

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

Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 26, 2024 @ 6:00 PM

Parks and Recreation – Conference Room
15960 N Bullard Ave, SURPRISE, ARIZONA 85374

CALL TO ORDER

A. Roll Call

Members: Chair Brent Bailey, Vice Chair Patricia Blaisdell, Ron Jensen, Matthew Ives, David Samaniego, Brad Stallings.

City Staff: Director Holly Osborn, Assistant Director Paul Frie, Assistant Director Shannon Gaul, Christine Fredrickson, Joann Estfan

Absent: Wayne Turner, David Samaniego, Brad Stallings.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Current Events

D. Staff Reports provided Placer.ai introduction

Business Manager Christine Fredrickson provided an overview of Placer.ai data utilization, the new ramada reservation blocks, and alignment with open space rental schedules. This change will allow parks maintenance staff time for setup and breakdown. Christine also shared updates regarding the new splashpad hours of operation.

Chair Brent Bailey inquired whether Placer.ai data analysis is being adopted as a best practice by other cities or if this is a unique initiative by the City of Surprise.

Director Holly Osborn provided a breakdown of the Placer.ai data and explained how the results are obtained.

Management Analyst Steven Day provided an overview of the software, including how the data is collected.

Director Holly Osborn presented an overview of the Parks & Recreation Department's restructuring, which includes the addition of 10 full-time and 90 part-time staff members, as well as the formation of a new division dedicated to public relations and events.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC / PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

CONSENT AGENDA (N/A)

- E. Approval of items on the Consent Agenda
No items were identified as consent agenda items.
- F. Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission

CALL TO THE PUBLIC / PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

Willy M. – Dog Park Inquiry

Willy M. raised concerns regarding issues at the dog park, specifically focusing on the need for safe separation based on dog height, weight, and temperament. He mentioned that, after conducting surveys and a positive commission meeting, recommendations were made to address these concerns. However, he expressed disappointment that the motion was tabled for future consideration, which he feels delayed progress towards achieving a safer dog park for all dogs.

Janice P. – Dog Park Inquiry

Janice P. voiced concerns about larger dogs being allowed in the small dog park area, which results in them jumping on people and attacking other dogs. She explained that some dogs are too small to be in the large dog park for safety reasons but are also facing the same issues in the small dog park. She mentioned frequent ranger police callouts and suggested the potential use of volunteer monitors for the park, as well as raising the height of the fence to help improve safety.

CONSENT AGENDA (N/A)

- G. Approval of items on the Consent Agenda
No items were identified as consent agenda items.
- H. Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS – NON-PUBLIC HEARING

Item 1 – CITYWIDE – Consideration and action approving the April 22, 2024 Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission meeting minutes.

Motion to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2024 Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission meeting – motioned Vice Chair Patricia Blaisdell, 2nd Ron Jenson. 4 yes votes. Motion carried.

Item 2 – INTERNAL – Discussion, presentation and action pertaining to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission Strategic Plan.

Motion to table, due absent members not in attendance. Motioned Chair Brent Bailey, 2nd Vice Chair Patricia Blaisbell, 4 yes votes. Motion carried.

Item 3 – INTERNAL – Consideration and action pertaining to approval of changes to the Parks and Recreation Fee Schedule.

Aquatics & Special Events Manager Joann Estfan provided an overview of the new aquatics fee schedule and stated that commission approval was required. She explained that the fees were determined through extensive research on similar new facilities, with an intention to distinguish the Oasis Swim Center from the current pool offerings. Joann compared fees for the Oasis Swim Center with those for the Surprise Aquatics Complex and Hollyhock Community Pool, outlining the impacts on swim lessons, rentals, and priority booking for residents.

Commissioner Matthew Ives asked when the admission fees were last changed.

Aquatics & Special Events Manager Joann Estfan responded that it had been six years since the last update. She noted that the fees for the Oasis Swim Center are higher than those in other cities, but the facility is unique in its offerings.

Commissioner Matthew Ives inquired if the new pool would operate independently.

Aquatics & Special Events Manager Joann Estfan stated that the plan is to keep the pool locations separate, with the increased fee range accommodating all the pools.

Chair Brent Bailey stated that he liked that the new pool is intended to be an experience, not just a transactional facility.

Chair Brent Bailey asked when the fee proposal would go to the council for approval.

Business Manager Christine Fredrickson explained that program fees do not require council approval; however, rental fees would go to a council workshop, then public notice, and finally to the council for approval.

Chair Brent Bailey asked about cabana rentals and if other rental options were available.

Aquatics & Special Events Manager Joann Estfan mentioned that original plans included footings for umbrella rentals.

Motion to approve the Parks and Recreation Fee Schedule alterations. Motioned Patricia Blaisbell, 2nd Matthew Ives, 4 yes votes. Motion Carried

Item 4 – INTERNAL – Presentation and update on current and upcoming parks projects, including Community Park Improvements and Oasis Swim Center.

Chair Brent Bailey encouraged all board members to visit the construction site of the new pool.

Aquatics & Special Events Manager Joann provided an overview of the Oasis Swim Center, highlighting the connection to the fire station through the splashpad design. She also discussed the new Rescue Springs Park, mentioning the possibility of adding a zipline and utilizing the entire area as a playground. Joann gave an overview of Soak Station 309 and how the lighting allows for both day and night use.

Chair Brent Bailey expressed his appreciation for the colors, excitement, and sense of community planned for the park.

Director Holly Osborn presented an overview of the department's asset replacement plans. Using Placer.ai data, she noted that Surprise Community Park has the highest attendance, justifying continued investment. Regarding the Fields @ Countryside, Holly explained programming considerations, including park investments in sports, seasonal scheduling, peak visit times, and staff scheduling.

Holly provided an overview of the updates for Community Park, which include replacing playground equipment to create two distinct zones for younger and older children, with ADA-compliant and inclusive amenities. She mentioned that Phase 2 would involve expanding the entrance to provide more space near the road, adding speed tables, an ADA-accessible sidewalk, and updating the monument and signage.

Chair Brent Bailey asked about the timeline for the Veramonte splashpad.

Director Holly Osborn stated that it would be completed for the spring/summer season.

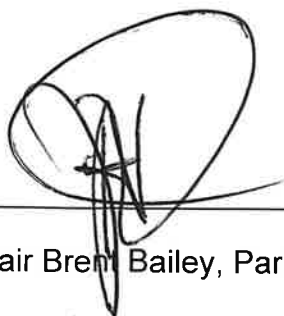
Director Holly Osborn provided an update on open space land, noting the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for acquiring 1,800 acres between Peoria and Grand Avenue. This space is intended to become an outdoor trail system and will require the addition of two Park Rangers. Holly noted that this project has been in development for nine years, with Councilman Judge being a major advocate for creating a rural spot within an urban setting.

Director Holly Osborn showed the latest drone footage of the Oasis Swim Center.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn, Montioned Chair Brent Bailey, Vice Chair Patricia Blaisbell, 4 yes votes. Motion carried.



Chair Brent Bailey, Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission

ATTEST:



Holly Osborn, Director
Parks & Recreation

CERTIFICATION:

I, Steven Day, Management Analyst for the City of Surprise Parks and Recreation Department, Maricopa County, Arizona, do hereby verify that these are the true and

correct minutes of the Parks and Recreation
Advisory Commission meeting held on April
22, 2024



Steven Day, Management Analyst

