting at 4:02 p.m. The motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to retain Edward Probyn James as the SNRPC Regional Planner with the following four provisions: (1) another performance review in six months, (2) in the meantime, the SNRPC Technical Committee set activity and performance expectation standards, (3) Mr. James will report directly to the Chair of the SNRPC Technical Committee (Paul Gerner, Clark County School District) for regular discussions and (4) a performance evaluation form, including Coalition Board expectations, be prepared by the SNRPC Technical Committee in time for the next meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 5. Regional Open Space Plan (ROSP). Receive a presentation from Greenways Incorporated, and receive a draft contract for professional services for the Regional Open Space Plan between the SNRPC and Greenways Inc. and authorize the Chair to execute the final contract. Recommended action – Receive the presentation and approve Greenways, Inc. to provide professional services as described in the “Consulting Service Contract” for a Regional Open Space Plan, and authorize the Board Chair to execute the final contract for a fixed fee not to exceed \$120,000.

Charles Flink, President – Greenways, Inc., gave a presentation on the Regional Open Space Plan. He discussed the project deliverables and proposed meeting schedule, the timeline and milestone schedule and the suggested working committee membership list.

Mayor Robert Ferraro, City of Boulder City, asked if the people on the membership list had been talked to yet, and Mr. Flink responded that he had spoken to some of them and they were willing to work on this project and others were recent suggestions by Edward Probyn James, SNRPC Regional Planner.

A motion was made to approve the presentation and move forward. Commissioner Lynette Boggs McDonald, Clark County, asked what definition of open space would be used in the first deliverable of the timeline (Open Space Background Report) when the definition of open space was listed as the second deliverable. Mr. Flink responded that they would initially be using a base definition they had developed from previous work they'd done in the Valley as well as regional work they'd also done in other parts of the country. He explained that it wasn't starting using a "blank sheet of paper," rather they'd form a working definition during early stages based on reflections of what had already been accomplished with open space that could then be modified or fine tuned as needed.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the presentation. The motion was approved unanimously. A motion was made and seconded to amend the previous motion to include approving the contract and fee and authorizing the Board Chair to sign the contract. The amended motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 6. Receive a draft Resolution 08-2005, sponsored by the City of Henderson, regarding affordable housing and BLM sales. Recommended action – Receive the draft resolution and adopt Resolution 08-2005 and forward to the Governor of Nevada and Bureau of Land Management.

Sean Robertson, City of Henderson, gave a brief presentation of draft Resolution 08-2005 which, in conjunction with the Governor's initiative to provide affordable housing, calls for a collaboration with the SNRPC, the Governor's office, local housing authorities, Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to begin developing and identifying procedures and policies to construct 3000 affordable housing units on acquired BLM lands.

There was no discussion, and a motion was made and seconded to adopt the Resolution and forward it to the Governor of Nevada and BLM. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 7. Receive a report on the Clark County Growth Taskforce. Recommended action – Receive the report and take appropriate action.

Debra Drake and Rick Holmes, Clark County, gave a presentation and report on the Clark County Community Growth Task Force. Ms. Drake summarized the background of the Task Force and the processes they went through when developing the strategies that will be included in the final report. Mr. Holmes discussed specifics of the future report including the top five strategies (the most important one identified as affordable attainable housing), the priority areas of each and the jurisdictional responsibilities of each. He said the final report would be delivered and presented to the Board of County Commissioners next week (on April 5, 2005).

Councilman Lawrence Weekly, City of Las Vegas, asked who the members would be, if a subcommittee was created, and whether they would represent “real, diverse people who deal with issues on a day-to-day basis” and address neighborhood concerns relating to urban villages downtown and in older areas, not the mixed use developments on the Strip. Mr. Holmes responded that the members of the Task Force recognized many of the same issues and concerns but had to present them generally knowing they needed more work than they were able to devote, and that the make-up of the group would be up to the Coalition Board with recommendations by the Task Force.

Commissioner Lynette Boggs McDonald, Clark County, commented that the focus of the Board, since they are already multi-jurisdictional, should be on solid recommendations regarding affordable housing, keeping in mind that it doesn't just involve buying a home but also renting for those who can't afford to buy, especially in light of the thousands and thousands of apartments that have been converted to condominiums; and she recommended Councilman Weekly chair the endeavor (subcommittee).

Mayor Oscar Goodman, City of Las Vegas, asked what the ultimate objective of the study was, and Mr. Holmes responded that it “laid out a blueprint for action” and was intended to show, based on the future growth and development of the Valley, the issues that were most important to get a handle on. Mayor Goodman complimented the efforts of the Task Force, but he questioned what, specifically, should be done with the document (the report) since these same issues were dealt with and addressed by City Councils everyday. Mr. Holmes responded that their primary audience was the Board of County Commissioners, and one of the early steps of the Task Force was to identify what was already being done on a daily basis, with respect to growth management, and compare that both to other local regions and nationally.

Commissioner McDonald commented that this would assist with focusing and prioritizing, not based on what the Coalition Board members think, but on the input of the citizens regarding resource alignment and policy prioritizing, as examples.

Mayor Goodman said getting input from the public was acceptable, but he was disappointed that consolidation of the jurisdictions wasn't included in the study. Mr. Holmes responded that the issue of a strong regional single-body government, with more power than a regional coalition, as opposed to consolidation, or an oversight board, was brought up many times during Task Force discussion, but that discussion was ultimately cut from the final report document. Ms. Drake added that while it wasn't directly addressed, it transitioned into one of the Adopted Priority Strategies of the Coordinating and Integrating Processes, Plans and Functional Assignment strategy of the final report (5. Explore Role of the SNRPC – Increase visibility, Increase areas of Cooperation, Establish a regional Affordable/Attainable Housing Task Force) which highlighted what was already being done collaboratively between the jurisdictions.

Mayor Robert Ferraro, City of Boulder City, commented that the essence of what was being said needed to be listened to and understood carefully because that was what was occurring in the Greater Las Vegas area, so it needed to be supported and developed.

Commissioner McDonald asked whether there were any other topical areas, other than affordable housing, that the Growth Task Force felt the Coalition Board needed to pursue. Mr. Holmes responded that while it was the primary focus, the Task Force felt there was also greater potential to increase the visibility of the SNRPC and work together on other issues of what to address next.

Trustee Denise Brodsky, Clark County School District, asked whether action needed to be taken regarding this item since quorum was going to be lost or was it something that could be brought up again during the next May meeting. Ms. Drake responded that the timeframe for the Task Force was the finalizing of their recommendations go to the Board (of County Commissioners) on May 31, 2005, and the presentation of the report was on April 5, 2005; so any official feedback by the SNRPC Board would need to be made before the

May meeting, but any action to come out of this could come at a later date. Trustee Brodsky recommended that the report be accepted and any comments or suggestions by the Board be directed to Mr. Holmes before March 31, 2005.

A motion was made and seconded to receive the report and accepting the report would be based on any comments sent to Mr. Holmes. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 8. Receive a draft Resolution 09-2005, sponsored by the SNRPC Technical Committee, on federal budget actions to remove SNPLMA Funds from BLM sales. Recommended action – Receive the draft resolution and adopt Resolution 09-2005 and forward it to the President of the United States of America.

There was no formal presentation of this item, but Mayor Oscar Goodman, City of Las Vegas, commented that it was critical to preserve all funds that were rightfully ours under legislation as originally intended, and he thought it was an appropriate resolution to adopt. Mayor Robert Ferraro, City of Boulder City, concurred.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the resolution. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 9. Legislative Actions. Receive an update on legislative actions and scheduling of a special meeting during April. Recommended action – Receive the update and take appropriate action.

Edward Probyn James, SNRPC Regional Planner, discussed this item with Dan Musgrove, Legislative Liaison, and he (Mr. Musgrove) indicated there was no need to hold a special meeting in April.

Trustee Denise Brodsky, Clark County School District, asked if there was an activity report that had been forwarded by Mr. Musgrove, and Mr. James responded that nothing had been forwarded to date.

Commissioner Lynette Boggs McDonald, Clark County, commented that there had been definite activity and many actions that impacted local governments (a proposal to add a legislator to the Southern Nevada Water Authority, for example) regardless of whether it was the responsibility of individual lobbyists to brief or Mr. Musgrove to give a presentation to the Board members.

Councilman Lawrence Weekly, City of Las Vegas, stated that he thought, if there was something that was going to affect the region as a whole, that Mr. Musgrove had a directive to gather all information and give a presentation and update on it to the Coalition Board; and he said that Mr. Musgrove should at least forward an e-mail, from a regional standpoint, as opposed to waiting for the May meeting.

Trustee Brodsky asked Mr. James to contact Mr. Musgrove for an action report, and that a special meeting be scheduled on the fourth Thursday in April to receive the report. Councilman Shari Buck, City of North Las Vegas, asked how Mr. Musgrove could be expected to leave to come give a presentation in the middle of his workday, and Mayor Ferraro agreed that if a written report could be forwarded he would endorse that instead.

Mr. James stated that he would contact Mr. Musgrove to see what his schedule was like and ask if he had a written report that could be distributed to the Board or a presentation that could be given via teleconferencing.

Councilwoman Stephanie Smith, City of North Las Vegas, commented that she was unsure if the information itself was necessarily important, rather it was the reaction or decision by the Coalition Board that was important; so perhaps, regardless of whether there was a presentation or not, a meeting in April should be called for discussion purposes.

Mr. James suggested that he schedule a meeting in April, report back to the Board members, via e-mail, as to

what format might be most appropriate, and if there were any items that required a vote or action be taken they be highlighted.

No motion or action was required on this item.

Agenda Item 10. Receive a report on the SNRPC website. Recommended action – Receive the report and take appropriate action.

Edward Probyn James, SNRPC Regional Planner, gave a report on the SNRPC website. He stated that it received approximately 30,000 hits per month, and that there were about 3500 requests on specific pages. He also stated that the Homelessness website page would be up and running in a week or two and would provide information including what homelessness programs the SNRPC is sponsoring.

No motion or action was required on this item.

Agenda Item 11. Receive a Financial Expense Report of the SNRPC. Recommended action – Receive the report and take appropriate action.

Edward Probyn James, SNRPC Regional Planner, gave a financial expense report of the SNRPC that summarizes the various line items of the approved budget, on a daily basis, in regards to the work program that was developed at the beginning of the fiscal year. He stated it may differ somewhat from the Clark County Treasurer's Report as his accounts for those items that have been incurred but not yet spent and theirs is totaled after the amounts have been paid.

Mayor Robert Ferraro, City of Boulder City, asked whether there was a contingency developed in the way of an ending balance, and Mr. James responded that the budget consistently had \$25,000 in contingency each year that had been carried over from year to year and was applied to the assessment of each of the jurisdictions. Mr. James added that this fiscal year, there would also be the money that had been located in the financial review and other additional unused money to carry forward, for instance the County donated all website time for free so that money would not be used this fiscal year.

No motion or action was required on this item.

Agenda Item 12. The next date and location for the SNRPC Board is tentatively scheduled for May 26, 2005, 3:00 p.m., in the City of North Las Vegas.

Trustee Denise Brodsky, Chair, Clark County School District, stated that the next meeting was scheduled for May 26, 2005, at 3:00 p.m., in the City of North Las Vegas. Councilwoman Stephanie Smith, City of North Las Vegas, made a request to change the time of the meeting to 3:30 p.m.

A motion was made and seconded to amend the start time of all regularly scheduled meetings to 3:30 p.m. The motion was approved unanimously.

Edward Probyn James, SNRPC Regional Planner, suggested that there be a motion or discussion on the meeting scheduled for the fourth Thursday of April and that a host location for it needed to be determined. Trustee Brodsky responded that she would check availability at the School District to host it.

Agenda Item 13. Public Comment.

There were no public comments.

Edward Probyn James, SNRPC Regional Planner, introduced Jennifer Olsen as the new Coalition Secretary.

Trustee Denise Brodsky, Clark County School District, stated that there should be a standing item in the beginning of all future meetings of a report from the Regional Planner of activities and accomplishments from the previous meeting date.

Agenda Item 14. Adjournment.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 4:56 p.m.