



**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
VISTA DEL CAMINO COMMUNITY CENTER
7700 EAST ROOSEVELT
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85257
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2009**

AMENDED MINUTES

PRESENT: Robert Frost, Chair
Jeanne Alspaugh, Vice Chair
George Adams, Commissioner
James Duchene, Commissioner
Ron King, Commissioner
Stan Koczka, Commissioner

ABSENT: John Faramelli, Commissioner

STAFF: Jan Cameron, Parks & Recreation Director
Hugh McGill, Parks & Recreation Manager
Steve Lehmann, Parks & Recreation Athletic Field Coordinator
Terry Erickson, Parks & Recreation Manager
Lindsay Adarme, McDowell Mountain Ranch Center Coordinator
Tim Barnard, Parks & Recreation Manager
Don Davis, Parks & Recreation Manager
Lorelei Oien, Administrative Secretary
Reed Pryor, Parks & Recreation Manager
Jody Waldron, Parks & Recreation

GUESTS: Rhonda Thomas, Real Estate Management Specialist
Jody Estes, Reliant Land Services, Inc.
Randy Pridgeon, Reliant Land Services, Inc.
Larry Heath, McCormick Ranch Little League

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Frost called the meeting to order at 4:58 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 June 3, 2009.

COMMISSIONER KING MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 3, 2009 REGULAR MEETING. VICE-CHAIR ALSPAUGH SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0).

- Work Study Session of August 6, 2009

VICE-CHAIR ALSPAUGH MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 6, 2009 WORK STUDY SESSION. COMMISSIONER KING SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0).

- Joint Commission Meeting of August 6, 2009

COMMISSIONER KOCZKA MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 6, 2009 JOINT COMMISSION MEETING. VICE-CHAIR ALSPAUGH SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0).

5. PUBLIC ARTS PIECE CONSIDERED FOR PLACEMENT IN FRONT OF CLUB SAR

Jan Cameron, Parks and Recreation Director, will give an overview of the public arts piece being considering for placement in front of Club SAR.

Ms. Cameron presented the Scottsdale Cultural Council's (SCC) Public Art Program request for Club SAR. The SCC's requested that Staff identify locations to showcase pieces in their collection within Community Services, Parks & Recreation, and Human Services facilities. One piece, named *Michael's Dream*, has been identified for placement in the garden area to the left of the Club SAR entrance. This piece has been in the collection since 1986. The sculpture was created as a tribute to the strength of the human spirit in the face of adversity, an idea that complements Club SAR's philosophy of hard work and dedication. The construction work would take approximately one week to complete.

In response to an inquiry from Commissioner Adams, Ms. Cameron said the Scottsdale Cultural Council would pay the entire cost of the installation, and maintenance. No money

would come out of the City's operating budget. The SCC would work with Staff to hire an approved contractor, but they will assume full financial responsibility.

Commissioner Koczka inquired whether this would be part of a series of public art requests. Ms. Cameron said the SCC's goal is to get more of their collection out of storage and into the community. They are looking at additional public facilities for placement opportunities. Commissioner King inquired about the final approval process. Ms. Cameron responded that the Commission has final approval over this request.

VICE-CHAIR ALSPAUGH MOVED TO APPROVE THE SCOTTSDALE CULTURAL COUNCIL'S REQUEST TO PLACE THE PUBLIC ART PIECE IN FRONT OF CLUB SAR. COMMISSIONER KING SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0).

6. PROPOSAL FOR AT&T TO INSTALL AND OPERATE A WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY AT SCOTTSDALE STADIUM

Rhonda Thomas, Real Estate Management Specialist, and Jody Estes and Randy Pridgeon, Project Coordinators with Reliant Land Services, Inc., will provide information regarding proposal for consideration of AT&T installation and operation of a wireless communications facility at Scottsdale Stadium.

Ms. Thomas presented a proposal to increase the wireless capacity at Scottsdale Stadium for existing and future customers, and to enhance 911 emergency services. The action will also allow for greater storage capacity for the Giants organization during spring training. Cingular Wireless is proposing to place the facility on an existing light pole near third base. They would also build a 30-foot facility to house their equipment, and have proposed building a 10-foot by 20-foot storage facility for use by the Stadium, which they would partially pay for. The City would assume the remaining \$11,440 expense. This storage enclosure would match an existing facility at first base, which is now at capacity. Council plans to consider this matter on September 22. Construction would be finished prior to spring training of 2010. The license term would be for five years, with three additional five-year extensions. The rent paid to the City would be \$1,904 per month.

Commissioner Koczka requested an opinion from Staff on whether the facility would interfere with any of their programming. Mr. Waldron responded that the group has agreed to complete all of the construction by the time the Giants staff arrive in January.

COMMISSIONER KOCZKA MOVED TO APPROVE THE INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF A WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY AT SCOTTSDALE STADIUM AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0).

7. YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES PROGRAM MOVE TO PARKS AND RECREATION

Hugh McGill, Parks and Recreation Manager, will provide a brief overview of the roles and responsibilities of Youth and Family Services within Parks and Recreation.

Mr. McGill said the decision was made to move Youth and Family Services (YFS) into Parks and Recreation during the City's recent reorganization effort. He is assuming managerial responsibility for after-school programs, youth development, adaptive recreation, and the Horizon Community Center. The seven employees of YFS provides a wide variety of services, including supportive intervention, the teen employment program, the Mayor's Youth Council, early childhood and parent communication, and multi-disciplinary teen meetings. The Commission will receive a comprehensive presentation on YFS in January.

Vice-Chair Alspaugh inquired whether the YFS introduces youth to the City's boards and commissions. Mr. McGill responded that YFS does so at the request of the commissions and with the approval of the Mayor and Council. Vice-Chair Alspaugh asked that Staff request to have the Mayor's Youth Council engage in an education effort regarding the Parks and Recreation Commission, as this would be a great opportunity for the youth to learn more about municipal government.

8. LITTLE LEAGUE BATTING CAGE PROPOSAL FOR CHAPARRAL PARK SOUTH (QUAD) BALLFIELDS

Steve Lehmann, Parks and Recreation Athletic Field coordinator, will introduce a proposal and presentation for a Little League Batting Cage in the Chaparral Park South (Quad) Ballfields

Mr. Lehmann presented a request by McCormick Ranch Little League and East Scottsdale Little League for the City to approve their effort to install batting cages at Chaparral Park as a gift to the community. Batting cages were part of the conceptual plan for the remodel of the park, though they were proposed to be located in a different spot. The new proposed location between the two fields would improve the spectator experience during larger games and tournaments. There would be two cages approximately 35 feet wide by 72 feet long. The grass would be replaced with the same stabilized granite material that currently surrounds the fields. The installation would require removal of four to six sprinklers and the modification of four more. The City would enter into a contractual arrangement with the leagues, which would be responsible for doing the work in a specified manner.

Mr. Heath said the two leagues are very happy with the facilities at Chaparral Park, but would like to see this improvement added and are willing to pay for it for the benefit of the community. The cages would have a lockable six-foot high fence. The original location presented traffic problems and inhibited viewing. The cages will greatly improve the performance of players. Scottsdale's leagues have routinely sent teams to the state tournaments, and this has much to do with the improvements at City facilities. The cages are expected to cost the leagues about \$20,000.

Commissioner Koczka inquired about electricity for pitching machines and lighting. Mr. Heath responded that the facility could tap into electricity from a nearby light. Initially the cages would not have lighting beyond that already available on the fields. The cages would be large enough to accommodate pitching machines that the coaches supply.

Commissioner Adams inquired about the City's ability to schedule the cages for non-league uses. Mr. Lehmann said the cages would be considered a part of the field for scheduling purposes, and not be scheduled separately. That is how the other similar facilities are handled. Commissioner Adams felt that such a policy would preclude the ability to use the cages to their maximum capacity, such as when a football game is occurring. Mr. Lehmann said the league could look into that scenario. In response to Commissioner Adams' inquiry about locked fences, Mr. Lehmann said the fence could be locked, but would be opened on a daily basis to allow people to use them when nobody is there.

Commissioner Adams inquired whether the new location would prevent a proposed snack stand from being built in its intended location. Mr. Lehmann indicated that there would be no conflict with that facility. Commissioner Duchene inquired how the sprinkler relocation and tapping of electricity could be accomplished without taxing the City's budget. Mr. Lehmann responded that the leagues would pay for that cost as part of the installation. Commissioner Koczka inquired whether the nearby residents have been apprised of the situation. Mr. Barnard said the proposal would be presented to the neighbors for their input once the Commission approved of the concept.

COMMISSIONER DUCHENE MOVED TO APPROVE MOVING FORWARD WITH THE LITTLE LEAGUE BATTING CAGE PROPOSAL FOR CHAPARRAL PARK SOUTH (QUAD) BALLFIELDS. COMMISSIONER KING SECONDED.

Commissioner King inquired about the potential for vandalism. Mr. Lehmann said it is always a concern, but the fence is intended to mitigate it when the park is closed. Chair Frost inquired whether the leagues would assume the cost of repairing damage from vandalism. Mr. Lehmann responded that that would be addressed in the City's agreement with the leagues.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0).

9. MCDOWELL MOUNTAIN RANCH AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTER BUDGET REDUCTION EFFICIENCIES

Terry Erickson, Parks and Recreation Manager, and Lindsay Adarme, McDowell Mountain Ranch Aquatic and Fitness Center Coordinator, will give Commission an update of the service modification resulting from budget reductions at McDowell Mountain Ranch Aquatic & Fitness Center.

Ms. Erickson described service modifications made because of the recent budget reductions. Staff studied attendance and use patterns of the facilities as well as registration numbers for the swim lessons. Ms. Adarme reviewed the attendance numbers from McDowell Mountain Ranch, noting that they increased from the summer of 2008 to the summer of 2009, even though hours were reduced. One hour of public swim was cut each day. March was identified as the least attended month for swim

lessons, and subsequently that month was dropped from the offerings. April had the lowest attendance for public swim and this offering was cut during that month as a result. Ms. Erickson said starting in November, the MMR facility was closed at 8 p.m. instead of 10 p.m. This had a very minimal impact. Sunday saw the lowest attendance of any day and became a good candidate for closure. There was no public opposition to closing the public swim an hour earlier.

Shifting the Friday schedule three hours earlier to run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. actually increased attendance by 3%, because youth swim groups could now spend the entire day at the pool, rather than have to return before closing. Swim lesson attendance also increased despite the cuts. Guard rotations were adjusted to reduce the number of guards required, while also ensuring that they spent less time in each rotation and mitigating the fatigue that goes with longer shifts. The pool island was constantly rented out for birthday parties, resulting in a revenue increase.

Commissioner Duchene questioned whether it was a good idea to close the pool at 3 p.m. on Friday when people are more likely to use it. He also felt that only offering five hours on weekend days was inadequate. Data taken from October should not be used to project demand during the summer. He suggested taking surveys of the people who are currently using the pools to determine what their needs are. Using last summer's data would also not work because the facility was new then, and many people still did not know about it.

Commissioner Duchene said the data also misrepresents the comparison between weekends and the weekdays. The attendance difference is probably not as great as the graph indicates, yet the hours are being set according to them. Ms. Erickson acknowledged that issue, but added that the weekend hours are consistent with those of other aquatic centers in the City, and that consistency was another goal of the changes. Ms. Adarme said the new hours compare well with and even exceed those of others cities in the Valley as well. Commissioner Duchene questioned the practice of having drills one half hour before closing time, which just encourages people to leave early. Ms. Adarme said the drills are not held at that time on a consistent basis. Commissioner Duchene said it is a great facility and the hours should be reconsidered next year.

Commissioner Koczka suggested revisiting the idea of a seasonal pass that may reflect a savings and may be easier for the staff. He suggested that the registration information be used to survey regular users for their preferences. Commissioner King commended Staff for making revisions that increased pool usage, while saving money. Vice-Chair Alspaugh requested a similar presentation on gym usage.

Ms. Cameron said the hours of operation for pools were patterned around the traditional hours that were approved, accepted and requested by citizens during the planning stages. The reductions were tied to usage within the hours that had already been accepted by the community. The current budget does not allow for adding hours, but hours could be extended at certain times by reducing them in others.

Chair Frost inquired about the number of employees required to staff MMR for one hour. Ms. Adarme responded that it takes 30 people for an hour of public swim. In response to his further inquiry, Ms. Adarme said the reductions realized \$86,000 in savings. Chair Frost agreed that a new survey would result in the best data possible for determining next year's schedule.

10. 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 Adams inquired whether sprinklers use rain sensors to avoid watering fields after rainstorms. Mr. Pryor responded that the system does not have moisture sensors. Commissioner Adams said the batting cages at Chaparral Park would be tremendous assets to the community. Many people are going to want to use them and they should not be tied directly to the fields in all cases. He proposed that a separate cage rate could generate extra revenue, so long as the leagues that built them are not charged extra. Ms. Cameron said the City wants to be sensitive to use patterns while remaining open to new revenue streams. The public outreach effort will address this issue.

Commissioner Koczka discussed attending the Arizona Parks and Recreation Conference, saying it was a good opportunity for cities to share their ideas. Chair Frost noted that he participated in sessions on creating good workplaces, and how to maintain good relationships with other departments.

Vice Chair Alspaugh reported on the luau at Eldorado Pool. Pinnacle Peak Park has telescope nights, which are highly recommended. Adaptive Recreation is having a fishing expo during the month of September.

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

Jan Cameron, 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.

Ms. Cameron suggested that the Commission visit the Granite Mountain Recreation Area in October as a follow up to the joint meeting with the McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission. Several Commissioners indicated an interest in an early Saturday visit.

Ms. Cameron noted that City Channel 11 is working on incorporating the PRC in a broader public service effort. She reported that all pools are 100% compliant with the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act. The modifications at the four pools cost about \$78,000. The Scottsdale Mall has had 22,000 square feet of new sod installed. Club SAR is completing its digital conversion of membership data. The central irrigation control system is being upgraded, and Staff is looking at ways to enhance it. She noted that park grass is watered from park lakes where possible, and the runoff discharges back into them. It would be less efficient to change the system rather than let it go through the process. Because of Staff restructuring, Leisure Education will now oversee all recreation classes including those at senior centers. McCormick Railroad Park construction continues.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

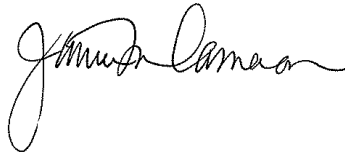
There were no public comments.

13. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, and no need for an executive session, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

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

Meets established criteria.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janice M. Cameron". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "C".

Janice M. Cameron
Parks and Recreation Director