



**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
CITY HALL KIVA
3939 DRINKWATER BOULEVARD
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85251
WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2009**

MINUTES

- PRESENT:** Robert Frost, Chair
Jeanne Alspaugh, Vice-Chair
John Faramelli, Commissioner
Ron King, Commissioner
Stan Koczka, Commissioner
- ABSENT:** George Adams, Commissioner
James Duchene, Commissioner
- STAFF:** Jan Cameron, Parks and Recreation Manager
Trina Clemens, Admin Secretary
Neal Hallihan, Recreation Leader III
Steve Lehmann, Senior Recreation Coordinator
William Murphy, Parks and Recreation Director
Doug Nesselroad, Parks & Recreation Manager
Reed Pryor, Parks and Recreation Manager
Mari Steinbach, Parks & Recreation Manager
Deanna Zuppan, Senior Recreation Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. ROLL CALL

A formal roll call confirmed members present as stated above, noting the presence of a quorum.

3. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chair Frost called for a moment of silence.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- **Regular Meeting of May 6, 2009.**

COMMISSIONER KING MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 6, 2009 REGULAR MEETING. COMMISSIONER FARAMELLI SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0).

5. NORTH AREA UPDATE

Reed Pryor, Parks and Recreation Manager, will give an update on the North Area Parks.

Mr. Pryor updated the Commission on maintenance activities in parks north of Indian Bend. The north area contains 21 parks, two libraries, two aquatic centers, a senior center, 414 acres of parkland, 156 acres of turf, 30 ball fields, 22 soccer fields, 22 volleyball courts, 37 tennis courts, 21 basketball courts, 19 playgrounds, four horse arenas, and 215 acres of maintained medians and right-of-ways.

Mr. Pryor reported that on May 26, the off-leash area at Horizon Park would be closed for three weeks for re-sodding. In an effort to increase efficiency, staff is combining operations at Mountain View and Cactus parks, and contracting out some median landscape maintenance work. Staff anticipates moving into the new Grayhawk Park maintenance facility next month, thus consolidating several facilities into one. Mr. Pryor reported that attendees at the recent Lacrosse Tournament had good things to say about the Scottsdale Sports Complex. About 250 to 300 spectators attended each day. Staff has already begun planning for parking for next year's FBR Open.

Commissioner Faramelli inquired about maintenance challenges in the north area. Mr. Pryor responded that some staff have been working out of a temporary space, and have had to store their equipment at several locations. Much time has been spent traveling between each of the locations. The new facility at Grayhawk will be a tremendous benefit to them, as the equipment will be stored there, and the majority of the parks they maintain are within a five-minute drive. Mr. Pryor continued by noting that the landscape contractors for medians and rights-of-way have to be monitored to ensure compliance. This year, the City is forming a spray crew to put pre-emergent down to control weeds, instead of relying on the contractors to do it.

Commissioner Faramelli inquired whether HOAs provide the City money for median maintenance. Mr. Pryor responded that the City has contracts with several HOAs, paying them to maintain medians to City standards. Those HOAs that desire more intense landscaping maintenance must pay the extra cost.

6. YOUTH SPORTS FACILITY ALLOCATION POLICY

Mari Steinbach, Parks and Recreation Manager will present to request Commission recommendation for approval of the Youth Sports Facility Allocation Policy.

Ms. Steinbach presented the Youth Sports Facility Allocation Policy for the Commission's final approval. The revised policy was implemented for one year, giving all groups a chance to identify its successes and deficiencies. A staff review team and a Task Force subcommittee convened to consider the newest revisions. The review team was comprised of representatives from the Parks & Recreation Department, the Commission, the City Attorney's Office and Citizen & Neighborhood Resources. The Task Force subcommittee consisted of representatives from each sports group.

Ms. Steinbach presented the refinements made in the past year. The policy now clarifies what is meant by "season," since groups have been using different definitions. A season is comprised of tryout dates, clinics and camps, practices, games, and end of season tournaments. The bulk of changes were made to Section 8. Previously, the biggest challenge staff faced was ensuring that all groups submitted the necessary paperwork by the deadlines. The new language provides better expectations to user groups in advance, allowing staff to hold them accountable. Staff is now able to provide better service and optimize field usage.

COMMISSIONER KOCZKA MOVED TO APPROVE THE YOUTH SPORTS FACILITY ALLOCATION POLICY AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER FARAMELLI SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0).

7. ADAPTIVE RECREATION UPDATE

Deanna Zuppan, Senior Recreation Coordinator, will give an overview of Adaptive Recreation

Ms. Zuppan said Adaptive Recreation allows people with disabilities to participate in the community within the least restrictive environment. The inclusion programs help people interact with typical peers. The segregated programs are designed to work with people at their ability level, to break down the barriers they encounter daily. The most common disabilities encountered are Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Down Syndrome/Mental Retardation, and ADHD/ADD. Adaptive Recreation has 400 people on the mailing list, one third of whom are children, and serves 630 people. The inclusion and teen after-school program has 56 participants; junior and adult sports have 187 athletes, leisure education classes 40, and social clubs 200. The program provided five people with miscellaneous accommodations this past year.

Ms. Zuppan reported that the outdoor program featured an outing to Whispering Hope Ranch this year, and is offering a family and friends hiking club in the fall. Leisure education classes are offered in dance and movement, art, yoga, social etiquette, cooking, photography, and tai chi. The City partnered with Wells Fargo Bank to offer a free adult class in basic financial skills. The junior sports program for children 8 to 16 was started with a grant from the Salt River Pima/Maricopa Indian Community last year.

Over 50 athletes participated in aquatics, track & field, basketball, and cheerleading activities. The adult sports program features the same sports, except basketball is broken into unified teams, traditional teams, and individual skills.

The Social Club is designed for participants 16 and older. The group's activities focus on practicing money management skills, enhancing social interaction and behavior, and breaking down transportation barriers. Adaptive Recreation has focused on developing partnerships to help overcome the impact of budget cuts. A marketing effort was recently started to attract volunteers. On the recent outing to Whispering Hope Ranch, volunteers helped save the City almost 352 staff hours, totaling \$5,500. Other partnerships include Special Education Parent Advisory of Scottsdale (SEPAC), East Valley Special Olympics, the State of Arizona Special Olympics and the Miracle League of Arizona. Ms. Zuppan said the bulk of the program is towards providing citywide accommodations. When a child wants to sign up, staff assesses what their disability requires in terms of accommodation, and offers alternative format and interpretive services.

In response to an inquiry from Vice-Chair Alspaugh, Ms. Zuppan said the programs that Adaptive Recreation offers have been effective in promoting independent living. Schools only offer life skills and recreation up until graduation. Once that ends, people with disabilities need a place to go within the community. The AR program provides the structure they need to overcome the barriers they encounter daily. As many as one-third of the participants either live in a group-home setting or on their own. Mr. Hallihan added that parents often comment on the effectiveness that the program has had in contributing to the personal development of the children.

8. COMMISSIONER REPORT

The Commissioners will give updates on events, activities and reports from committees they have been involved with since the last Commission meeting.

Commissioner Koczka noted the many positive comments he received on the Sports Complex during the recent Lacrosse Tournament. The fields were in immaculate condition. He also heard good reviews from participants at a tennis tournament at Scottsdale Ranch.

Vice-Chair Alspaugh said she attended the dinner for Pinnacle Peak Park volunteers. The park looks fantastic because of the hard work of those who contribute their time. The City saves a significant amount of FTE because of their efforts. She reported that the Lucky Duck Derby went well this Saturday, despite the intense heat. She suggested moving it to the spring next year. Attendance would likely be higher as well.

Vice-Chair Alspaugh recommended that citizens invite a Scottsdale police officer to their neighborhood block parties to speak about home safety. Chair Frost reported on his Council presentation on the Field Allocation, and the Fees and Charges policies.

9. DIRECTOR'S REPORT OF CURRENT EVENTS (A.R.S. § 38-431.02(K))

William Murphy, Parks and Recreation Director, will update the Commission on the status of events and activities of the Parks and Recreation, and Parks and Grounds Management Divisions. This includes, but is not limited to, updates on programming, special events, calendars, and upcoming meetings.

Mr. Murphy reported that the Papago Park Executive Team plans to meet on May 21 to further discuss the park master plan. The next meeting will be 6-15-09 10 am to noon at the Desert Botanical Garden and 6-8 pm at the North Tempe Multigenerational Center. The next PRC meeting will be at the on June 3. The Board and Commission Appreciation Dinner is scheduled for June 17.

Ms. Cameron reported that summer staff training begins next week. The City is working towards complying with the Virginia Graham Baker Act, and all pools should meet the standard before the June 8 lessons start. The number of reservations has increased at Horizon Park, resulting in almost \$2,500 in additional revenue. Indian School Park revenue has also increased due to higher use. The Youth Corps Program has received 235 volunteer applications so far, and orientation begins on May 23. City Council approved the Capella Scottsdale project, with the stipulation that it contain 91 underground parking spaces, and three more above ground.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, and no need for an executive session, the meeting adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz.