



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES REGULAR MEETING



September 9, 2016

Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Department
3500 West River Road, Tucson, Arizona

Quorum having been established, Chair Lundin called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m on September 9, 2016.

Commissioners present were Michael Lundin (Chair) Jan Johnson (Vice Chair) Victor Rivera, Damion Alexander, Kimberly Marohn, Karen Cesare, Enrique Serna and Peter Chesson. Anita Kellman and Richard Barker were absent.

Staff present were Chris Cawein, Robert Padilla, Kerry Baldwin, Joe Barr, George Kuck, Steve Anderson, Robert Vaughn, Robin Hadden and Ann Khambholja.

Those present recited the pledge of allegiance.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to approve the August 12, 2016 minutes. The motion passed.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION/ACTION REQUEST

Chair Lundin informed the commission that he wanted to address the addendum item first, thus he and the other commissioners thanked Mr. Kerry Baldwin for his service to NRPR and bade farewell to him.

Informational year end summary (see attached reports):

1. Mr. George Kuck provided the commission with his 2015/16 annual report touching on major projects that were accomplished during the last fiscal year. Commissioner Cesare asked Mr. Kuck about what in lieu fees were and was informed that they were fees from developers paid in lieu of providing recreational features on their land. Regarding the Eagle Scout project that Mr. Kuck spoke about, Commissioner Alexander asked whether there was an issue with bags running out and Mr. Kuck informed him that both, NRPR and the scout project dispensers were in use and restocked by the department. Commissioner Cesare mentioned that this had the potential to be a success and should be on the County's Facebook page. Commissioner Alexander asked whether there was a list available of their locations and Mr. Kuck informed him that the GIS map provided their locations. In reference to the portion of the Loop running through the Tucson Diversion Channel, Commissioner Alexander inquired whether the overflow was effluent and was informed that it was storm water. Commissioner Chesson inquired about turf at dog parks and Mr. Kuck informed him that since most of the dog parks were small and heavily used, turf was not feasible and they are gradually replacing it with either gravel or mulch. He also informed Commissioner Chesson that they are also adding more trees and vegetation to the Loop and our urban parks as time and funding allows. Commissioner Chesson asked about NRPR's vacant parcels that were trashed and Mr. Cawein informed him that NRPR was looking to either return them to Real Property as the department had no funding to maintain them or try to work with the community to develop them. Commissioner Serna asked about identifying some of these properties and forming partnerships with the community, especially in the more disadvantaged areas of the city. Mr. Baldwin informed him that in the case of the Elvira property, it has been identified as a disposal property, thus there is no

sense to make a long term investment in it. He also stated that regarding adding vegetation along parkways, there is always a balance to be maintained between managing habitat for wildlife and public safety. Commissioner Serna asked whether there were any ongoing security issues along the Loop and was informed that there have been no recent incidents, but NRPR has been working with other jurisdictions and local law enforcement and that has been helping to prevent problems. There were no further questions.



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2. Mr. Robert Vaughn provided the commission with his 2015/16 annual report touching on major projects completed by his division during the last fiscal year. Vice Chair Johnson asked about how the water pumps at Tucson Mountain Park were stolen and Mr. Vaughn informed her that prior to this copper wire was stolen and it was probably the same group that stole the pumps. He also informed them that they are looking into securing the site by acquiring a Mini-Mobile and putting the pumps in it. He informed the commission that they had considered using security cameras, but as it is a very remote location, it might not be feasible. Mr. Vaughn was asked about the bricks used at Canoa Ranch and he informed them that they were sundried, not baked and that a JOC with the assistance of county staff had made several thousand for the restoration work at Canoa Ranch. Vice Chair Johnson asked whether they were made on-site and was informed that that was the case. Commissioner Serna asked whether he could visit the Native Plant Nursery and Mr. Vaughn informed him that he could. There were no more questions.



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DIVISION UPDATE REPORTS:

There were no reports.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S):

ADJOURNMENT: As there was no further business to come before the commission, duly motioned and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.