



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MOUNTAIN VIEW COMMUNITY CENTER  
8625 E. MOUNTAIN VIEW  
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85258  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2008  
MEETING MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Robert Frost, Chair  
John Faramelli, Vice-chair  
Jeanne Alspaugh  
James Duchene

**ABSENT:** George Adams  
Ron King  
Ronald Petersen

**STAFF:** Trina Clemens, Admin Secretary  
Tim Barnard, CIP/Planning Coordinator  
Leslie Clark, Parks and Recreation Manager  
William Murphy, Parks and Grounds Management Director  
Doug Nesselroad, Parks and Recreation Manager  
Reed Pryor, Parks and Recreation Manager  
Brett Jackson, Maintenance Coordinator

**GUESTS:** Scott Hamilton, Preserve Trails Planner  
Bob Cafarella, Preserve Director  
Erin McKallor-Quill, Mountain View Coordinator  
James Ingham, Grounds Maintenance  
Dave Pratt, Parks and Grounds Maintenance  
Rose Williams, Parks and Recreation Manager  
Bob McNair, McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park  
Elaine Mercado, McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Frost called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m., noting the presence of a quorum.

**2. ROLL CALL**

A roll call confirmed the members present as stated above.

**3. MOMENT OF SILENCE**

At the request of Chair Frost, a moment of silence was observed.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - Regular Meeting January 16, 2008**

**COMMISSIONER ALSPAUGH MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 16, 2008 MEETING. COMMISSIONER DUCHENE SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0).**

**5. MCDOWELL SONORAN PRESERVE UPDATE**

**Scott Hamilton, Preserve Trails Planner, and Bob Cafarella, Preserve Director, will provide an update on the status of land acquisition and the improvement of access areas and trails within the McDowell Sonoran Preserve.**

Mr. Hamilton distributed and provided an explanation of a map that showed the Preserve. Highlights of his presentation include:

- Since 2005, 82,000 people have used the Sunrise Trail.
- Ringtail Trailhead is basically a parking area at 128<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Lost Dog Wash Trailhead was opened in 2006. It has a large parking lot that will accommodate 15-20 horse trailers. Many green building standards have been utilized. Horse Trailhead has a 100-space asphalt parking lot that is on a shared site with the Aquatic Center at McDowell Mountain Ranch Park.
- The Gateway access area will be the biggest trailhead in the Preserve, with 250 parking spaces; room for 20 horse trailers; restrooms; ramadas; educational amphitheater; water fountains; waste cans. It is at 30% design.
- The north McDowell access area is projected to be constructed in 2010.
- Graphs were presented depicting usage by month.

Mr. Cafarella gave an update on land acquisitions and the status of the Preserve. Highlights of his presentation include:

- Acquisitions began in 1995. Except for about 20 acres, all private land has been purchased by the City.
- Part of the Preserve is State land and an explanation was provided regarding the Arizona Preserve Initiative, the State Land Trust, and legal challenges.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Cafarella gave a presentation on the Discovery Center. Highlights include:

- A major study was done in 1999 about what the Discovery Center should be. After 9/11, the project was put on hold.
- A study was done in 2004 to validate the 1999 work. There has been discussion between the McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission and the Tourism Development Commission on the right approach and concept of a Discovery Center, but no agreement has been reached.
- Another consultant has been hired, asked to review previous studies, and develop a concept that is acceptable to the community. It is anticipated that Phase I will begin in April.

Discussion ensued regarding the Discovery Center's history, funding, and present status.

## **6. MCCORMICK-STILLMAN RAILROAD PARK MODEL RAILROAD BUILDING AND MASTER PLAN UPDATE**

**Staff will provide an overview of the proposed updated master plan for McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park; which will include location options for a new model railroad building.**

Ms. Mercado showed a photo of an aerial view of the park. It was decided that amendments are needed for the Park Master Plan to accommodate the construction of a model railroad building, as well as upgrades and added amenities for the park.

Mr. McNair stated that there are a number of current projects that should be added to the Park Master Plan. These include parking lot modification, additional bicycle parking with a connection to the Greenbelt, caboose relocation, a new entrance, improving the train for Holiday Lights, renovate Western Town, make the machine shop available to the public, reconfigure the bunkhouse, add a second kid's tower with storage, and shade over the Pullman cars.

Ms. Mercado provided an explanation of location options for the model railroad building, while still maintaining the green space and existing entrances of the Park, as well as drawing attention to some of the under utilized facilities.

Chair Frost reminded the group that this topic is an informational agenda item for tonight's meeting and the Commission will make no decisions regarding the plan or planning process. He has asked Vice-chair Faramelli to sit on the planning team.

Discussion ensued regarding the model train building height, parking, traffic light, and funding.

Chair Frost noted he had received two citizen comment cards, which he forwarded to staff. The citizens did not wish to speak. However they are opposed to option C and in favor of option D on the list of proposed sites for the model railroad building.

## **7. MOUNTAIN VIEW PARK UPDATE**

**Erin McKallor-Quill, Coordinator; Kelli Kurtz, Assistant Coordinator; and James Ingham, Grounds Maintenance III, will present a brief overview of Mountain View Park and Community Center operations, amenities, programs, and services.**

Ms. McKallor-Quill and Mr. Ingham gave a slide presentation on the Mountain View Park and Community Center operations, amenities, programs, and services. Highlights include:

- Lighted softball fields.
- Lighted tennis courts.
- Outdoor basketball courts.
- Two soccer fields.
- Playground and shade structure.
- State-of-the art lighting system.
- Kitchen and recreation rooms.
- Renovated gym.
- Year-round youth and teen programming.
- Volunteer programs.
- Yoga, dance, language classes.
- Grounds operations are in partnership with McCormick HOA, Scottsdale Healthcare North, Scottsdale School District, Youth Corp.
- Joint-use facility.

In response to an inquiry by Chair Frost, Mr. Ingham responded that there are three staff members and a community service work program.

## **8. PARKS AND GROUNDS OVERSEEDING AND WATER CONSERVATION POLICY**

**Rose Williams, Parks and Recreation Manager, and Dave Pratt, Parks and Grounds Maintenance Technician, will provide a brief overview on the City's overseeding policy and the City's water conservation efforts.**

Chair Frost informed the group that this item is on the agenda because of a citizen request to overseed the dog park.

Ms. Williams stated that many requests have been received in the past to overseed a variety of different park areas. There is a internal policy within Parks and Recreation and Water Resources that only three sites are overseeded. Highlights of Ms. Williams' presentation include:

- Currently in 13<sup>th</sup> year of a drought.
- Civic Center Mall, Scottsdale Stadium, professional ballfields at Indian School Park are overseeded.
- It costs \$6,600/acre to overseed and water.

Mr. Pratt gave a presentation on the water conservation policy. Highlights include:

- Scottsdale is a leader in the Valley in water conservation.
- Precipitation similar to that recently received would have to occur ten years in a row to alleviate the current drought condition.
- The Division has a water management plan, which is mandated by Arizona Department of Water Resources. It mandates how much water can be used for large facilities. There is a per-year allotment for turf irrigation. There is no additional allotment for overseeded turf.

- Major components of the water management program include landscape design, irrigation systems, management practices, and training.

Commissioner Duchene noted that there is an agreement between the City and the school district to maintain ballfields. He asked if the school district was under the same water rules as the City. Mr. Pratt responded that the school district manages its own water usage and is governed by the same State entity as the City.

Chair Frost called for citizen comment on this agenda item.

Ms. Susan O'Neal, 8100 East Camelback Road stated she understood the water issue, but the park is very unpleasant, dusty, and there are health hazards when it is not overseeded. She stated that there is more snow in the Colorado Rockies than there has been in 40 years and that water is coming to Arizona. She hopes that the park can be overseeded in the future.

Chair Frost stated that the dog park was originally overseeded because it was a new facility and it was imperative to get a base down. Chair Frost asked Mr. Murphy if a Bermuda base had been installed and if it would be watered later in the year. Mr. Murphy responded that currently there is thatch in the Bermuda and the grass will be sprouting later in the spring.

Vice-chair Faramelli commented that the sites that have been selected for overseeding are right on target because they enhance tourism, which is a major economic driver for the City.

## **9. DISCUSSION FOR JOINT MEETING WITH CITY COUNCIL**

### **Commissioner Robert Frost will lead discussion and review regarding the upcoming joint meeting with the City Council on February 20, 2008.**

Chair Frost informed the group that he had met with the Mayor regarding the joint meeting with the Council. She suggested the Commission take a leadership role in the agenda development. Chair Frost stated he had provided staff with his thoughts on topics. A slide presentation of talking points was given by Mr. Barnard. Topics include:

- Discussion of the Parks and Recreation facilities.
- Discussion of capital projects, including photos.
- Discussion of Commission duties and responsibilities in accordance with the ordinance, in addition to responsibilities assumed by the Commission.
- Inventory of parks and facilities.
- Programs, activities, services highlights.
- Youth and adult sports activity leagues and lessons.
- Outdoor recreation programs.
- Review of ongoing and completed capital projects.

Discussion ensued regarding format, order, and suggestions for additional topics for the proposed agenda, including public demand, events, and awards.

Chair Frost stated that he would emphasize to the Council that the Commission could be more fully utilized in property/park issues such as Villa Monterey. He stated that this is a good

opportunity to provide a high level of detail to the Council on Parks and Recreation function and accomplishments.

## 10. COMMISSIONER REPORT

**The Commissioners will give updates on events and activities they have attended since the last Commission meeting.**

Chair Frost reported that he assisted in the groundbreaking at Camelback Park.

Commissioner Alspaugh reported that she attended the City Council meeting on January 22, 2008. She will be attending the 50s Dance on February 7, 2008.

Chair Frost reported that he had been invited to be the opening speaker for the commission/board member section of the Arizona Parks and Recreation Association meeting in August 2008. It will be held in the Phoenix area and the Commissioners are invited to attend. Information will be forthcoming in the future.

## 11. DIRECTOR'S REPORT OF CURRENT EVENTS

**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.**

In addition to his written report, Mr. Murphy reported on the following:

- Introduction of new administrative secretary Lorelei Oien, who will support the Maintenance Division.
- He thanked Reed Pryor and his staff for assistance in the parking for Barrett-Jackson and FBR Open.
- He thanked Brett Jackson and staff for all the downtown maintenance during the Super Bowl time frame.
- Spring training will begin February 14, 2008.
- Youth Sports Task Force meeting will be February 12, at Via Linda Senior Center, 6:30 p.m.

## 12. PUBLIC COMMENT

**Citizens may address the members of the Parks and Recreation Commission during Public Comment. This "Public Comment" time is reserved for citizen comments regarding non-agendized items. However, Arizona State Law prohibits the Parks and Recreation Commission from discussing or taking action on an item that is not on the prepared agenda.**

No members of the public wished to address the Commission.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A/V Tronics, Inc.

Meets established criteria.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William B. Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'W'.

William B. Murphy  
Parks and Recreation Director