

**CITY OF SURPRISE
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION**

Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 26, 2020 @ 6:00 PM

City Hall Council Overflow Room 16000 N Bullard
SURPRISE, ARIZONA 85374

CALL TO ORDER

A. Roll Call (RECORDING TIMESTAMP START 00:00, END 00:30)

Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Members: Wayne Turner (Chair), Ron Jensen (Vice Chair), Charlie Woodland, Mark Brown, Steven Berwald, Raymond Grim, Bill Pupo
Absent:

City Staff: Donna Miller, Paul Frie, and Frank D'Andrea

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Current Events Reports

- Commissioner Grim noted his own son participating in the Esports program. Excellent job all around given.
- Vice Chair Jensen noted seeing more events showing up from the Parks & Recreation Department.

D. Staff Reports

- Frank D'Andrea (Admin. Specialist of Marketing) started in February and was introduced to the commission members for the first time. Due to COVID-19, this was the first meeting since January.
- Parks & Recreation Director Donna Miller's report included an update on a Tennis League Warm up Fee going to Council on November 2nd; Hall of Fame with Mike Planeta possibly scheduled for Spring Training 2021 amid ongoing conversation; Library/County moving to a pop in and pick up as well as curbside with possible expanded hours coming in November.
 - Commissioner Grim noted the Wi-Fi offerings from the Libraries.

(Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation, Paul Frie's Staff Report is found on the following page)

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- Parks & Recreation Assistant Director Paul Frie's report included mention of Virtual Events (Fiesta Grande To-Go, Veteran's Day, Surprise Party) and other program updates including, but not limited to: Esports, Aquatics, Youth Sports, Sports Skills, Adult Sports, Adaptive, Tennis, Special Interest, and Tot Time. Some specifics include:
 - Surprise Fiesta Grande to go Oct 5 – 9 events.
 - Noted BINGO through ZOOM (Adaptive, Special Events)
 - Noted Fortnite (Esports) success having to open a second tournament due to demand. Going to contract with Bravous Esports, and looking to run (1) tournament per month.
 - Aquatics Lap Swim, Swim Team Practicing (Surprise Storm), Pumpkin Splash (October 24th)
 1. Artist named Bacpac received praise for mural design at the Surprise Aquatic Center
 - Flag Football moved to winter, noted desire to do this for a while and this situation presented that opportunity to allow both an indoor and outdoor sport offering.
 - Winter Sports Registration and timeline.
 - Will still be limiting amount of participants per class – under 10 participants.
 - Adaptive Programming doing Bingo, Virtual Ice Cream Social (date).
 - Veterans Day details covered (15-second tribute video, coroplast decorative signs)
 1. Vice Chair Jensen noted the “nice ideas” that the Parks & Recreation Department are running.
 - Special Interest Classes are seeking Instructors
 1. Classes have consisted of both in-person and virtual offerings.
 - Tot Time is opening back up.
 - Surprise Party will officially be Virtual.
 - Construction Projects such as the BiCentennial Park, and Dick McComb projects brought up.
 1. Paul Frie noted the start of Adult Sports being brought back to BiCentennial
 2. Paul Frie noted new drainage installed in house. Nice job to Todd Wuellner and his Parks Crew.
 3. In the process of a new Pump Station at Dick McComb.
 4. More asset replacement projects are ongoing.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

N/A

CONSENT AGENDA (N/A)

- E. Approval of items on the Consent Agenda
No items were identified as consent agenda items.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS – NON PUBLIC HEARING

Item 1 – Citywide – Consideration and action to approve minutes from January 27, 2020.
Commissioner Pupo made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2020 Commission meeting. Vice Chair Jensen seconded the motion, 7 yes votes. Passed.

Item 2 – Citywide – Discussion and action to appoint a chairperson for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission for a term ending on June 30, 2021.
Commissioner Turner was re-nominated and seconded for chairperson.

Commissioner Grim nominated Commissioner Pupo; Commissioner Pupo rejected the nomination and deferred his nomination to Wayne Turner.

All in favor of Commissioner Turner to remain as chair

Item 3 – Citywide – Discussion and action to appoint a Vice Chairperson for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission for a term ending on June 30, 2021.
Commissioner Pupo nominated and seconded for Vice Chairperson.

Commissioner Jensen nominated and seconded for Vice Chairperson.

Commissioner Jensen selected as Vice Chair 4-3 vote.

Item 4 – Update on relocation of Gaines Ball Field project.
Awarded the contract to “Doege Development” Project began September 28 2020 through Grant Funding. Donna noted that current construction finances are expensive; therefore, the project will be completed in phases. The first phase will consist of the ballfield fencing, plaza area, sidewalks, restroom, off-street parking – which will act as temporary parking lot until more funding becomes available to finish parking lot and lighting. Anticipating this phase of the project to be done early-to-late spring. Additional funding is anticipated to become available in July 2021 in which we will complete project shortly thereafter.

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- Director Miller noted the restroom is the cause for the timeline given due to the 6-month lead-time required.
- Commissioner Grim inquires about possible programming until the lights are installed (spring through light installation).
 - o Assistant Director Frie responded that the department would try to do what they can with the Park to allow programming.

Item 5. Citywide- Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update.

- Director Miller presented the PowerPoint shown to council on September 15, 2020 to hit on some newer parts that the commission may not have been familiar with at this point.
 - o Majority of commission members noted they had seen the live feed.
- Director Miller notes that council has asked staff to look into ways the Department can expand or enhance some existing parks and facilities by use of one-time funding. Will need to be vetted through finance and CIP teams. This is considered to be in a preliminary stage and will likely be brought to council in December.
 - o Commissioner Grim asks what is the meaning behind “one time funding”
 - Director Miller responds that things like asset replacement or capital improvement projects would be use one-time funds, as opposed to ongoing costs such as operational.
- Commissioner Pupo notes the potential conflict with age-restricted communities as they relate to voting issues on parks, recreation, and schools due to these communities having their own offerings.
 - o Also notes these communities and their offerings are great, but responding to the other part of the population that do not have these amenities is a concern to consider.
- Director Miller notes both the North and Southwest areas in need of a Community Park.
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- The commission notes that the Department could use more “big kid” Baseball Fields.
 - o Commissioner Grim noted that it is great to use the Youth Baseball Complex, but having more fields is better.
- Director Miller notes that we are also deficient in facility areas like Aquatic Centers/ Pools
 - o Since the opening of the Aquatic Center, the facility has gone from housing (1) High School team to now (4)
- The question was raised about a joint venture with the school district to develop another pool.
 - o Director Miller notes that this has been discussed.
- Director Miller noted that ongoing partnership for programming with Ottawa University would continue.
- Commissioner Pupo raises the question about potential land that Ottawa has for a possible expansion.
 - o Director Miller notes that they have some available, though Ottawa will more than likely use that for things like classrooms and other education amenities. However, Ottawa knows the Department is open to working together for future potential projects
- Commissioner Pupo had requested some data including, but not limited to number of homes plotted, permits given for swimming pools, rooftops and growth since the year 2000; this was done in an effort to make the case to respond to the needs in which the community is expected to need and was pleased to see it in the presentation.
 - o Commissioner Pupo recommends pushing ahead on the growth that is still anticipated to come, but that is already here that the Department cannot meet.
 - o Commissioner Pupo notes the additions of regional parks to Peoria, Goodyear, and Buckeye.
 - o Commissioner Grim notes how Peoria had plans as long as 20-years ago for their new Parks.
 - Also notes how it is “easy to leave” Surprise to go to other surrounding Cities for more entertainment and recreation opportunities.
 - o Commissioner Pupo notes the appeal of expanding amenities into the West side of the City.
 - o Commissioner Pupo notes the history and purchasing of the spring training facility in relation to the recreation campus.
 - It was pointed out that at the conclusion of a spring training game; there are not amenities like restaurants or bars within walking distance to enjoy after the game.
 - o Commissioner Pupo notes the possibility of a subcommittee between the P&R Advisory Commission, Sports & Tourism Department, and the City Council to determine project and need priorities to be addressed.

- Chair Turner mentions the 2016 bond and what he felt was the lack of information associated to detail what was on the ballot.
- Commissioner Pupo notes that he would like his comments to be viewed through a lens of advocacy Commissioner Pupo notes the example of sun shades being installed outside the capital budget that do not meet the “true capital need” of a Park. He did note that though they were needed, they did not fit what was actually needed for these areas.
- Director Miller notes that staff understand the need for future parks and amenities and the Parks & Recreation Department will be presenting a list of possible projects to capital and finance teams.
 - The commission requested a possible special meeting to discuss those items being presented prior to the meeting with the council.
- Chair Turner notes that if a future bond is available, the Advisory Commission should be committed to working towards the passing of said potential bond.

Item 6. Internal – Discussion, consideration and action on setting future Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission dates for 2021.

- Director Miller notes meeting quarterly, on the 4th Monday of that month. In the case of a special meeting, we add those to the schedule as they come up.
 - 2021 dates include January 25th, April 26th, August 23rd, and October 25th.
- Item approved 7 yes votes

Item 7. Citywide – Consideration and possible action pertaining to future agenda items.

- Commissioner Pupo mentions an ongoing agenda item to discuss master plan.
- Commission member mentions an agenda item to create subcommittee.
 - Donna Miller will be clarifying the use of subcommittee’s.

OTHER BUSINESS (START 1:30:25, END 1:34:03)

Other Business and Future Agenda Items

- Commissioner Brown asked about the economic impact of Royals and Rangers Housing
 - It was determined that this discussion was out of this committee’s jurisdiction as they are private facilities.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Turner made a motion to adjourn the meeting of October 26, 2020; several members seconded it, 7 yes votes. Motion carried.

Wayne Turner Chair, Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission

ATTEST:

Frank D'Andrea, Administrative Specialist
Parks & Recreation Department

CERTIFICATION:

I, Frank D'Andrea, Administrative Specialist for City of Surprise Parks and Recreation Department, Maricopa County, Arizona, do hereby verify that these are the true and correct minutes of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission meeting held on October 26, 2020.

Frank D'Andrea, Administrative Specialist
Parks & Recreation Department