

CITY OF SURPRISE
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 24th @ 6:00 PM
City of Surprise Council Chambers
16000 N Civic Center Plaza, SURPRISE, ARIZONA 85374

CALL TO ORDER

A. Call to Order

B. Roll Call

Members Present: Madalyn Volling, Patrick Campbell, Michael Wallace, Matt Ives

Absent: Patricia Blaisdell, Kimberly Hale, Brent Bailey

Quorum has been established.

City Staff Present: Recreation Director Holly Osborn, Recreation Assistant Director Shannon Gaul, Recreation Administrator Kasey Peterson, Recreation Administrator Jason Hendrix, and Supervisor Shelby Fenwick

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Current Events

Commissioner Michael Wallace shared positive feedback from youth sports coaches, noting their appreciation for the coaches' gift card program.

Commissioner Patrick Campbell also recognized the department as a whole, sharing that he has received several compliments regarding the organization, professionalism and overall quality of the Parks and Recreation staff.

Staff Reports

Kasey Peterson, Recreation Administrator provided several department updates. She announced that Kim Hale has resigned from the Parks and Recreation Commission. She shared that the Age Group State tournament was recently held at the Surprise Aquatic Center at Oasis over a four-day weekend. Special Olympics will return on October 24.

Peterson also provided an update on the Surprise Youth Council (SYC), which currently has 35 members. A group of members will be selected to attend the National League of Cities (NLC) City Summit in Nashville. She shared information about the upcoming Fiesta Grande event, scheduled for October 10 at Mark Coronado Park, and recognized the department for receiving a Special Event Award at the Arizona Parks and Recreation Association (APRA) Conference.

Jason Hendrix, Recreation Administrator provided updates on Youth Services, including the department's recent move to the Surprise Tennis and Racquet Complex (STRC). He welcomed two new Recreation Specialists who will support rentals and licensed programming and reviewed recent improvements to the STRC program space and front lobby area.

Hendrix reported that the Adaptive Buddy Ball program is currently full with a waitlist, despite expanding the older age divisions to accommodate additional participants. The pickleball program also continues to experience significant growth, with 49 participants currently on the waitlist. Staff is exploring new opportunities to help meet the growing demand.

Youth Sports leagues are preparing to begin their upcoming seasons, with waitlists for some programs. Hendrix recognized sports staff for their efforts in managing participation and accommodating as many players as possible. He also shared that the team recently experienced a staff vacancy but has hired a new staff member who will begin in the coming weeks. He encouraged commissioners and community members to help spread the word about the continued need for volunteer coaches.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC / PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

No public comments were received during the Call to the Public.

CONSENT AGENDA (N/A)

Approval of items on the Consent Agenda

No items were identified as consent agenda items.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS – NON-PUBLIC HEARING

Item 1 – INTERNAL – Consideration and action approving the June 29th, 2026, Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission meeting minutes.

Commissioner Patrick Campbell made a motion to approve the item, which was seconded by Commissioner Michael Wallace. The motion passed unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

Item 2 – INTERNAL – Presentation and discussion pertaining to a general overview of the Parks & Recreation FY27 Budget

Kasey Peterson presented on this item. She reviewed the budget breakdown categories and how they are funded and tracked. She reviewed the budgeted amounts for FY26, what the actuals are, what was still available, and what is budgeted for FY27.

Michael Wallace asked a question about how asset replacement works. Shannon Gaul, Recreation Assistant Director responded and mentioned that some money or projects can be rolled over years due to project timelines and such.

Kasey also reviewed the revenue amounts from FY26. She mentioned that a few divisions went over in projected revenue. In return this overage actually helped pay for a new FTE. She mentioned that utilities for FY27 will be larger for FY27.

A large amount of assets are scheduled to be replaced in FY27, creating a significant shortfall in capital need.

Item 3 – INTERNAL – Presentation and discussion providing and overview of Parks and Recreation programs, including current program waitlists and resident versus non-resident fee structures.

Kasey Peterson presented on this item and introduced the FY26 Programming and Rental Review, which was divided into programming and rental operations. She reviewed department staffing levels, including 74 full-time employees, 367 part-time employees and more than 1,000 volunteers who support Parks and Recreation operations.

Jason Hendrix reviewed programming participation and waitlist numbers for Adaptive, Special Interest Classes, Tennis and Racquet Sports, Youth and Adult Sports, and Licensed Programs, comparing FY25 and FY26 participation. He also discussed current programming needs, including the need for a tumbling and gymnastics coach. Overall, the department served more than 204,000 participants through programming in FY26.

Peterson reviewed Aquatics programming, including swim lesson participation and updates related to the upcoming fall season. She also reviewed Youth and Teen programming and special event participation. Teen Tournaments, the teen volunteer program, Teen Summit and other programming contributed to overall participation numbers. Special events served approximately 104,600 participants during FY26.

Non-resident participation was approximately 10% across most programming areas. Adaptive programming was the largest exception, with approximately 30% non-resident participation, reflecting the regional interest in the programs and services offered.

Commissioner Michael Wallace asked about the waitlists for tennis programming, and Hendrix provided additional information regarding current participation and demand. Wallace also asked about participant age demographics. Hendrix shared that youth continue to make up a large portion of participants, while staff is also working to expand opportunities for adults and the aging community.

Hendrix concluded with a review of facility rentals. He explained that City programming is given priority when scheduling facilities, which can impact the number of rental hours available to outside groups. He also compared resident and non-resident rental usage and noted that tournaments can significantly impact rental numbers, particularly at the Surprise Tennis and Racquet Complex. FY26 rental usage totaled more than 112,000 hours between resident and non-resident rentals.

Peterson also reviewed Aquatics rental activity, including private events, swim team lane rentals and swim meets.

OTHER BUSINESS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No items were discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Patrick Campbell made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Commissioner Michael Wallace. The motion passed unanimously with a 4-0 vote. The meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

Holly Osborn, Director
Parks & Recreation

CERTIFICATION:

I, Shelby Fenwick, Recreation Supervisor 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 August 24, 2026.

Shelby Fenwick, Recreation Supervisor