



**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
CITY HALL KIVA
3939 DRINKWATER BOULEVARD
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85251
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2008**

MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Robert Frost, Chair
John Faramelli, Vice Chair
George Adams
Ron King
Ronald Petersen
Jeanne Alspaugh

ABSENT: James Duchene

STAFF: Tim Barnard, CIP/Planning Coordinator
Jan Cameron, Parks and Recreation Manager
Leslie Clark, Parks and Recreation Manager
Denise Clayton, Recreation Leader III
Trina Clemens, Admin Secretary
Jona Davis, Sr. Recreation Coordinator
Walt Johnson, Recreation Coordinator
Gary Meyer, Troon North Community Park Project Manager
Doug Nesselroad, Parks and Recreation Manager
Reed Pryor, Parks and Recreation Manager
William Murphy, Parks and Recreation Director
Sue Santee, Human Resources
Deanna Zuppan, Sr. Recreation Coordinator

GUESTS: Chris Brown, Flora Associates
Sydney Fox, Parent of Special Olympian
Tom Fraker, President/CEO of the Special Olympics of Arizona
Mary Ann Niccoli, Parent of Special Olympian

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

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

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Regular Meeting of April 2, 2008.

VICE CHAIR FARELLI MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 2, 2008 REGULAR MEETING. COMMISSIONER PETERSEN SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0).

5. TROON NORTH COMMUNITY PARK PHASE I PROJECT UPDATE

Tim Barnard, CIP/Planning Coordinator, will provide and update of the Troon North Community Park Phase I project and will introduce the new Project Manager, Gary Meyer.

Mr. Meyer provided an update on the Troon North Park project. A public outreach meeting was conducted in October of 2007, and two more are scheduled this year to present the preliminary design concepts.

Mr. Brown discussed the site of the park from the perspective of a landscape designer. The site includes two retention basins and a fire station. The elevation slopes up to the east side of the site that features prominent boulder outcroppings. The fire station is situated at the entrance of the site.

The lower west side of the site has been disturbed due to illegal dumping that has occurred there. The upper east side has some nice natural desert areas that can be incorporated into the design concept. The designers are looking to take advantage of some of the views that are available from the higher elevations. The retention areas could be developed into open space areas. The neighborhood expressed interest in a turf facility available for general use. The lighted sports facilities could be located towards the back of the site to avoid affecting neighborhoods, and the community center could be situated around some of the boulders.

A second option could see the Phase II facilities, including the community center, pulled more into the interior of the site, while the Phase I elements would be located closer to the road. This option would feature less turf and more desert re-vegetation.

A third option addresses the situation in which structures are prohibited from being built in the flood plain areas. In that case, all facilities would be located on higher ground. All three

of the proposed options would feature a desert walking trail and perhaps an overview ramada.

Chair Frost said the opportunities the site offers are extensive. He encouraged the landscape design team to come up with creative solutions to the site's constraints.

6. PROPOSED FY08/09 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BUDGET UPDATE

Tim Barnard, CIP/Planning Coordinator, will provide an overview of the proposed FY08/09 Capital Improvement Budget.

Mr. Barnard reviewed the proposed CIP program budget. The City's budget is set to be approved in June, and Council is currently reviewing it.

The Department's ongoing projects include replacing irrigation pumping equipment for the turf areas of Indian Bend Wash, Greyhawk Community Park, sports lighting and expansion upgrades, public pool equipment replacement, Scottsdale Stadium infrastructure improvements, playground equipment replacement, the Civic Center Mall restroom renovation, class registration system updates, the Chaparral pool building, the City Hall lagoon renovation, Troon North Park, Chaparral quad field renovations, grading areas of Camelback Park, the McCormick Ranch Park Model Railroad Museum, and Indian Bend Wash lakes renovation.

In response to Chair Frost, Mr. Barnard said old lights on existing fields would be replaced with more energy efficient ones that produce less light pollution. Some unlit fields could receive lighting without adversely impacting neighborhoods.

7. ADAPTIVE RECREATION UPDATE

Deanna Zuppan, Sr. Recreation Coordinator, will present an overview of the Adaptive Recreation program, the services it provides for the citizens of Scottsdale, future opportunities for growth and partnerships, and potential funding sources to promote services to people who have various disabilities within our community. She will present information on the recently received grant funding from the Salt River Pima Indian Community and how that funding will be utilized.

Ms. Zuppan provided an overview of the Adaptive Recreation Department which serves people with disabilities who wish to participate in any of the City's activities offered through the Parks and Recreation Department, as well as accommodation services for the City in general.

The yearly budget is \$321,973. Nearly 3,000 children attending Scottsdale schools have disabilities. About 500 children are on a waiting list and approximately one third of those are served. The top disabilities encountered are Autism, Down's Syndrome, General Mental Retardation, and Emotional Disabilities.

Adaptive Recreation strives to offer programs in the least restrictive environment possible. There are both inclusive and segregated after school programs and summer programs, cultural programs, dances, outdoor excursions, a hiking club, leisure education classes, sports and accommodating services.

The Department has worked to develop partnerships. The Salt River Pima/Maricopa Indian Community has provided a grant to start new programs that will serve approximately 80 to 100 children. The SUSD has been working to provide statistical data to help determine what the needs of the community are. The Jaycees, SEPAC, and the Special Olympics are also partners with Adaptive Recreation.

New sports are being developed for children 8 to 16 years old. Existing sports for children 16 and older include aquatics, bowling, track and field, and cheerleading teams, including a unified one. There are three basketball teams, a unified team, a traditional team made up of special olympians, and an individual skills team.

Accommodations services are offered throughout the City, and include interpretive services for Council and Commission meetings, alternative format services, and formal assessments to ensure that citizens get the services they need.

Chair Frost invited public commentary.

Sydney Fox, Board Chair of the Special Olympics, said Adaptive Recreation has benefited the entire community. Typical students, who have volunteered to serve as coaches in the unified sports, have gained much from the experience. She applauded Ms. Zuppan's work and asked the Commission to continue the programs.

Tom Fraker, the President and CEO of Special Olympics Arizona, said the Department has been a great partner in the group's effort. Special Olympics has 9,000 athletes in Arizona, with 7,000 volunteers and 500 coaches. It holds five major events each year, featuring 172 sporting events. The unified program plays an important role in helping to integrate typical and special education students. It makes a big impact on all involved.

Chair Frost read a comment card from Mary Ann Niccoli who expressed her support for the Adaptive Recreation Program. He announced that the current budget recommends the program be continued for next year without cuts.

8. CHAPARRAL PARK UPDATE

Walt Johnson, Recreation Coordinator, and Sam Kelly, Recreation Leader, will present an overview of Chaparral Park, the Off Leash Area, and the Adult Sports programs.

Mr. Johnson said adult sports leagues include softball, basketball, flag football, and kickball. Total annual participation is just over 11,000 people. About two-thirds of the leagues are for men only, while the remainder is coed. All leagues are very popular.

Mr. Johnson also discussed Chaparral Park. The park is approximately 97 acres, and receives almost 200,000 visitors per year. It has six lighted baseball/softball fields, three lighted soccer fields, and a nine-acre urban fishing lake that draws about 24,000 anglers per

year. Other facilities at the park include a picnic ramada, a playground, an off-leash dog area, and a xeriscape demonstration garden featuring public art. Special events held at Chaparral Park include the Outdoor Expo and Fishing Derby, Wet and Wild Water Day, and the Mighty Mud Mania event.

Commissioner Adams said because the fields are in such close proximity to each other, many foul balls cross from field to field during games. He encouraged staff to consider a feature that would preclude spectators from getting hit by foul balls. Mr. Johnson responded that those features are being looked into.

Commissioner King inquired about the addition of a women's only softball league. Mr. Johnson responded that the idea was tried in the past, but was not very popular. Currently there is little field capacity available to start another league.

9. SCOTTSDALE SPORTS COMPLEX UPDATE

Jona Davis, Sr. Recreation Coordinator, will present an update on the 2007 activities and events at the Scottsdale Sports Complex.

Ms. Davis said the sports complex has been operating for about 18 months. Signage was recently installed to assist operations. Over 33,000 residents have utilized the drop-in fields. A comprehensive set of policies and procedures have been developed. The Sports Complex won the Crescordia Award from the Valley Forward organization, in addition to several landscaping awards and public works recognitions. It was also highlighted on the cover of the 2007 Arizona Parks and Recreation Association Magazine. The busiest months are March/April, and October/November. Overall annual attendance was 185,000, and annual revenue was just over \$123,000.

Broad goals for the future include:

- Developing an RFP for the master sign design package.
- Administering an economic impact study.
- Broadening marketing efforts to secure a national level event.
- Working with the SCVB to develop a web page prototype of a sports facility guide.
- Implementing an availability search option on the web page.
- Communicating effectively with the community.
- Adding watering and shade improvements.

Chair Davis said the facility is sorely needed in Scottsdale, and he commended Ms. Davis on her efforts.

10. COMMISSIONER REPORT

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

Chair Frost said the Parks and Recreation budget would be presented to the City Council on April 17.

11. 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 Arbor Day event was well attended. The Indian School Park Tennis Center will offer a free tennis social for adults on April 25. Applications are still being accepted for the Youth Corps through April 30. Grass and flowers on the Civic Center Mall are being transitioned for the summer.

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, and no need for an executive session, the meeting adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
AV-Tronics, Inc.

Meets established criteria.



William B. Murphy
Parks and Recreation Director