

**CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

March 15, 2006

CALL TO ORDER: 4:34 P.M.

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

STAFF PRESENT:

City Manager Gregory Rose
Assistant City Manager Sam Chambers
Assistant City Manager Maryann Ustick
City Attorney Sean McGowan
City Clerk Karen L. Storms
Assistant to the City Manager Michelle Bailey-Hedgepeth
Communications Director Brenda Johnson
Fire Chief Al Gillespie
General Services Director Eric Dabney
Municipal Court Administrator Debbie Miller
Parks & Recreation Director Mike Henley
Chief Deputy City Clerk Anita Sheldon

VERIFICATION: Karen L. Storms, CMC
City Clerk

BUSINESS:

1. **PRESENTATION OF CULTURAL ARTS PROGRAM SURVEY RESULTS AND DIRECTION TO STAFF REGARDING DRAFTING A RESOLUTION TO PROCEED WITH THE FORMATION OF A CULTURAL ARTS ADVISORY BOARD.**

Assistant to the City Manager Michelle Bailey-Hedgepeth presented the results of an online survey conducted December 21, 2005 through February 22, 2006. A total of 118 respondents participated in the survey. The majority of the participants lived in the City of North Las Vegas and were between the ages of 18 and 49. The purpose of the presentation was for Council to accept the results of the survey and to establish the criteria for the creation of a Cultural Arts Advisory Committee.

Question 1 addressed the priorities of the Cultural Arts Plan and the survey revealed equal responses to arts programming, lifelong learning, education for children and neighborhood arts.

Question 2 covered the types of cultural arts programming and the top choices were arts and crafts, art in public places musical theater and art exhibitions.

Question 3 asked about the different events attended by the participants in the last year and the majority responded they had attended concerts, art galleries and theater productions.

Question 4 revealed the respondents attended cultural events approximately three to five times a year or more.

When asked in Question 5 why they didn't attend art and cultural events more frequently, the majority responded there was a lack of information and the events were too far to drive.

Question 6 asked how the participants heard about cultural events and most of the respondents stated it was the newspaper, the radio and the internet. Fifteen percent responded they received this information from the City Newsletter.

Question 7 inquired as to what would entice the participants to attend a cultural event and an overwhelming percentage stated they would be more inclined to attend a cultural event if an accessible venue and convenient dates were available.

Question 8 asked what City of North Las Vegas events were attended by the participants. The majority responded they had not attended any of the events; however, the remaining choices were equally divided, such as the Fourth of July Celebration, Taste 'n Tunes, Film Series in the Park and the Concert Series.

When asked on Question 9 whether the participants had ventured out of Clark County to attend cultural events, 78% responded they had and stated they had gone to Utah for the Shakespearean Festival, to California for the jazz festivals and some stated they attended a Broadway show in New York.

Question 11 asked how important it was to have cultural arts activities and events in North Las Vegas; 72% responded it was very important and 16% stated it was moderately important.

Sixty-nine percent of the participants felt it was very important for the City of North Las Vegas to support public art, cultural arts and programs. Twenty percent felt it was moderately important.

When asked to rate the availability of cultural arts programming in Clark County, the majority of the participants rated it good to fair.

When asked for recommendations on how the City should support arts and culture, the following items were ranked in overall order of importance:

- Outdoor Fairs
- Youth Programs
- Downtown Cultural/Public Arts
- Theater Spaces
- Neighborhood Programs

The respondents to the survey identified the following items they would like to see offered in a cultural arts program:

- Arts Education for Children
- Neighborhood Arts Programming
- Cultural Programming

Other comments included the need for an art museum, a North Las Vegas symphony, well-rounded musical programming and film/video programming.

Ms. Bailey-Hedgepeth advised 89% of the respondents were residents of North Las Vegas, 39% of whom lived in the 89031 zip code, followed by 27% in the 89084 zip code. The majority of the participants had lived in North Las Vegas between one and ten years.

The next steps suggested by Ms. Bailey-Hedgepeth were to continue community outreach through the establishment of a Cultural Arts Advisory Committee, develop a more detailed community arts assessment and obtain input from previous studies conducted by the Parks and Recreation Department.

The survey elicited a small percentage of the population and Ms. Bailey-Hedgepeth suggested it remain on line for an additional period of time for further participation.

Mayor Montandon suggested the creation of a Cultural Arts Advisory Committee be postponed until further information was obtained. The Mayor also felt a survey should be conducted by means other than the Internet for citizens who do not have access to a computer.

Councilman Buck suggested a survey sheet be inserted into the City newsletter to be completed and returned by residents. She felt there were ways to incorporate cultural events into the current City events which would incur little or no expense.

Councilwoman Smith expressed her desire to provide more culture to the residents of North Las Vegas and also felt there were ways to display art at very little cost.

Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson agreed with the comments made by Council Members Buck and Smith and felt more information was needed before an advisory board could be created.

Councilwoman Smith felt a decision should be made as to what type of advisory board should be created. Mayor Montandon felt there was not enough information presented to determine the type of board and made a motion to obtain more information before a decision was made.

City Manager Rose suggested another survey be conducted and the information brought back to Council for consideration of a Cultural Arts Advisory Board. When asked by City Manager Rose, Communications Director Brenda Johnson advised the next newsletter would be sent out around the first week in May 2006. City Manager Rose stated the results of the second survey would be available for presentation to Council at the second meeting in August 2006.

ACTION: PRESENTATION MADE; STAFF DIRECTED TO MOVE FORWARD TO COLLECT MORE INFORMATION AND MAKE SURVEY AVAILABLE BY MEANS OTHER THAN THE INTERNET

MOTION: Mayor Montandon

SECOND: Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

2. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING THE FORMATION OF A YOUTH COUNCIL ADVISORY BOARD.

Assistant to the City Manager Michelle Bailey-Hedgepeth advised she researched options for the possible formation of a Youth Council from the Internet and from the National League of Cities. The two options discovered were a Youth Council with an educational focus and a Youth Council Advisory Board.

The Youth Council with an educational focus prepared high school students for careers in local government. The members would shadow various City commissioners, committee members and/or elected officials to learn the various phases of local government. If this particular forum were selected, recruitment for the 2006-07 school year would begin in the spring of 2006 at the area high schools.

The Youth Council Advisory Board would be a smaller version of the educational component that would meet a certain number of times a year to provide information on the thoughts and accomplishments of the area youth.

Mayor Montandon supported the Youth Council concept; however, he expressed concern about the selection process and how the members would be appointed. Ms. Bailey-Hedgepeth stated she researched how members were selected by other entities and found that applications were completed by interested students and qualified

applicants were recommended by the school faculty. She suggested students be selected from each Council district.

Councilman Eliason felt one student should be selected from each high school in North Las Vegas.

Councilwoman Smith supported the idea of a Youth Council Advisory Board and felt the same type of committee should be created for seniors.

Councilman Buck advised the Southern Nevada Water Authority created a Youth Council approximately eight years ago and suggested that Ms. Bailey-Hedgepeth contact them to obtain feedback.

ACTION: STAFF DIRECTED TO INVESTIGATE DIFFERENT STRUCTURES OF YOUTH BOARDS AND BRING THE ITEM BACK TO COUNCIL IN AUGUST

PUBLIC FORUM

Dean Leavitt, 918 Dawn Valley Drive, North Las Vegas, stated he supported the creation of a Youth Advisory Board.

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:17 P.M.

MOTION: Mayor Montandon

SECOND: Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

APPROVED: April 19, 2006

Mayor Michael L. Montandon

ATTEST:

Karen L. Storms, CMC
City Clerk