



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, November 4, 2015

**Eldorado Park
2311 N. Miller Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85257**

PRESENT: Virginia Harris, Chair
Todd Davis, Vice-Chair
Michael Bouscher, Commissioner
Ron Chambless, Commissioner
Dr. Chris Thuman, Commissioner
Sherry Woodley, Commissioner
Anne Wurth, Commissioner

STAFF: Reed Pryor, Parks and Recreation Director
Ryan Burris, IT
Terry Erickson, Parks and Recreation Manager
Phil Hershkowitz, Recreation Coordinator
Liz Hildenbrand, Parks and Recreation Manager
Brett Jackson, Parks and Recreation Manager
Yvonne Massman, Natural Resources Coordinator
Jessica Miller, Parks and Recreation Ops Supervisor
Greg Paulsen, Assistant Natural Resources Coordinator
Kira Peters, Parks and Recreation Manager
Jody Pierce, Parks and Recreation Manager
Chris Walsh, Parks and Recreation Manager

Call to order

Chair Harris called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present as noted above.

Moment of Silence

Commission members observed a moment of silence.

1. Approval of the Minutes **a. Regular Meeting: October 21, 2015**

Chair Harris suggested that the comment that "There were no members of the public who wished to speak" be deleted since there were people who spoke at the end of the meeting.

COMMISSIONER CHAMBLESS MOVED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 21, 2015 PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER THUMAN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0).

2. Pinnacle Peak Park Update

Yvonne Massman, Natural Resources Coordinator, introduced Assistant Natural Resources Coordinator Greg Paulsen.

Ms. Massman gave a presentation discussing upcoming capital improvements planned at Pinnacle Peak Park. Capital improvements are funded by the Friends of Pinnacle Peak Park non-profit organization. This budget year the group has raised approximately \$95,000 to contribute to capital improvement projects at the park. Projects planned for completion in the upcoming year include new continuous poured concrete seating facing the peak and expansion of the existing storage area. A new information kiosk is planned to be built next year.

Commission members were given an opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Massman explained that the storage expansion project is projected to cost approximately \$120,000. She noted that the city facilities department will likely install a new roof on the storage building as part of the expansion project. Commissioners discussed possible alternate off-site storage areas and the need for supplies to be conveniently located for volunteers. Commission members suggested additional methods for raising funds, including matching fund opportunities, fundraising events, tourism dollars, and soliciting donations from tourists and winter visitors.

Ms. Massman distributed the Junior Trail Ranger brochure to Commission members. This is given to children, who can participate in a question and answer opportunity to earn a certificate and badge.

3. Leisure Education Class Policies

Reed Pryor, Parks and Recreation Director, discussed Leisure Education Class policies regarding makeup times for classes. The policy on makeup classes was revised in an effort to provide consistently quality programming and formalize policies system wide. The revised policy on makeup classes was included in the instructor policies that are distributed and signed by instructors prior to sessions, and of the 7,461 students participating in Leisure Education classes this session, 385 students were personally notified of the policy change based on their class attendance history.

Discussion ensued regarding student complaints about not being able to make up classes, past class makeup policies, and open forum art classes as compared to other types of classes. Jessica Miller, Parks and Recreation Operations Supervisor, said that the students were wanting to make up missed classes per their convenience and not based on a specified makeup day. She clarified that if an instructor has to cancel a class students are offered an opportunity to make up the class or are offered a refund.

4. Partnerships and Collaborations

Terry Erickson, Parks and Recreation Manager, gave an overview of the partnerships and collaborations within Parks and Recreation.

She noted that the City of Scottsdale has partnered with other organizations since its conception. She gave a detailed review of the history of land donations given to the City for park development, land acquisition partnerships, and long-term lease partners such as Scottsdale Unified School District (SUSD), Paradise Valley School District, Thompson Peak Park, and Paiute Neighborhood Center. Ms. Erickson explained details of what is included as part of the master agreement and reciprocal use agreement with SUSD, including maintenance program, building use, field use, and a ball field lighting agreement. Ms. Erickson outlined policy partnerships and youth sports field allocation policy priorities.

Ms. Erickson briefly discussed other partnerships including the Title I schools partnership; the Scottsdale Railroad and Mechanical Society; the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy; Scottsdale Sports Complex agreement with the Board of Reclamation; the Giants and Charros for the Indian School Sports Complex; Gainey Ranch; median maintenance agreements with various homeowners associations; Scottsdale Center for the Arts; the Cultural Council; and Scottsdale FIT. It is anticipated that there will be future partnership opportunities with pickleball organizations and Keep Scottsdale Beautiful.

Commission members were given an opportunity to ask questions. Jody Pierce, Parks and Recreation Manager, explained that the agreement with several HOAs for City-owned median maintenance costs the City approximately \$200,000 per year. Commissioner Chambless commented that the community partnerships model could produce the positive outcomes of advocacy, funding, strategic planning, and fiscal health of the department. Commissioner Davis requested that information be sent to Commission members that outlines ways in which Commission members can advocate and restrictions on what they are able to say. Director Pryor said that the role of commissioners is to be the voice of citizens. He said that the bylaws contain specific information which can be agendaized for review during a future meeting.

5. Commissioner Report

Commissioner Davis said that he took his college class on a tour of Eldorado. He suggested that a liaison from staff invite students to shadow staff as a way of promoting jobs in parks and recreation.

Chair Harris said that she was a costume judge at the Fall Festival. She complimented organizers for making the festival better each year.

Commissioner Thuman thanked Director Pryor for taking him on a tour of a few of the City properties.

6. Director's Report of Current Events

Reed Pryor, Parks and Recreation Director, presented a sample of the parks and recreation quarterly analysis which is done with program managers on a quarterly basis. He noted that the Fall Festival had approximately 9,000 in attendance and the fast pass program generated \$870 in revenue. Dunking for Pumpkins had 150 in attendance.

The Lights After School Program was held October 21st through 23rd. The program recognizes the importance of after school programs around the country and encourages families to engage in their child's program.

Parks and Recreation staff had the opportunity to participate in the Arizona Out of School Time Conference on October 24th.

Youth Development staff and after-school participants participated in a basketball camp hosted by The Future of Kids on October 24th. Participants moved through seven skill rotations and a professional basketball player meet and greet.

Upcoming events include the Fishing Expo scheduled for November 21st at Eldorado Park north lake from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and a sports partnership information sharing work study session at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park on December 2nd at 4:00 p.m.

Director Pryor noted that Kira Peters will be facilitating the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on November 18th in his absence.

Chair Harris requested that information that might spark questions from the Commission be provided for review ahead of the meeting.

Commissioner Chambless suggested that the work study session on December 2nd be expanded beyond youth sports information to include community partnerships.

7. Public Comment

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

8. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, and no need for an executive session, the regular meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz