



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
PARKS AND RECREATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, February 24, 2021
Meeting Held Electronically**

PRESENT: Chair Maryann McAllen, Vice-Chair Kurt Jones, Commissioners Todd Davis, Ronald Lehman and Susan McGarry

ABSENT: Commissioners Alexandra Albert and John Doering

STAFF: Director Reed Pryor; Managers Dan Bachman, Denise Clayton, Sunny Nakagawa, Brett Jackson, Nick Molinari, Stephanie Tippet, Jody Pierce, Chris Walsh; Senior Assistant City Attorney Kim Campbell; Office Manager Community Services Ruth Johnson

CALL TO ORDER

Chair McAllen called the meeting to order at 5:13 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present as indicated above.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public who submitted comments.

MINUTES

Approval of the Regular Meeting minutes – October 21, 2020

COMMISSIONER LEHMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 21, 2020 PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. VICE-CHAIR JONES SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MCALLEN, VICE-CHAIR JONES, COMMISSIONERS DAVIS, LEHMAN, AND MCGARRY VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

1. ELECTION OF THE OFFICERS

COMMISSIONER DAVIS NOMINATED MARYANN MCALLEN TO CONTINUE IN THE POSITION OF CHAIR OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION. VICE-CHAIR JONES SECONDED THE NOMINATION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MCALLEN, VICE-CHAIR JONES, COMMISSIONERS DAVIS, LEHMAN, AND MCGARRY VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

COMMISSIONER LEHMAN NOMINATED KURT JONES TO CONTINUE IN THE POSITION OF VICE CHAIR OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION. COMMISSIONER DAVIS SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MCALLEN, VICE-CHAIR JONES, COMMISSIONERS DAVIS, LEHMAN, AND MCGARRY VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

2. 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Reed Pryor, Director, presented the 2020 Annual Report for approval.

VICE-CHAIR JONES MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2020 ANNUAL REPORT AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER MCGARRY SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MCALLEN, VICE-CHAIR JONES, COMMISSIONERS DAVIS, LEHMAN, AND MCGARRY VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

3. COMMISSION BYLAWS

Director Pryor presented the Commission Bylaws for approval.

Kim Campbell, Senior Assistant City Attorney, recommended minor changes that would update City Code references in accordance with an ordinance adopted by City Council in September 2020, that adjusted the City Code provisions related to board and commissions. She specifically requested that section 10.2 and footnote 1 refer to Scottsdale Revised Code 2-241 without section references.

In accordance with the procedure for amending the Commission bylaws, action on the proposed changes to the bylaws will take place at the March meeting.

4. OPEN MEETING LAW REFRESHER

Kim Campbell, Senior Assistant City Attorney, gave a presentation outlining the State of Arizona's open meeting laws and requirements. Open meeting law is a general policy statement and state law that provides that meetings should be conducted openly and in public and that notices and agendas be timely posted. Ms. Campbell's presentation included review of the definition of a "meeting," violations that can occur by circumventing the open meeting law, how to avoid an "accidental meeting," meeting notice and agenda requirements, director and commissioner reports, minutes requirements, and violation enforcement and penalties. Commissioners asked clarifying questions.

5. INDIAN SCHOOL PARK PILOT FEES AND CHARGES

Reed Pryor, Director, presented the proposed new pilot fees and charges for the use of the Indian School Park Baseball Facilities. The “pilot fee program” would give staff the ability to move forward with the new fees effective March 1, 2021 for approximately one year.

Recommended fees were as follows:

- Half field - \$20 per hour
- Field lighting - \$20 per hour
- Clubhouse rental - \$400 per day
- Indoor hitting tunnels - \$150 per day or \$25 per hour
- Outdoor hitting tunnels - \$100 per day or \$15 per hour

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Director Pryor said that the fees can be adjusted if it is determined that the market is at a higher price point.

Chris Walsh, Manager, explained that a fee for the entire complex rental/tournament fee has not been established at this time, but will be considered in the future. He said that the City has been working closely with Experience Scottsdale and Cactus League facilities to market the availability of the facility. Mr. Walsh noted that staff have focused on marketing Scottsdale Stadium, which has generated interest in the Indian School Park facilities. He anticipates that much of the facility use will be by club and school teams.

Mr. Walsh said that revenue from the Giants covered operations and maintenance. Opening the facility to public use will generate cost recovery and annual revenue.

VICE-CHAIR JONES MOVED TO APPROVE NEW PILOT FEES AND CHARGES FOR THE INDIAN SCHOOL PARK BASEBALL FACILITIES TO BE EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2021. COMMISSIONER MCGARRY SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MCALLEN, VICE-CHAIR JONES, COMMISSIONERS DAVIS, LEHMAN, AND MCGARRY VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

6. FEES AND CHARGES – BELL ROAD SPORTS COMPLEX AND SCOTTSDALE SPORTS COMPLEX

- a. Information, discussion and possible action regarding the Bell Road Sports Complex fees

Director Pryor presented the proposed new fees and charges for the use of the new Bell Road Sports Complex, located at 91st Street and Bell Road.

VICE-CHAIR JONES MOVED TO APPROVE PROPOSED NEW AND ADJUSTED FEES FOR THE BELL ROAD SPORTS COMPLEX. COMMISSIONER LEHMAN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0), BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MCALLEN, VICE-CHAIR JONES, COMMISSIONERS DAVIS, LEHMAN, AND MCGARRY VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

- b. Information, discussion, and possible action regarding the Scottsdale Sports Complex fees

Director Pryor presented the proposed new and adjusted fees and charges for the use of the Scottsdale Sports Complex, located at the corner of Bell Road and Hayden Road. The complex is primarily used by soccer groups, but often hosts other flat-field sport groups and tournaments.

VICE-CHAIR JONES MOVED TO APPROVE PROPOSED NEW AND ADJUSTED FEES FOR THE SCOTTSDALE SPORTS COMPLEX. COMMISSIONER LEHMAN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0), BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MCALLEN, VICE-CHAIR JONES, COMMISSIONERS DAVIS, LEHMAN, AND MCGARRY VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

7. DESIGNATING AND NAMING SOLSTICE PARK; AMENDING PARK MASTER PLAN

Director Pryor provided information on the proposed designation of the City's property within Soleri Plaza as a City park and naming it Solstice Park. He described the area, which is located south of the Soleri Bridge, within Soleri Plaza. He described Soleri Bridge, which is placed at a true north access and coupled by 2 64-foot pylons, which mark the solar advance produced by the sun's shadow. A celebration of the annual equinox events is held at the bridge and plaza each year on September 21st and March 22nd.

Identifying the area as a City of Scottsdale park would allow staff to better manage the property, because it would fall under the city's park rules and policies regarding use. The space would be available for reservations through the City's special events office. The suggestion of the name "Solstice Park" complies with the parks and recreation naming policy, which says that the selection of appropriate names for park properties shall consider and be based upon history, geography, and geographic location. Once approved, the Parks and Recreation element of the 2015 Community Services Master Plan would be amended to include Solstice Park as a neighborhood park.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Commissioner Davis expressed concern with designating the area as a city neighborhood park. He felt that as a neighborhood park the space could be rented by anybody, which could detrimentally affect the free flow that citizens have walking from Soleri Bridge and through the Waterfront area. Director Pryor explained that labeling the space as a park will help in the management of the total area and will help police officers with certain enforcement issues. Vice-Chair Jones and Chair McAllen noted support for the designation of the space as a neighborhood park.

VICE-CHAIR JONES MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO CITY COUNCIL THAT THEY DESIGNATE THE CITY OF SCOTTSDALE PROPERTY WITHIN SOLERI PLAZA AS A CITY PARK, NAME IT SOLSTICE PARK, AND AMEND THE PARKS AND RECREATION ELEMENT OF THE 2015 COMMUNITY SERVICE MASTER PLAN TO INCLUDE SOLSTICE PARK AS A NEIGHBORHOOD PARK. COMMISSIONER LEHMAN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ONE (1), BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MCALLEN, VICE-CHAIR JONES, COMMISSIONERS LEHMAN AND MCGARRY VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. COMMISSIONER DAVIS DISSENTED.

8. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Pryor reported on the 2020 Holiday Lights at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park. Due to COVID restrictions, the program ran for six weeks with reserved blocks of time. Three time periods were offered each evening and a per-person fee charged. Staff from all areas of the Community Services department were scheduled to ensure the program ran smoothly. The system used this year helped curb the usual parking issues seen during events at the park and may continue into future seasons.

Director Pryor gave an update on the progress of each of the Bond/CIP projects.

Director Pryor said that staff have worked diligently with event organizers to ensure special events are conducted safely. Organizers are required to submit a mitigation plan and work with staff and special events team to review plans before events are conducted. The special events team consults with Scottsdale Police Department and Scottsdale Fire Department before approving mitigation plans. Staff is present at all events to ensure safety protocols are followed.

9. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Vice-Chair Jones said that since recently adopting a new dog, his family has regularly used Chaparral Park. He commended staff for keeping the parks running during the pandemic.

Commissioner Davis commented that he has been amazed at the number of people using the parks and having picnics. He mentioned the kayaking class at Chaparral Park, noting that he would like to see more outdoor experience opportunities offered through the parks department.

Commissioner Lehman commented that the City of Scottsdale has one of the premier park systems that he has seen in his years working in the parks and recreation field.

Chair McAllen was glad to see the booming use of parks throughout the city. She commended staff for Holiday Lights and for their handling of the cancellation of the spring training season.

Vice-Chair Jones thanked Commissioner Davis for his years of service and for mentoring him when he first joined the commission. Chair McAllen noted that Commissioner Davis has been well respected in the City of Scottsdale and in the field of recreation for many decades.

Commissioner Davis said it has been an honor to serve. He encouraged Commissioners to get out to the parks and that they will be amazed at all the special things.

10. POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Parks and Recreation Master Plan Capital Improvement Update
- Discussion about possible roving park rangers
- Motorized bicycle use on city paths

11. ADJOURNMENT

VICE-CHAIR JONES MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER MCGARRY SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MCALLEN, VICE-CHAIR JONES, COMMISSIONERS DAVIS, LEHMAN, AND MCGARRY VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Recorded and Transcribed by eScribers, LLC.