

MEETING MINUTES

COALITION BOARD

SOUTHERN NEVADA REGIONAL PLANNING COALITION

July 26, 2007

In attendance:

Mayor Oscar Goodman, CHAIR, City of Las Vegas
Trustee Mary Beth Scow, Clark County School District
Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County
Councilwoman Stephanie Smith, City of North Las Vegas
Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian, City of Las Vegas
Councilman Steve Kirk, City of Henderson
Councilwoman Gerri Schroder, City of Henderson

Absent:

Commissioner Susan Brager, Clark County
Councilwoman Shari Buck, City of North Las Vegas
Councilwoman Andrea Anderson, City of Boulder City

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 Mayor Oscar Goodman, Chair, City of Las Vegas, at 3:35 p.m., on Thursday, July 26, 2007, in City Council Chambers, City of Boulder City City Hall, 401 California Street, Boulder City, Nevada.

The agenda for the July 26, 2007, meeting was duly posted in compliance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law requirements.

Agenda Item 2. Roll Call.

All members of the SNRPC Board, as listed above, were present except for Commissioner Susan Brager, Clark County, Councilwoman Shari Buck, City of North Las Vegas, and Councilwoman Andrea Anderson, City of Boulder City. Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County, arrived after Roll Call, although quorum was met without her.

Agenda Item 3. Approval of the agenda for July 26, 2007.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda for the July 26, 2007, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County, had not arrived yet.

Agenda Item 4. Approval of the minutes for May 24, 2007.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the May 24, 2007, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County, had not arrived yet.

Agenda Item 5. Receive an Update and Reports on the SNRPC Regional Homeless Coordination. Recommended action – Accept the Update and Reports, and approve holding a special joint forum on the Regional 10 Point Plan on August 23, 2007, from 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Shannon West, Regional Homeless Services Coordinator, presented updates on the SNRPC Regional Homeless Coordination including: the Summer Homeless Census will be conducted beginning at 2:00 a.m. on July 31 and will directly compare to the recently completed Winter Homeless Census; the Community Interfaith Council will be holding a kick-off luncheon on September 25 at the East Las Vegas Senior Community Center; and she discussed the success of the Summer Shelter and Emergency Shelter programs including the cooling stations and hydration project.

Ms. West asked for approval to hold a special joint forum on the Regional 10 Point Plan with members from the Coalition Board and the Committee on Homelessness. The proposed workshop would be on August 23 from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. at the RTC.

There was discussion by the Board on whether research could be included on day workers during the summer homeless census; the expected completion date of the panhandling portion of the study; and the proposed format of the special joint workshop.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the updates on the SNRPC Regional Homeless Coordination and to approve holding the special joint workshop on the Regional 10 Point Plan on August 23 from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. The motion was approved unanimously. Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County, had not arrived yet.

Agenda Item 6. Receive a Status Report on Phase II of the Regional Economic Study. Recommended action – Accept the Update on Phase II of the Regional Economic Study, and approve holding a special consultant presentation on October 25, 2007, from 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Dr. Alan Schlottmann, Theodore Roosevelt Institute (TRI), gave an update on Phase II of the Regional Economic Study including: the expected completion of the final report and implementation strategies; and a Lied Institute Roundtable Forum on Economic Diversification would be taking place in August.

Dr. Schlottmann asked for approval to hold a special interactive forum on Phase II of the Regional Economic Forum on October 25 from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m., and he discussed several specifics of the proposed forum.

Councilman Steve Kirk, City of Henderson, recommended that members of the Coalition Board be invited to the Lied Institute Roundtable Forum; and he recommended that Lied Institute staff, staff from the Lieutenant Governor's office and the NDA be invited to the proposed interactive forum in October.

There was discussion by the Board on expectations and diversification options including biotech and medical research as well as solar energy and wind. There was also discussion on gaining broad community support in addition to the importance of intermunicipality cooperation.

Councilwoman Gerri Schroder, City of Henderson, recommended that the proposed forum in October have interactive discussion and not follow a lecture format.

Councilwoman Stephanie Smith, City of North Las Vegas, recommended also inviting federal partners to the October forum.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the update on Phase II of the Regional Economic Study and approve holding the special interactive forum on Phase II of the Regional Economic Study on October 25 from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. provided that the recommendations made were implemented. The motion was approved unanimously. Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County, had not arrived yet.

Agenda Item 7. The next date and location for the regular meeting of the SNRPC Board is tentatively scheduled for September 27, 2007, 3:30 p.m., in HR Training Room #4, City of Las Vegas City Hall, 400 East Stewart Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Mayor Oscar Goodman, City of Las Vegas, stated that the next Coalition Board meeting was scheduled for September 27, 2007, at 3:30 p.m., in HR Training Room #4, City of Las Vegas City Hall, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Agenda Item 8. Public Comment.

Frank Perna, Homeless Advocate, commented on his frustration that there was no representation on the Coalition Board for veterans; and he stated that responses he's gotten to letters he's written to all the local governments indicate that veterans are a federal issue with no local federal representation available. He presented an article from the June 28 issue of the *Las Vegas Review-Journal* titled "Veterans air concerns on health care" where he was quoted as saying "It's disheartening to see our returning Iraq-Afghanistan veterans leaving the battlefield sick physically and mentally, being treated every bit as badly as the Vietnam-era veterans and first Gulf War veterans." He also presented an article from the July 24 issue of the *Las Vegas Review-Journal* titled "VA failing troops, lawsuit says" that he highlighted key passages of.

Mr. Perna submitted a letter addressed to Mayor Goodman and the SNRPC Board as follows:

"I am a charter member and veterans representative in "Southern Nevada Advocates for Homeless People", a 501c3. On May 24, I made public comment about the reasons for inadequate veterans healthcare in Southern Nevada, due to the unnecessary and deceitful closure of the V.A. Guy Ambulatory Clinic in 2003. I am submitting a SNAHP brochure, a Support our Veterans petition and a copy of a federal court judgment in which the court awarded Moreland Corp, builder of the Guy Clinic, \$17,992,215.85 plus interest.

This board, to protect the interests of about 250,000 veterans, 1/8 of our population, should not cite federal government sovereignty as a reason for inaction and not protecting the interests of Southern Nevada veterans. Please join with me in advocating an accelerated completion date, to 2009, of the V.A. Health Complex, at I-215 and Pecos, and the construction of domicilliarities to provide housing for essential TBI, PTSD, alcohol and drug programs.

The July 24th news article, "VA failing troops, lawsuit says" demonstrates how this rigid bureaucracy is unwilling or unable to serve our troops returning from the battlefield. Just imagine that the Vietnam War ended 35 years ago and claims are still outstanding for those suffering from agent orange illness.

It is a disgrace that "Veterans for Common Sense" and "Veterans United for Truth" have been forced to sue the Veterans Administration. Support out troops is a meaningless political mantra.

Please "Support our Veterans." "

Agenda Item 9. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:09 p.m.