Quorum having been established, Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Commissioners present were Jan Johnson (Chair), Anita Kellman (Vice Chair), Chuck Catino, Tom Drzazgowski, Michael Lundin, Jim Mazzocco, Enrique Serna, and Victor Rivera. Commissioners Peter Chesson (out of the country) and Richard Barker were absent.


Guests: District 4 Supervisor Ray Carroll, Diana Durazo (County Administrator's Office), Sandra Stone (Canoa Ranch Trust and Oversight Committee), Diane Luber (Pima County Communications Department), Dave Bachman Williams (Tucson-Pima County Bicycle Advisory Committee), Creston King (Canyon View Little League President), Dawn Morley, and Mary Lu Catino.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

At the call to the public, Dave Bachman Williams, representing the Tucson-Pima County Bicycle Advisory Committee, requested the commission's consideration and approval of the bicyclist group's proposal to rename The Loop Trailhead at Julian Wash after Roy Schoonover.

Discussion ensued regarding Commissioner Catino's comment on the importance of attending the commission meetings, prompt notification to staff if he/she will not be in attendance, and what the commissioners should do to assist the department with the budget process and other park related issues. Commissioners shall respond to staff's notice regarding attendance necessary to establish a quorum.

Commissioner Mazzocco stated, in regard to the commissioners involvement as the Board of Supervisors liaison for the department and the constituents of the district they represent, that in accordance with the Arizona Revised Statutes the Parks and Recreation Commission is an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors; that the Board of Supervisors does not necessarily have to have a Parks and Recreation Commission; that it is responsibility of the commissioners to advise and bring to the attention of the Board of Supervisors any county park issues (e.g., budget); and transparency of the operation— what is the commission doing as representative of the citizens in their district.

The pros and cons of the following were discussed—forward division reports to the commissioners whether or not there’s a meeting; an alternate meeting date if the regularly scheduled meeting is canceled; time frame on notification of commissioner’s availability; staff’s notification as to whether or not there’s a quorum and/or insufficient agenda items thus canceling the meeting. It was suggested that— whether or not there is a Parks and Recreation Commission meeting—division reports shall be forwarded to the commissioners. It was also suggested that staff forward the Board of Supervisors meeting agenda pertaining to any park issues to the commissioners for their information, as well as information about the Bond Advisory Committee meeting agenda regarding
the agency’s bond project update. The Board of Supervisors and the Bond Advisory Committee meetings and agenda are published on the Pima County web site.

Commissioner Mazzocco stated that the Arizona Revised Statutes requires the Parks and Recreation Commission to meet only twice a year. However, a special commission meeting can be conducted at any day/time as necessary. There was a consensus amongst the commissioners to continue to hold the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on a monthly basis, on the second Friday of the month, considering the possibility of meeting cancellation on the basis of either lack of a quorum or insufficient agenda items. It was suggested that staff forward to the commissioners the division reports even if the scheduled meeting was canceled, and notify the commissioners whether or not there would be a meeting two weeks in advance of scheduled meetings.

Greg Hagen suggested to combine study session item D.3 and regular meeting item 10 as they both refer to the bond projects. He advised the commission that updates to the 2014 bond projects will start in September. Categorization of the 2014 bond projects does not necessarily remain in the same level as reviewed by the Bond Advisory Committee and recommended to the county administrator Greg Hagen will send a list of NRPR bond projects, subject to discussion by the Bond Advisory Committee, to the commissioners. He stated that there is an upcoming on-line bond survey for the public to input their priority preference in the proposed 2014 bond package.

Call to the Public: There was no response from the public.

The study session adjourned at 9:49 a.m.

Commissioners present during the study session reconvened for the Parks and Recreation Commission regular meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Chair Johnson rearranged the meeting agenda and started with the discussion of agenda item C.1—request for naming/renaming parks, facilities, and open space. The following actions were taken:

Regarding the renaming of the Canoa Ranch Trailheads as Tom/Thomas Ward Trailhead, Commissioner Catino clarified that the renaming shouldn’t be for the Canoa Ranch trail. Instead, the renaming should be applied to the Canoa Preserve Park trail as a connection to the new Anza Trailhead and that it is not trailheads, just trail. Supervisor Ray Carroll agreed with Commissioner Catino. Commissioner Catino made a motion to rename the Canoa Preserve Park Trail as Tom Ward Trail. Commissioner Serna seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

Duly motioned and seconded, the renaming of the Canoa Preserve Park Softball Complex as Chuck Catino Softball Complex was unanimously carried.

C.1.b regarding the renaming of the Canoa Preserve Park, at the request of Supervisor Carroll, was tabled for further discussion and upon receipt of the proper documentation at a future meeting.

Creston King, president of the Canyon View Little League (CVLL), expounded and justified the CVLL request for consideration by the commission to name the Mehl Park Field #3 as Mark Stevens
Field. Commissioner Drzazgowski made a motion to approve the naming of Mehl Park Field #3 as Mark Stevens Field. Commissioner Catino seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

Commissioner Lundin made a motion to approve the renaming of The Loop Julian Wash Trailhead as Roy Schoonover Julian Wash Trailhead. Commissioner Serna seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

C.2 regarding the prohibition of releasing any kind of balloons—biodegradable or non-biodegradable—at Pima County parks, facilities, and open space, George Kuck requested that the item be tabled because of lack of information about its impact to wildlife and because of its controversial nature. Staff will conduct further research on the subject. Commissioner Serna made a motion to table the item. Commissioner Drzazgowski seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed.

C.3: Commissioner Catino made a motion for the commission to send a letter to the Arizona State Legislature regarding the establishment of a park district in Arizona, subject to endorsement and approval by the Board of Supervisors. Commissioner Lundin expressed concerns that such proposal to create a taxing district might cause political peril to the Board of Supervisors. Commissioner Catino withdrew his motion.

C.4: Commissioner Mazzocco stated, and Steve Anderson confirmed, that Commissioner Catino’s proposal for additional bicycle lanes on the east Frontage Road in Green Valley is a Department of Transportation issue. It is not a concern to Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation (NRPR). No further discussion.

C.5: Drafting a letter of support, as suggested by Commissioner Catino, for funding the Green Valley Performing Arts Center, the Canoa Ranch Museum, and the FICO Farms future development will be further discussed at a future meeting.

C.6: The 2013-14 Parks and Recreation Commission slate of officers are:

- Michael Lundin, Chair
- Jan Johnson, Vice-Chair

Motioned and seconded, nomination for the commission secretary position is deferred for further discussion to determine whether or not the position is necessary. Staff will research for information.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Lundin made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Serna, to approve the April 12, 2013 minutes. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Serna made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mazzocco, to approve the February 8, 2013 minutes. The motion was carried.
C.7: Featured Presentation by Adam Bernal

Adam Bernal introduced himself as the community recreation center coordinator at Picture Rocks Community Center. He made a PowerPoint presentation about the programs and activities at the center such as the center’s recent renovations, adult/senior activities, youth activities, fitness classes, social services, and sports activities offered at the park, as well as its amenities. He plans to offer activities such as boot camp, line dancing, youth culinary skills, youth leadership program, community garden, etc. He invited the commissioners to visit the site and to the July 16, 2013 grand opening of the renovated Picture Rocks Community Center. The commissioners thanked Adam Bernal for his outstanding presentation.

C.8: Boards and Commissions Day, August 29, 2013. Chair Johnson encouraged the commissioners to attend the session sponsored by the Arizona Parks and Recreation Association. More information on the subject will be provided by staff. Commissioners Jan Johnson and Peter Chesson plan to attend the event.

C.9 and C.11: George Kuck stated that staff will meet with the Finance staff to discuss the budget on Friday, July 19. He stated the department was $369,000 over budgeted in fiscal year 2012-13 as of period 12. The agency did not receive mid-year adjustments to the budget for utilities as expected and resorted to the budget stop process through hiring and non-emergency expenditure freeze, and deferred maintenance in some areas. He announced that staff will meet with Finance staff to discuss the budget impact for the fiscal year 2013-14. The department was granted $300,000 utility annualized funding in the new fiscal year.

C.12: Commissioners Report

Commissioner Kellman presented a plaque of appreciation to George Kuck in recognition of NRPR staff’s support and partnership with the Beat Cancer Boot Camp (BCBC). She announced that BCBC transition of its working office at the Brandi Fenton Memorial Park should be completed by September 28, 2013. Everyone is invited to attend the exercise course that day. She also announced that BCBC is not only recognized locally and nationally – it is going international! She has been invited by China to embrace BCBC over there in March 2014.

Commissioner Catino reported that the connection to the Anza trail will happen this year; that the BAJA project received a $35,000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). BAJA will sponsor a tournament to raise funds for the Wounded Warrior Veterans.

D. Division Update Reports

Joy Mehulka announced the events that has transpired or forthcoming such as the grand opening of the Flowing Wells Pool on May 18; the dedication of the Xtreme Funspot BMX at Mike Jacobs Sports Park on June 22; dedication of the new Ajo dog park and grand re-opening of the renovated Ajo Community Center on July 4; and the grand re-opening of the Picture Rocks Community Center on July 16. The grand re-opening of the Catalina Recreation Center and the Robles Ranch Community Center is planned in the fall.

Joy Mehulka, on behalf of Robert Vaughn, reported on the extensive upgrades to the Ajo Recreation Center infrastructure.
Kerry Baldwin gave a status report regarding the killing of the mountain lion at Colossal Cave Mountain Park. The people involved in the killing were issued citations by the Arizona Game and Fish Department for multiple violations such as illegal take of wildlife and illegal take of wildlife in a closed area, giving false statement. The illegal actions might have violated county park rules.

Kerry Baldwin reported about the critical water shortages at the Agua Caliente ponds; that over 40% of the 3.5-acre pond is exposed to mud flats. Staff pumped over 15-acre feet of well water into the pond in 2012; however, the water at this point is over 30 inches from pond capacity in spite of pumping approximately 55,000 gallons per day. Staff is exploring on the possibility of installing a new artesian well, bringing reclaimed water to maintain the ponds, and removal of invasive fish, the palm trees and cattails around the ponds.

Call to the Public: No response.

Future Agenda Items:

- Approval of the July 12, 2013 Minutes
- Continue discussion on the naming/renaming of the Canoa Preserve Park
- Continue discussion on the restriction of balloon release at county parks
- Parks and Recreation Commission Secretary Position
- Letter of Support re Canoa Ranch Museum and FICO Development

Adjournment: The regular meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.