

MEETING MINUTES

COALITION BOARD

SOUTHERN NEVADA REGIONAL PLANNING COALITION

November 29, 2007

In attendance:

Mayor Oscar Goodman, CHAIR, City of Las Vegas
Councilwoman Andrea Anderson, City of Boulder City
Councilwoman Gerri Schroder, City of Henderson
Councilman Steve Kirk, City of Henderson
Councilwoman Shari Buck, City of North Las Vegas
Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian, City of Las Vegas
Trustee Mary Beth Scow, Clark County School District
Commissioner Susan Brager, Clark County
Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County

Absent:

Councilwoman Stephanie Smith, 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 Mayor Oscar Goodman, Chair, City of Las Vegas, at 3:32 p.m., on Thursday, November 29, 2007, in City Council Chambers, City of Boulder City City Hall, 401 California Street, Boulder City, Nevada.

The agenda for the November 29, 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 Councilwoman Stephanie Smith, City of North Las Vegas. Councilwoman Gerri Schroder, City of Henderson, Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian, City of Las Vegas, and Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County, arrived after Roll Call, although quorum was met without them.

Agenda Item 3. Approval of the agenda for November 29, 2007.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda for the November 29, 2007, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. Councilwoman Gerri Schroder, City of Henderson, Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian, City of Las Vegas, and Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County, had not arrived yet.

Agenda Item 4. Approval of the minutes for the August 23, 2007, Special Joint Homelessness Workshop.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the August 23, 2007, special joint homelessness workshop. The motion was approved unanimously. Councilwoman Gerri Schroder, City of Henderson, Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian, City of Las Vegas, and Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County, had not arrived yet.

Agenda Item 5. Approval of the minutes for September 27, 2007.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the September 27, 2007, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. Councilwoman Gerri Schroder, City of Henderson, Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian, City of Las Vegas, and Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County, had not arrived yet.

Agenda Item 6. Approval of the minutes for the November 13, 2007, Special Coalition Board meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the November 13, 2007, special Coalition Board meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. Councilwoman Gerri Schroder, City of Henderson, Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian, City of Las Vegas, and Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County, had not arrived yet.

Agenda Item 7. Receive Update Reports on the SNRPC Regional Homeless Coordination. Recommended action – Accept the update reports, and approve having the Regional Homeless Services Coordinator contract for additional Inclement Weather Shelter Services for women and children on behalf of the SNRPC.

Shannon West, Regional Homeless Services Coordinator, presented updates on the SNRPC Regional Homeless Coordination including: an update on Help Hope Home and the implementation schedule; and an update on the Inclement Weather Shelter services.

Ms. West asked for approval to contract with Shade Tree for additional shelter beds for women.

Jaime Weller-Lafavor, Lutheran Social Services of Nevada, gave a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the recent Project Homeless Connect (formerly the Homeless Stand Down) titled “Southern Nevada Project Homeless Connect 2007.”

There was discussion by the Board on adult education provided by UNLV; possibly combining future events with the Homeless Veterans Stand Down; ensuring future event dates do not coincide with County Commission meeting dates, if possible; and what the ID cards looked like and who accepted them in the area.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the update reports and to approve having the Regional Homeless Services Coordinator contract for additional Inclement Weather Shelter Services for women and children. The motion was approved unanimously. Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County, had not arrived yet.

Agenda Item 8. 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.

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.

There was discussion by the Board on next steps; stakeholders involved; and if there is a forum, recommending that it be “hands-on” and “idea-based”.

Flinn Fagg, City of Las Vegas, stated that the final report would be presented to the SNRPC Technical Committee first, and they would direct how to proceed with presenting it to the Coalition Board.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the update on Phase II of the Regional Economic Study. The motion was approved unanimously. Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County, had not arrived yet.

Agenda Item 9. Receive an SNRPC Achievements Report. Recommended action – Approve the SNRPC Achievements Report.

Jon Wardlaw, Clark County, presented the SNRPC Achievements Report.

There was no discussion by the Board; and a motion was made and seconded to approve the SNRPC Achievements Report. The motion was approved unanimously. Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County, had not arrived yet.

Agenda Item 10. Receive a Report on the 2006 Land Use Forecast. Recommended action – Approve the 2006 Land Use Forecast.

Jon Wardlaw, Clark County, presented the 2006 Land Use Forecast.

There was brief discussion by the Board; and a motion was made and seconded to approve the 2006 Land Use Forecast. The motion was approved unanimously. Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County, had not arrived yet.

Agenda Item 11. Receive a Report on the 2007 Consensus Population Estimate. Recommended action – Approve the 2007 Consensus Population Estimate.

Jon Wardlaw, Clark County, presented the updated 2007 Consensus Population Estimate. He stated the estimate had been updated as a result of input from the State Demographer and showed an estimated three percent increase to almost 2 million people.

There was discussion by the Board on how the real estate and housing market may have affected the numbers; comparisons to Boston, Seattle, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Washington D.C.; and the importance of keeping future school sites in mind during planning.

There was lengthy discussion by the Board on public transportation, especially on beginning discussions on the possibility of a light rail system and/or subway; and why the current monorail system is ineffective and unused.

A recommendation was made, by the Board, to direct staff to meet with Jacob Snow, RTC of Southern Nevada, on a future Coalition Board presentation on upcoming transportation plans, projected costs, and the possibility of constructing a light rail or subway system in Southern Nevada.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2007 Consensus Population Estimate with the recommendation on a future presentation by Jacob Snow, RTC of Southern Nevada. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 12. Discussion on potentially changing dates and/or times for 2008 Coalition Board meetings. Recommended action – Provide input and feedback, and take any necessary action.

Trustee Mary Beth Scow, Clark County School District, stated that current Coalition Board meeting dates conflict with School Board meetings; and she asked to move the SNRPC Board meeting dates to a different Thursday.

There was discussion and agreement by the Board on moving the Coalition Board meetings to the third Thursday of the month, at 4:00 p.m., and moving the Technical Committee meetings to the first Thursday of

the month.

Agenda Item 13. The next date and location for the regular meeting of the SNRPC Board have yet to be determined.

Mayor Oscar Goodman, City of Las Vegas, stated that the next Coalition Board meeting was scheduled for January 17, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. in a location that is still to be determined.

Agenda Item 14. Public Comment.

Frank Perna, Homeless Advocate, commented on his frustration that there was still no implementation of Housing First, and programs needed to be developed to assist people with active addictions and mental problems so "...not just the easy people are helped". He also expressed frustration that no progress was being made in housing, and he stated the problem, especially the foreclosure rate, was actually regressing. He requested a comparison of services and facilities now versus those offered six years ago in 2001. Mr. Perna concluded with comments on returning veterans, and healthcare provided to them is inadequate.

Mr. Perna submitted a letter, dated November 29, addressed to Mayor Goodman and the SNRPC Board as follows:

"I have attended four meetings and not once have my public concerns and requests resulted in an agenda item being added to the agenda of a future meeting.

I requested a resolution, from the board, in support of our 250,000 veterans, 1/8 of our population, 3500 homeless veterans and our returning Iraqi Afghanistan veterans for an accelerated completion date of 2009 and the construction of domicilliaries at the new V.A. Health care complex. The answer I received that this was a federal issue was inadequate and reflects a misunderstanding of the debt we all owe to our veterans as citizens and sovereign governments.

Public comments should reflect future agenda additions or they are an exercise in futility. This is just one reason why citizens do not participate in government. We are made to feel frustrated and eventually burn out. Unfortunately, the majority of our citizens are complacent, apathetic and uninformed and do not appreciate the power they have in a representative democracy."

Mr. Perna also submitted a letter, dated November 29, addressed to Senator John Ensign as follows:

"As you are aware, I have been an advocate for veterans, especially homeless veterans for 15 years. My volunteer service as a V.A. volunteer, member, V.P. and director of "Veterans in Politics", member of the aesthetics committee in the Mike O'Callaghan Federal Hospital, founder of the "Southern Nevada Advocates for Homeless People", along with others and volunteer work with many charities. This service should give me validity and consideration.

Veteran health care has never been adequate in Southern Nevada due to population growth and under funding. When the Guy Addelair Clinic was built, veteran health care improved and then deteriorated when it was fraudulently closed in 2003 and services were scattered throughout the valley. Poor and homeless veterans found it difficult, if not impossible, to access comprehensive health services. Worse is the fact that operations and complex procedures require out of state travel. That is poor medical care, because many veterans lose the support of family and friends, as a result.

Has the completion date of the new Veterans Health Complex been accelerated to Dec. 2009-Jan. 2010? If so, please announce it. Also needed are domicilliaries to provide housing and

in-patient care for TBI, PTSD and alcohol and drug programs since the civilian homeless programs are not providing them.

Please study the enclosed literature to fully appreciate my efforts. (This literature was not provided.)”

Mayor Oscar Goodman, City of Las Vegas, expressed frustration that service providers are not able to force the service resistant individuals into treatment.

Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian, City of Las Vegas, asked for a comparison in shelters and providers between now and 2001, especially for the homeless veterans.

Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County, recommended that Mr. Perna write to Assemblywoman Sheila Leslie, too.

Agenda Item 15. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.