

**MINUTES FROM THE  
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF  
THE NORTH LAS VEGAS CITY COUNCIL AND  
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

November 4, 2003

**CALL TO ORDER:** 5:45 P.M., North Las Vegas Library Community Room  
2300 Civic Center Drive, North Las Vegas, Nevada

**ROLL CALL COUNCIL PRESENT:**

Mayor Michael L. Montandon  
Mayor Pro Tempore William E. Robinson  
Councilwoman Stephanie S. Smith  
Councilman Shari Buck  
Councilman Robert L. Eliason

**PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS  
PRESENT:**

Chairman Marlene Palmatary  
Board Member Will Collins  
Board Member Meril Davis  
Board Member Bill Dolan  
Board Member Brent Leavitt  
Board Member David Pfiffner

**STAFF PRESENT:**

City Manager Gregory Rose  
Assistant City Manager Dan Tarwater  
Deputy City Attorney Jim Lewis  
City Clerk Eileen M. Sevigny  
Parks & Recreation Director Michael Henley  
Parks Planner Tony Taylor  
Assistant City Clerk Karen L. Storms  
Deputy City Clerk Julie Shields

**VERIFICATION:** Karen L. Storms, CMC, Assistant City Clerk

**BUSINESS:**

**1. DISCUSSION ON RECREATION AMENITIES IN PARKS AND DEVELOPED OPEN SPACES.**

Mayor Montandon asked each member of the Council and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to introduce themselves.

Director of Parks and Recreation Michael Henley explained this item was brought up at a Council meeting during a discussion regarding proposed amenities in a planned unit development. This item was to develop an understanding of what was required for the City's public parks, planned unit developments (PUD's) and small lot developments. Additionally, a portion of the discussion was an interest expressed by Council to have lighted sports courts, primarily basketball, included in some of the developed open spaces and public parks. Councilman Buck added her interest in the lighted courts issue came from her discussions with Police Chief Paresi and his concerns with multi-family and high density units. Children were playing in the streets and were getting into trouble because of a lack of areas for them to play. He was interested in lighted areas for children to play, particularly in the hot summer months when the coolest time of day was after the sun went down. Director Henley stated this was an opportune time to discuss this issue as recently Council adopted new standards through a small lot ordinance for developed open space and amenities. He added the department was conducting a thorough review of the current park system. A portion of that would include proposed new standards for recreation amenities in neighborhood/community parks and regional parks. Director Henley referenced two documents given to Council and the Board. The first was an amenity comparison between public parks, planned unit developments, and small lot developed open space. That handout also stated the calculation formula for open space requirements for private parks. The other document was a draft document of park standards. The department was in the process of standardizing, down to specifications, all amenities required for parks and developed open spaces. The document would be utilized for all future parks and open space projects.

Tony Taylor, Parks Planner, explained with regard to the Park/Developed Open Space Amenity Comparison, more specific requirements could be found in the Park Standard document. He explained parks would require differing amenities based on size and other issues. The requirements for the public parks and small lots were much more stringent because in a standard PUD, negotiations would determine what amenities were included. PUD developed open spaces were determined by criteria such as land features.

Mayor Montandon questioned how the Parks Standards documented distinct specifications without making all parks in the City look the same. Planner Taylor responded because, in addition to a list of desired amenities, each park could be

themed, creating a different look for each. Themes included sports park, family park, and amphitheater or cultural park and were determined by how the park would be used. He pointed out Nicholas E. Flores Park was a family themed park with picnic tables, play units and a water unit. In comparison, Goynes Park was a sports themed park with ball fields and picnic areas. While the parks were similar in size, the uses of the parks dictated different amenities.

Planner Taylor spoke of facility lighting. He explained currently, there was no policy regarding the lighting of parks. Parks were lit according to use. Nicholas E. Flores Park, being a family park, was lit with security in mind. There was lighting in the gazebo and along the walking trails for evening use. The lighting design enabled the police to look into the park at night to assess the safety of the patrons. Goynes Park had two types of lighting. The sports lighting was for the ball fields and the security lighting was for the rest of the park. The lighting would be dictated by the uses within the park. Planner Taylor pointed out there was no policy for lighting private parks. Developers of private parks were told a requirement was a circuitous trail around the park that would be lit because people would use the trail throughout the evening. The lighting was a security issue and was required to be one candle foot for the entire length of the trail. If a basketball court were to be installed, lighting was requested to be on a timer so as not to become an attractive nuisance. There was no requirement for lighted courts because there was no method of enforcement.

Director Henley stated because of the high summer temperatures in the valley, many outdoor activities took place in the coolness of the evenings. He recommended researching appropriate locations to install lighted amenities. He added the concern with lighted basketball courts was not only the lights, but noise as well. There was more flexibility in public parks to buffer the courts from residential areas to mitigate intrusions from light and noise. In the small lot developed open space in PUD's, there was frequently not much room to have appropriate buffers.

Councilman Buck stated a gentlemen named Mark Wade had spoken to Council and requested lighted basketball courts for the youth in the area to utilize at night. At that time, the Silver Mesa Recreation Center was not yet built. He was told when the center was constructed the City would possibly light those courts. Councilman Buck suggested the courts at Seastrand Park be lighted first. She asked the lights be on a timer so the City had control over the use of the lights. She added in the smaller projects, the developers could be asked to include basketball courts in their plans. Planner Taylor stated it was a difficult negotiation with developers. Councilman Buck requested Staff find ways, in smaller communities, to provide activities to the residents that could utilize lights on timers. She questioned if the City could require lights in parks that were under the control of a homeowner's association. Director Henley responded negotiations were occurring for that condition during the planning stages of new parks. It was very difficult to require a change to the amenities once the park was constructed and being used.

Director Henley stated if a proposed project fell in the service radius of an existing public park with lighted courts, that amenity was not negotiated. Mayor Montandon pointed out at the present time, there were no public parks in the City with lighted courts. Director Henley stated Seastrand Park would be the first. Councilman Buck suggested Richard Tam Park would be an ideal location for lighted courts. Mayor Montandon added that in hindsight, the City should have added lighted courts to Seastrand Park during the planning stage. He added there were parks that would not be ideal for lighted courts because the residential areas were too close. He requested guidance from Staff as to what size park would be large enough to have lighted courts. Councilman Buck pointed out at Cheyenne Ridge Park, which the City owned, people were playing basketball at night by using their car headlights. She felt it would be appropriate to have control over when the courts were used by offering lighted courts on timers. Mayor Montandon added the noise, not the lights were the issue. Councilman Buck added the City would not be contributing to the problem by installing timed lights. Parks and Recreation Board Member Bill Dolan felt it would be a waste of time and money to install lights in the smaller, homeowner association controlled parks. He added that although Cheyenne Ridge Park was a beautiful park, at night it attracted a less desirable crowd that created problems. Mayor Montandon stated the standard for lighted basketball courts should be similar to lighted baseball fields. Planner Taylor pointed out because baseball fields were so large, a park that contained them dictated its own size. Mayor Montandon added baseball fields generally required parking areas. Director Henley stated he had received many phone calls to request facilities that the youth in the City could use during the day and night. If lighted courts were required in smaller parks, the number of courts could be reduced. He understood Council to mean they were in favor of pursuing lighted courts but needed guidance and direction through standards and guidelines to be applied system-wide. By adopting the developed open space amenities, the developers and homeowner's associations were obligated to provide a high level of public recreation for their residents but were also creating a seamless system of recreation facilities in the City. Those parks were just as important to the City as the large public parks. Mayor Montandon pointed out the City had learned from past efforts what to require from developers.

Councilwoman Smith stated residents in developments often had opposing viewpoints and it was necessary for the Council to have guidelines from Staff that would address issues fairly and equitably. She also requested bocce ball courts be supplied for the senior population.

Councilman Buck stated if a developer were to install lighted basketball courts or other lighted amenities, potential homeowners should be informed through a notification process before they purchased a home there. Director Henley stated there was mitigation that could minimize the impact to the surroundings such as having the courts at a lower elevation with mounding and tree buffers.

Mayor Montandon stated prioritizing the overall recreation needs of the City was the purpose of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. It was important to the City to meet the needs of the residents but it was understood that not all identified needs could be ranked the top priority.

Mayor Montandon suggested a double timer lighting system might be appropriate for the City's parks. The themed park in Aliante set the standard for all new parks in the area. He asked for a discussion regarding proposed amenities for City parks. Planner Taylor stated the standards would revolve around what type of park was required. The City was researching the possibility of a dog park which required at least three acres dedicated for that use. Mayor Montandon stated he would never build a dog park when a little league field could be built instead. Director Henley cautioned regarding neighborhood parks, there should be something for everyone. The City was so park deficient, there was the fear the parks would be 'over-designed.' With higher densities, there came a need for quiet area parks. Even though there was a standard list of amenities, it was important to engage the general public who lived in the area to determine what fit the character of the community. The design guidelines took those factors into account.

City Manager Rose asked if there was a consensus regarding the issue of lighted courts in smaller parks. For each developer that brought forward a plan, the City would work with them to minimize the impact on the neighborhood. Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson questioned how many basketball courts could fit into a smaller neighborhood park. A representative from Poggemeyer Design responded basketball courts were typically 60 feet by 104 feet. Councilwoman Smith stated the need for basketball courts would be determined by the make up of the community. Director Henley agreed and added the development community did a good job of building for the market. City Manager Rose clarified if a neighborhood was near a major park that would accommodate lighted basketball courts, a developer building in the area would not be required to install lighted courts. Mayor Montandon stated a set of standards needed to be designed whereby if the courts were lighted, there was sufficient buffering from the residents. Director Henley stated there were modern lighting systems that minimized off-site impacts. Mayor Montandon reiterated noise was the primary problem.

Board Member Pfiffner stated there needed to be a commitment from the Police Department to respond to calls from homeowners regarding the noise and other disturbances associated with lighted courts. Police needed to have the ability to shut the lights down if the need arose. He felt lighted amenities needed to be in larger parks.

City Manager Rose suggested Staff draft a policy regarding standards for lighted courts in residential neighborhood parks. Councilwoman Smith suggested a citizen survey may

shed light on the types of amenities suggested by the residents. Mayor Montandon commented charrettes had been held for the design of the Silver Mesa Recreation Center that resulted in the final amenity package. He felt the survey process was an integral part of the design of a recreation facility. A representative from Poggemeyer Design Group stated school properties often provided lighted courts first because of the built-in buffers. He felt a negotiating point would be to convince developers to light courts on school sites. Councilman Buck pointed out the School District locked the gates at North Las Vegas schools after hours. Director Henley stated the City was attempting to be included earlier on in the process of development. Parks needed to be public space not in the back yards of homes. Parks needed to be constructed on the fronts of houses which increased the property value of the homes and added to the visual aspect of the community.

Mayor Montandon asked if there was any opposition to the City Manager's suggestion to draft the standards for review by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board before approval by Council. There was no opposition stated. Councilman Eliason questioned if the standards would only address lighted basketball courts. Mayor Montandon responded not only the basketball courts but also lighting for various uses and amenity packages needed to be standardized. Mayor Montandon stated it was very important that Staff negotiate amenities prior to being heard and decided upon by Council. Councilman Buck asked for more input on suggested amenities.

**Mike Mullis, President of the Cheyenne Little League**, requested more baseball fields in the City because currently, there were not enough ball fields for league play. Approximately half of his teams could play at the same time. He stated the School District did not want his teams to play at the schools. He requested a complex of ball fields specifically for North Las Vegas teams. He added in the fall, soccer took up much of their ball fields. He suggested a dual use field for baseball and soccer. He requested lights be included on new baseball fields as in the spring and summer the fields would be used at night. Mayor Montandon stated the City developed boards and committees to determine the needs of the residents of the City. If the City was expected to shoulder all of the needs of children's sports without the School District's involvement, that would mean a shift in the planning process and would quadruple the City's financial burden. Councilwoman Smith asked if Mr. Mullis had been to the School Board meetings and requested their assistance. She felt the schools were funded with taxpayer dollars and the facilities should address the needs of the community in addition to the school functions. Mr. Mullis stated he was beginning his discussions with Council and would address the School District at a later time. Mayor Montandon stated it was critical the City partner with entities such as the School District because if the City shouldered the burden alone, it would take decades to build the financial base to accomplish all of the requirements. He questioned why the School District required land to build ball fields when the uses were restricted to during school hours. If independent sports associations were in such dire need of fields and the School District was not contributing

to the solution, the School District's land needs could be cut to accommodate those fields. Mayor Montandon did not recommend that as a solution but felt it was a programming issue that needed to be addressed. Councilman Buck stated a sports complex was coming to the City. The Lower Las Vegas Wash detention basin would be constructed in concert with Little League standards. Director Henley stated Staff was in the process of working with North Valley regarding the ten and fifteen acres parks to be constructed in Aliante. Staff was also working with the School District on the new elementary school being constructed which would have two ball fields on the site adjoining the ten acre park. Across the beltway, at the fifteen acre site, Staff was proposing soccer fields. The ball fields would be for softball.

Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson asked if Craig Ranch were purchased by the City, would it include a sports complex as well. Mr. Mullis stated the model in other cities was the city purchased the land and built the park and the little league rented the fields for their use. Mr. Mullis pointed out other groups were forming teams looking for fields as well. Mayor Montandon stated the detention basin park, at fourteen acres, would have significant ball field resources. Councilman Buck added the detention basin park was located at Camino Al Norte and Washburn Road. Mayor Montandon added the land was graded at three levels; the first for water detention, the second, at ten acres for ball fields, and the third, at four acres for parking. Director Henley added when the Cheyenne Peaking Basin came on line, it would have a park overlay added to it.

Director Henley stated he was concerned with the over capacity use of the current parks. With recently adopted drought ordinances, the condition of the fields would affect playability. He commented Staff would work with the School District to identify more usable land for ball field use. Mr. Mullis stated the School District was attempting to restrict little league from using their fields. Mayor Montandon stated Parks and Recreation Staff would assist by working with the School District. Councilwoman Smith suggested the school board members be made aware of the issues in an attempt to reach a compromise over usable space.

Councilman Eliason wished to discuss restrooms and off-street parking. Councilman Buck stated the women's restrooms needed to have doors. Mayor Montandon pointed out the City had made a commitment to install restrooms at all City parks but had received negative feedback when restrooms were installed in smaller parks. He maintained his opinion that all programmable parks have restroom facilities.

Councilman Eliason asked if there was a standard by which the City followed to determine off-street parking. Director Henley responded off-street parking would be dictated by usage. Mayor Montandon commented any park large enough to require lighted areas or had a programmable use, was large enough for off-street parking.

**2. STATUS REPORT ON THE UPDATE OF PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN.**

Director Henley explained the City was in the process of updating the 1997 Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The process began in October 2002. Poggemeyer Design Group developed three scenarios addressing future parks and recreation needs based on differing levels and sources of funding. Each scenario was a five year projection.

**David Rayfield, Poggemeyer Design Group**, Planner and Landscape Architect, explained some projects that had been completed or were nearing completion included the next 2.5 miles of the Las Vegas Wash Trail, the City Hall Campus Desert Demonstration Garden, the Aliante Theme Park, and the Silver Mesa Recreation Center. The possible opportunity to turn Craig Ranch Golf Course into the City's first regional park was an exciting possibility as well. Mr. Rayfield stated the City was continuing a targeted effort towards progressive upgrading of the existing parks in the mature areas of the City. The improvements were geared towards improving safety and expanding accessibility, improving utility and irrigation systems, and adding new amenities such as playground equipment. Since 1997, five new parks had come on line totaling approximately 28 acres ranging from the smaller neighborhood parks to the largest, Seastrand Community Park. The Silver Mesa Recreation Center was an \$11 million civic investment. Approximately 2% of the total acreage of the Aliante Master Planned Community was dedicated to recreation and public use.

Mr. Rayfield stated three workshops had been held including residents, the School District and the North Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce. A public survey had been conducted that resulted in statistically valid information that gave a clear indication of the recreational needs of the citizens. The feedback indicated the City had done a tremendous job in investing in the existing City parks but some parks needed additional attention including City View Park, the Cheyenne Sports Complex, Valley View Park, Hebert Memorial Park, and Tonopah Park. The survey indicated residents placed a high emphasis on continuing the upgrading of existing parks and introducing new recreational facilities.

Mr. Rayfield stated there was a clear shift in priorities from smaller, neighborhood parks to larger acreage community parks. These parks needed to be strategically placed in areas of the City that were presently under served by available parks. There was a disparity between the number of smaller neighborhood parks and community parks. Residents were also interested in non-traditional features including dog parks, water play features, and bocce ball courts. Residents desired to have both active and passive areas in larger community parks as well. The top three activities included space for family activities and group picnicking, basic walking exercise areas and simple passive

enjoyment areas.

The most significant shortage of park type in the City was regional park space. The City currently had a 600 acre deficit. If Craig Ranch became a regional park along with the other regional parks in the valley, the City had adequate coverage. While the City had no other regional park, other parks outside the City were utilized by City residents. Another shortage identified in the City was 30 miles of linear parks and greenways. Input from the community indicated while walking was a highly participative recreation activity, it was a low priority as to where citizens wanted to see parks and recreation dollars spent. Mr. Rayfield pointed out within the next five years, the City would be needing another recreation center on the same scale as Silver Mesa Recreation Center. More ball fields were needed and the possibility was there to renovate the Cheyenne Sports Complex to meet the needs the community for various sports fields. 32% of those surveyed desired another sports complex be constructed in the City and another 20% desired to see sports fields spread out more evenly throughout the City parks. By 2005 when the Detention Basin complex was completed, the City would have sufficient sports fields, but would soon realize another deficit with the growing population. Specialized recreation facilities would change as the priorities of the residents changed. Mr. Rayfield stated the City was doing an adequate job of providing play equipment in the smaller parks and providing for pools for the residents but that could quickly change as the needs of the community changed.

Mr. Rayfield explained the third and fourth priorities identified in the survey were a community center along with a swimming pool and a children's play area. The need for a community events center and an amphitheater was defined as a high priority by all surveyed. Some other types of amenities requested by participants in the survey and the workshops included water parks, skateboard parks, exercise areas, dog parks and community gardens.

40% of those surveyed felt the appearance of the existing City parks was improving. Another 28% felt the condition of the parks was excellent. 60% of the survey respondents wanted to see additional funding directed toward the continued upgrading of existing parks. Staff felt a northwest parks maintenance facility would be beneficial to increase response times and efficiency. Director Henley pointed out currently, Parks Maintenance Staff spent approximately 20% to 25% of their time traveling to the outlying parks. Councilman Buck asked if the City had the ability to construct such a facility on the land dedicated for the new police precinct. City Manager Rose stated there was additional acreage there. Councilwoman Smith questioned if there was any public land left in Aliante. City Manager Rose stated there was a small amount not being utilized by the new fire station. He stated there was greater opportunity to obtain a parcel from the next land auction in November 2004.

Mr. Rayfield explained the status quo spending scenario called for \$17 million for park renovation and development projects from fiscal year 2003 through 2008. Those funds would be roughly divided between renovation projects and new park development. This equated to \$3.5 million a year for five years. Annual operations and maintenance costs would be an additional burden of approximately \$440,000 per year at the end of this five year period.

The moderate spending scenario would add a higher level of upgrading and improvements to the twelve existing parks. This scenario incorporated the status quo scenario projected expenditures of \$17 million and added another \$34 million in addition to capital improvement park projects, totaling slightly over \$51 million for the next five years. This represented approximately a \$6.5 million increase per year over the status quo scenario, or approximately \$10 million per year. This plan included significant renovation master planning and redevelopment at existing key parks including the Cheyenne Sports Complex, City View Community Park and Valley View Neighborhood Park. It also included three new 10-acre neighborhood parks at undetermined locations, one new fifteen acre park at Losee and Ann Roads, and the master planning and first stage development processes of a regional park. If the purchase was successful, this regional park would be the current Craig Ranch Golf course. This scenario included the completion of the last 5.5 miles of the Lower Las Vegas Wash Trail by the end of 2007.

The ambitious spending scenario combined both the status quo and the moderate spending scenarios and included the establishment of a revolving park major maintenance fund of approximately \$1 million per year. Mr. Rayfield stated this scenario proposed three additional new 10-acre parks for a total of 30 acres at locations throughout the City with the greatest identified shortage, one additional new 20-acre community park and a local park land acquisition fund of \$5 million. This scenario included the second phase of development of the 160-acre regional park, a new community center and aquatics facility located at one of the new previously developed community park sites, substantial expansion and remodeling of the existing neighborhood center and establishment of a downtown park and plaza area. Mr. Rayfield pointed out this scenario had an extended time frame of eight years. The total for this scenario (with both previous scenarios included) was \$109 million for the next eight years or \$22 million for each fiscal year. This scenario would include an annual \$4 million maintenance and operation expense at the end of 2010.

Mr. Rayfield stated a question on the citizen survey was what would the support level be for support for a tax increase or bond issue for an expanded park system and recreation program. 34% of the responses indicated there was a public willingness for a bond issue to support a more determined park development program if the public was informed specifically what the funds would be paying for. A third of those surveyed would support a bond issue in general. The total price of the bond was important to 24% of those surveyed and another 9% would not support any type of a bond issue.

Councilman Buck questioned how many people were surveyed. Mr. Rayfield responded responses were received from 760 people. He suggested in the future a more comprehensive survey be given for specific information. The survey included a question regarding where the citizens wanted the money to go. The prevailing answer from 60% of the respondents was to take care of existing parks and improve upon them. Second and third priorities were an emphasis on new recreational facilities and a new community center and sports complex, respectively. 38% of the respondents wanted non-traditional park facilities.

Mr. Rayfield stated whatever level of effort the City determined was necessary for future park projects, dedicated revenues with the capability of increasing revenue generation to support the park projects would be required. A financial strategy for consideration was increasing the residential construction tax to the allowable limit and dedicate it entirely for park acquisition. Another strategy would be to join forces with other entities in the valley and State and lobby legislature to increase the ceiling on the residential construction tax. Mr. Rayfield stated another strategy would be to replace the residential construction tax entirely with a single impact fee for parks. If a capital improvement program for parks were instituted, impact fees could come closer to actually reflecting the true cost of park land development projects. The ceiling would be much higher than the \$1,000 residential construction tax ceiling currently in place. Another financial strategy would be to apply unobligated monies from the Street Maintenance, Parks and Fire Fund to future local park projects. Other possibilities were a utilities surcharge and a local sales tax increase. While those methods were direct tax increases, they were common sources of funding in other states. According to Mr. Rayfield, relying too heavily on Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) money was a risky strategy. The competition was increasing for those limited funds. A better long term strategy would be to work through the Regional Planning Coalition to pool SNPLMA funds to use for revenue bonding for park projects on a regional basis.

City Manager Rose stated the financing strategies would be reviewed as the Capital Improvement Plan was developed. Mr. Rayfield stated a Public Hearing would be held for the adoption of the Parks Master Plan. City Manager Rose questioned whether teen and senior centers were included in the Poggemeyer study. Mr. Rayfield responded a multi-generational center would be the model and would cost approximately \$20 million. City Manager Rose asked if a need for that type of center was identified. Mr. Rayfield responded it was their opinion the next recreation center needed to be multi-generational.

Mayor Montandon stated with regard to SNPLMA, as of last week, the Secretary of the Interior signed off on Round 4 funding. The same day, the Federal Land Subcommittee began taking applications for Round 5. Round 4 applications for parks, trails and open space were very aggressive and were approved for approximately \$300 million. Included in that funding was the acquisition of Craig Ranch Golf Course. A problem with

the system was the duration of the process was so lengthy that land prices increased from the time the application was submitted to when the funding was approved. Craig Ranch was approved for purchase at \$38 million with the authority to raise the price to \$41 million. Once the task order was completed, the purchase could be effectuated within 18 months. Round 5 applications, just for parks, trails and open space, totaled \$680 million worth of requests. That list represented several year's projects. Mayor Montandon agreed with Mr. Rayfield that this method was a poor policy for obtaining money but at this time, it was readily available.

Councilwoman Smith brought up the issue of bicycling in the community and stated it was imperative the City begin thinking of this as a source of transportation. She suggested bike paths be included in the plans along with walking trails.

Mayor Montandon directed City Manager Rose to work with Director Henley to convert the Recreational and Public Purpose Act (R&PP) lease to a purchase. He stated the City was in the middle of the second 10 year lease and purchasing the property was a method of establishing the rights to develop the park.

Director Henley stated a letter had been received from the Prop Nuts Flying Club requesting the park be named for Willie C. McCool, a local astronaut who perished in the space shuttle tragedy. The Parks and Recreation Board felt this site was appropriate to have that honor bestowed upon it. Because the land was owned by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) they were asked for their approval of the name. They were in agreement and asked that a BLM plaque be provided. The Parks and Recreation Board requested an item be sent to Council for approval. Mayor Montandon stated it was an appropriate request but added the Prop Nuts were made aware the City could not expend significant resources to support the 51 members of their club. The park needed to be planned with all citizens needs in mind. Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson asked if they utilized the entire 160 acre site. Mayor Montandon responded when looking at a map, it appeared they used only a small portion of it, but in actuality, the air space of the entire park was used. Parks Planner Tony Taylor concurred and added the park was actually three 40-acre parcels in a row. University of Reno was utilizing the first 40-acre parcel. The model airplane field was in the middle of the three parcels effectively used the air space over all three parcels.

Councilman Buck stated there was one name missing to the list of astronauts. Director Henley stated all names would be listed on the plaque. Mayor Montandon stated he was unsure if the plaque should read "The Willie C. McCool Memorial Park" or "The Willie C. McCool Memorial Model Airfield." He wanted to make it clear the current use as a model airfield may not be the only use in the future.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no participants.

**ADJOURNMENT**

ACTION: THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:52 P.M.

MOTION: Mayor Montandon

SECOND: Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson

AYES: Mayor Montandon, Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson, Councilman Smith, Buck  
and Eliason

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

**APPROVED: December 17, 2003**

/s/ Michael L. Montandon  
Mayor Michael L. Montandon

Attest:

/s/ Eileen M. Sevigny  
Eileen M. Sevigny, CMC  
City Clerk