



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
PARKS AND RECREATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, November 16, 2022
Drinkwater Building - Adaptive Services Center
8102 E. Jackrabbit Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85250

PRESENT: Chair Kurt Jones, Vice-Chair Eric Kurland, Commissioners Maryann McAllen, Susan McGarry, Teresa Kim Quale, Kristen Parrish

ABSENT: Commissioner Steve Masear

STAFF: Director Nick Molinari, Managers Kevin McKee, Brett Jackson, Chris Walsh, Sunny Nakagawa, and Denise Clayton, Operations Supervisors Phil Hershkowitz and Kelsey Lamper, and Senior Transportation Planner Susan Conklu

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jones called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present as indicated above.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes – October 19, 2022

VICE-CHAIR KURLAND MOVED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 19, 2022 PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER MCALLEN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR JONES, VICE-CHAIR KURLAND, COMMISSIONERS MCALLEN, MCGARRY, QUALE, AND PARRISH VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

1. SCOTTSDALE TRAILS MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Susan Conklu, Senior Transportation Planner, provided a presentation on the efforts to maintain nearly 153 miles of existing trails outside of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve throughout Scottsdale. She reviewed maintenance responsibilities of the City and of private residents and HOAs, which is available in the City Code, chapter 47, section 47-47 and noted that the Design Standards and Polices manual, chapter 8-3, is available to guild what trails in the city look like. She noted that City Council adopted the Transportation Action Plan in April of 2022, which includes a trail element, outlining goals and policies and a performance measure related to trails. As part of the plan, an inventory check, found that there are areas of trails that are not passable. In response to that finding staff has created a trail maintenance outreach plan and is working to get the new information out to residents. As part of the outreach, the transportation department created a trail maintenance webpage, which outlines trail maintenance responsibilities and an interactive map, and includes a link to report problems through ScottsdaleAZ. Next steps will be to publicize the information and conduct targeted outreach.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Conklu explained that trails were shifted from the Preserve to the Transportation Department in 2007, because many of the trails are along main corridors and require coordination with traffic engineers. There is not currently a program for assisting neighbors with cleanup, but the department is researching opportunities that might be available. Brief discussion ensued regarding the possibility of using drones for surveying trails and for parks and recreation functions.

2. ADAPTIVE SERVICES PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

Kevin McKee, Parks and Recreation Manager, provided the Commission with an overview of the Adaptive Services Program and updates on recent and upcoming events within the program. He noted that Adaptive Services is working to rebuild programs following the limitations of the pandemic and is now operating at full capacity and includes new staff members. He introduced new staff members and described their responsibilities and goals. As part of his presentation, he described the features of the Adaptive Services Center; talked about social programs and programming; efforts being made to reach out to new populations; programs targeted towards youth and families; programs for young children; new, more active teen social club programs; the inclusion and accommodations and interpretive services processes. He said that Special Olympics teams participate in local competitions and those who win, advance to the state competition. On October 21st and 22nd, the Bobcats participated in the Special Olympics Fall state games, winning more than 30 medals in swim and 2 medals in bocce ball. The golf team competed in a tournament at Encanto Golf Course, winning five gold and five silver medals. Future goals for the Adaptive Services Program include creating a strategic plan for the future of Adaptive Services, activating the Adaptive Services Center, targeting a broader demographic, developing new outside partnerships, and increasing fundraising opportunities. Mr. McKee noted that the Bobcats recently partnered with the Scottsdale Police Department in putting on events at local restaurants, raising approximately \$3,750 for the Scottsdale Bobcats which will be used to purchase new uniforms and equipment.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Mr. McKee explained that those who wish to volunteer with Adaptive Recreation have to go through a background check process and those who want to be involved with Special Olympics go through extended training with Special Olympics as well. He noted that staff recently met with some of the East Valley programs on Special Olympics basketball and the Bobcats basketball team will in the future be holding practices with those agencies. Brief discussion ensued regarding the SUSD Score Program and development of a partnership between SUSD and Scottsdale Community College. Mr. McKee noted that the City has three vans available for transport to activities, depending upon staff availability.

3. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Nick Molinari, Parks and Recreation Director, reported that the 45th Annual Fall Festival at Eldorado Park was held on Saturday, October 29, 2022, from noon to 4:00 p.m. McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park hosted its Spooktrackula event October 7 through 31st. The event generated approximately \$295,000 in ticket sales and \$31,000 in concessions. Holiday Lights will be open from November 25th through December 20, 2022.

Mr. Molinari said that Fall 2022 recreation programs generated approximately \$250,000, which is up from Fall of 2021. All programs had increased participation from 2021.

Ashler Hills Neighborhood Park municipal use master site plan was recently approved by City Council without any stipulations. The program will be reviewed by the Development Review Board for a more material-based review. He anticipates that the project will begin in mid-2023.

WestWorld Sports Complex project is progressing and draining on field five is almost complete. Sod will be put in in July of 2023.

The Indian School Park master planning process has begun, and staff is currently working on a contract with the master planning consultant, which once completed will go to City Council for approval. Parks and Recreation Commissioners can expect to be involved in the planning process.

The Right Tree, Right Placement program with SRP is under way. Approximately 116 trees have been planted and an additional 142 trees have been identified for removal and will be replaced at a three-to-one ratio.

4. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Parrish mentioned that she and her child have visited five playgrounds as part of their playground audit and that they attended the Fall Festival. She thanked Mr. Walsh for hosting her students on a WestWorld tour in October.

Commissioner McAllen suggested that in the future the Commission have a table at events such as Canal Convergence as an opportunity to distribute information about Parks and Recreation department activities.

Commissioner Quale noted that she enjoyed attending Canal Convergence.

Chair Jones said that he attended the Veterans Day event at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park.

5. POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Possible future agenda items include:

- Parks and Recreation Commission strategic plan review
- Youth Sports Field Allocation policy review
- Report on how staffing challenges are affecting the department
- CIP and Bond Projects update

6. ADJOURNMENT

VICE-CHAIR KURLAND MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER MCALLEN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR JONES, VICE-CHAIR KURLAND, COMMISSIONERS MCALLEN, MCGARRY, QUALE, AND PARRISH VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

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