

MEETING MINUTES

COALITION BOARD

SOUTHERN NEVADA REGIONAL PLANNING COALITION

July 16, 2009

In attendance:

Councilman Cam Walker, CHAIR, City of Boulder City
Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, VICE CHAIR, Clark County
Commissioner Susan Brager, Clark County
Councilwoman Gerri Schroder, City of Henderson
Mayor Oscar Goodman, City of Las Vegas
Councilwoman Anita Wood, City of North Las Vegas
Trustee Terri Janison, Clark County School District

Absent:

Councilman Steve Kirk, City of Henderson
Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian, City of Las Vegas
Councilman Richard Cherchio, City of North Las Vegas

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 Councilman Cam Walker, Chair, City of Boulder City, at 4:05 p.m., on Thursday, July 16, 2009, in Clark County Commission Chambers, Clark County Government Center, 500 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada.

The agenda for the July 16, 2009, 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 Councilman Steve Kirk, City of Henderson, Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian, City of Las Vegas, and Councilman Richard Cherchio, City of North Las Vegas.

Agenda Item 3. Approval of the agenda for July 16, 2009.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda for the July 16, 2009, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 4. Approval of the minutes for May 21, 2009.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the May 21, 2009, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 5. Receive a Funding Request for a Greenprint Training Workshop. Recommended action – Approve the funding request for a Greenprint workshop.

Ned Thomas, City of Henderson, requested that this agenda item be held until the next Coalition Board meeting in September.

There was no discussion by the Board; and a motion was made and seconded to hold this agenda item until the September, 2009, Coalition Board meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 6. Receive a Proposal to Incorporate a “Consent” Section into Agendas for the Coalition Board and Technical Committee Meetings. Recommended action – Accept the Proposal to Incorporate a “Consent” Section into Agendas for the Coalition Board and Technical Committee Meetings.

Brok Armantrout, City of Boulder City, presented a proposal to incorporate a “Consent” section into agendas for the Coalition Board and Technical Committee meetings.

Mayor Oscar Goodman, City of Las Vegas, recommended that the SNRPC Technical Committee be given authorization to approve financial decisions of \$25,000 or less.

Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County, recommended that all SNRPC contracts, however, be forwarded onto the Coalition Board for final decision; and she requested that no contracts be included in the consent agenda section.

Mayor Goodman requested that SNRPC Technical Committee members give a report to the Board on item(s) from the Technical Committee consent agendas that were approved.

A motion was made and seconded to approve adding a “Consent” section to Coalition Board and Technical Committee agendas and to authorize the Technical Committee to approve financial decisions of \$25,000 or less as long as no contracts are required. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 7. Receive an SNRPC New Member Orientation Packet. Recommended action – Accept the SNRPC New Member Orientation Packet; and take any necessary action.

Brok Armantrout, City of Boulder City, presented an SNRPC New Member Orientation Packet.

There was no discussion by the Board; and no motion or action was required on this agenda item.

Trustee Terri Janison, Clark County School District, requested that copies of the packet be sent to new Board members as soon as possible; and Jennifer Olsen, Coalition Secretary, responded that all new and existing Coalition Board and Technical Committee members would be included.

Agenda Item 8. Discussion on focus and future direction of the SNRPC (per request by Commissioner Susan Brager). Recommended action – Provide input and feedback; and take any necessary action.

Commissioner Susan Brager, Clark County, stated that the SNRPC Committee on Homelessness was important and should not be gotten rid of; but she said she felt that the Coalition had gotten “off course” and “needed to be reigned in”. She stated that she was discouraged that there were few or no results seen, and she agreed with the idea of a consent agenda.

There was discussion by the Board about limiting the Coalition’s focus; having the Technical Committee look at “not only where we’ve been but where we’re going”; focusing energies on regional goals (i.e. solar technology and sustainability, land uses, transportation, building codes, etc.); evaluating how things could be done better and more efficiently without “reinventing the wheel”; evaluating interlocals and other cooperations; and reviewing areas including infill and slow growth.

There was further discussion by the Board about evaluating additional potential areas of consolidation and

focusing on increasing policy oriented action items. The housing authority consolidation was offered as a successful example of recent regional cooperation and consolidation.

Betsy Fretwell, City of Las Vegas, Gregory Rose, City of North Las Vegas, and Virginia Valentine, Clark County, representing the SNRPC Technical Committee, recommended that the Technical Committee review the Regional Policy Plan for areas that work as well as for areas of overlapping services; evaluate options for potential resource sharing; look at the previous 10-year plan as well as the next 10 years; and remain results oriented.

Commissioner Brager recommended adding no new tasks and leaving existing tasks and subcommittees, especially the Committee on Homelessness, until further evaluation by the Technical Committee.

Councilman Cam Walker, City of Boulder City, recommended staff look at the consolidation requests from the State Legislature for potential implementation.

No motion or action was required on this agenda item.

Agenda Item 9. Receive an Update on 2009 Legislation Affecting the SNRPC. Recommended action – Accept the Update; and take any necessary action.

Brok Armantrout, City of Boulder City, presented an update on 2009 Legislation affecting the SNRPC, specifically AB 304 (Historic Neighborhood Preservation) and AB 289 (Paleontological Site Protection).

There was discussion by the Board about whether the bills impacted all jurisdictions; and continuing to work together on implementation.

Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County, asked about SB 132 (Dog Tethering Bill); and Jennifer Olsen, Coalition Secretary, and Mr. Armantrout responded that the Planning Directors had advised Karen Layne, President of the Las Vegas Valley Humane Society, that all language and code recommendations would be coordinated by the respective jurisdictional Animal Control departments.

A motion was made and seconded to incorporate implementation of 2009 Legislation affecting the SNRPC, as necessary, into the Regional Policy Plan. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 10. Receive a Briefing on the Regional Approach of the Local Housing Authorities in Southern Nevada. Recommended action – Accept a Briefing on the Regional Approach of the Local Housing Authorities in Southern Nevada, and take any necessary action.

Doug Lyon, Clark County, gave a briefing on the status of the Regional Approach of the Local Housing Authorities in Southern Nevada. He requested that an emergency SNRPC Technical Committee meeting be called so the order of lot selection for the regional board can be decided; and he requested authorization to meet with the local HUD office to discuss HUD's continued coordination and management efforts as well as to determine the roles of the existing housing authority boards and when their responsibilities will end and the regional board will take over.

There was discussion by the Board about some of the regional board's membership qualifications and limitations and the timeline for implementation.

A motion was made and seconded to call a special SNRPC Technical Committee meeting as soon as possible to draw lots to determine the selection order of the new regional housing board; to authorize Mr. Lyon to meet with Ken Lobene regarding HUD's commitment to provide liaison efforts between the existing housing

authority board members and the new regional board members; and to authorize Mr. Lyon to request a letter from HUD delineating what the role of each current housing authority board member will be as they move toward dissolution, especially regarding funding. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 11. The next date and location for the regular meeting of the SNRPC Board is tentatively scheduled for September 17, 2009, 4:00 p.m., in Clark County Commission Chambers, Clark County Government Center, 500 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Councilman Cam Walker, City of Boulder City, stated that the next Coalition Board meeting was scheduled for September 17, 2009, at 4:00 p.m., in Commission Chambers in the Clark County Government Center, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Agenda Item 12. Public Comment.

Frank Perna, Homeless Advocate, submitted two newspaper articles, one from the July 12, 2009, issue of the *Las Vegas Review-Journal* titled “Wondering If Anyone Cares” and one from the July 16, 2009, issue of the *Las Vegas Review-Journal* titled “Report:Slayings, fierce combat in Iraq might be linked”. Mr. Perna also submitted two letters dated July 16, 2009, addressed to the SNRPC Board as follows:

First letter

“The Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition Board was set up in September 2001 to address problems regionally. This is necessary due to governmental sovereignty and a realization that problems and solutions cross our boundary lines.

I think you have failed as regards to the disgrace of homelessness. Have you all seen the barrier fences in Ward 5 Las Vegas? They seem to have worked because the tents are gone. But, where are the people? Are they in shelters, housing, inpatient mental health facilities, therapy programs to treat alcoholism, gambling, legal and illegal drug addiction? Are the 26-30% who are veterans being treated in inpatient domicilliaries (veterans homes) for PTSD, TBI, alcoholism, gambling and legal & illegal drug addiction? If they have only been dispersed to North Las Vegas, Henderson, Clark County and Boulder City eight years of effort have failed.

At the last advisory meeting there was finally a report made, on my request, of housing increases since 2001 for the homeless. Has progress been made? Of course there has, but what has it cost? At the last census we had a 14,000 population with an estimated increase of about 3000 due to the \$9.3 million reduction in the Clark County Social Services budget.

Advocates mainly have questions, suggestions and concerns. When you don’t listen to them you are wasting the greatest resource.

Government has failed to comprehensively address homelessness regionally. Please appeal to the Valley citizens through public service announcements to raise awareness about the disgrace of homelessness in the richest valley in the world. Fences aren’t the answer and Ward 5 is carrying too much of the burden.

Did you watch the re-run of the July 9th SNRPC Homeless Committee meeting, please do?

Mobile drop in centers are needed to provide services through the Valley. They will not prompt the NIMBY syndrome.”

Second letter

“Since I have only a limited time for citizen comment I am forwarding this proposal in writing. My proposal may be utopian and naïve but I am proud and sincere to have you consider it.

The situation for the poor and homeless is the worst I have seen in 16 years of activism and volunteerism. Our economic situation is bleak and I as well as the majority of our population have suffered either directly or marginally. America is in jeopardy, as in capitalism itself, and I have little faith in the 111th Congress or the Obama Administration to “help” us. I fear for our Iraq-Afghanistan veterans and their upcoming social disaster that will far exceed the travails of our Vietnam and First Gulf War veterans. I thank you for the SNRPC Board 3/20/2008 resolution which was ignored by Senator Arlen Specter and 44 members of the House and Senate Veterans Committees, including President Elect Obama.

I propose we have a fundraiser for the homeless, hopefully unifying a wide group of non-profits, advocates, governmental agencies, especially the metropolitan police, to raise public awareness about the plight of the poor and homeless. Our homeless veterans comprise 26-30% of the homeless population and they deserve and are earning special mention in battle.

I would hope that each of you fully participate by making PSA’s.”

Agenda Item 13. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:47 p.m.