



PIMA COUNTY
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
April 2, 2010
Natural Resources, Parks & Recreation Department
3500 West River Road, Tucson, Arizona



A. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL:

Quorum having been established, the Chair called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

Commissioners present: Richard Barker (Chair), Chuck Catino, Lisa Ulher, Victor Rivera, Stephanie Maben, Gary Davidson, Jan Johnson

Commissioners absent: Anita Kellman

Staff present: Rafael Payan, Kerry Baldwin, George Kuck, Joe Barr, Joy Mehulka, Steve Anderson, Evelyne Thorpe, and Ann Khambholja

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Those present recited the pledge of allegiance.

C. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of January 15, 2010 Minutes: The item was tabled and will be on the next meeting agenda

D. COMMISSION DISCUSSION/ACTION REQUEST:

1. Parks and Recreation Commission's proposed off-site meeting venues: Rafael Payan distributed the list of the proposed off-site venues—Pima Air and Space Museum, Roy P. Drachman-Agua Caliente Regional Park, Northwest YMCA, Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, Southeast Shooting Range, and Brandi Fenton Memorial Park. The commissioners suggested adding Ellie Towne Community Center, Green Valley Performing Arts Center, Continental Community Center, and Catalina Community Center. Mr. Rivera made a motion to include the community centers. Mr. Catino seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. The off-site meetings will be held at the proposed venues alternating every three months.
2. Frequency of Parks and Recreation Commission meeting and attendance cancelation notices within 48 hours: Mr. Payan proposed holding the commission meetings quarterly or once every two months. The commission prefers to hold meetings monthly, and agreed to the 48-hour cancellation notice if there was no quorum. Incidentally, the commission will send a letter to the Board of Supervisors regarding appointing members to the remaining vacancies of the commission. Ms. Johnson made a motion to continue with the monthly meetings with the possibility of cancellation within 48-hour upon notification to staff of being unable to attend the scheduled meeting. Mr. Catino seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-2, with Ms. Ulher and Ms. Maben abstaining.

E. DIVISION UPDATE REPORTS

1. Development: Mr. DiPilato was not present, thus Mr. Payan gave the commission an update on the following projects:
 - a. Hidalgo Neighborhood Park Project is complete and a dedication ceremony is planned for April or May 2010.
 - b. Arivaca Community Project is expected to be completed by December 2010.
 - c. Tucson Electric Park Lighting Project is expected to be completed within two or three months, but this schedule may need to be extended.
 - d. The Rillito (South Bank) Mountain to Campbell project is a Transportation Enhancement project and is a part of the urban loop trail project.
 - e. Northwest Community Center Project: A meeting is scheduled with the city of Tucson to discuss on-site location of the project and to resolve other issues brought up after the approval of the site plan.
2. GeoMedia (Joy Mehulka – no report)
3. Natural Resources (Kerry Baldwin)
 - a. Open Space/Ranch Management: The winter rain provided temporary recovery of forage; however, the county needs to track summer rain as well determine the impact of the extended drought on range lands and forage.
 - b. Open Space Acquisition: The division is drafting a resolution to update park designations on all lands administered by the Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Department (NRPR). After the adoption of the resolution by the Board of Supervisors, a revision to the current park rules that primarily apply to urban parks and do not necessarily apply to the new open space natural resource parks will be drafted and presented to the Commission for review. After the initial commission review of the park rules revisions, a meeting will be held to obtain public input. The commission will review the public input, if any request appropriate revisions, and endorse its recommendation to the Board of Supervisors for final adoption.

NRPR received a grant from Arizona Game and Fish to acquire basic equipment for monitoring bat populations; consequently, the grant was cancelled due to legislative reallocation of Arizona Game and Fish funds.

A draft document outlining the method and strategies used to manage open space lands was sent for public comment in January. Public comments have been reviewed and the final version has been edited to reflect revisions. The document as well as the comments will be posted on NRPR's natural resources division report on the website.
 - c. Invasive Species/Bufelgrass: Planning has begun for the 2010 summer control season for buffelgrass; NRPR will be coordinating a control research project involving aerial spraying of

small buffelgrass- infested plots in the Tucson Mountain Park in late July or August depending on the monsoons.

5. Operations/Maintenance (George Kuck – no report)
6. Planning (Steve Anderson – no report)
7. Recreation (Joe Barr)
 - a. Communities Putting Prevention to Work Grant: Mr. Barr informed the commission that the County has received a \$15.75 million grant from the Center for Disease Control. The Pima County Health Department is the lead agency and will be working with NRPR, the YMCA, the University of Arizona, and Activate Tucson to advance community's involvement and understanding of healthy living through good nutrition and exercise.
 - b. Childcare Licensing: No new information has been received from the Arizona Department of Health Services. Mr. Davidson made a motion to send a letter supporting the County's position on the matter including the financial impact. Ms. Johnson seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously. The commissioners would like to explore the possibility of encouraging parents to establish a petition on the childcare licensing issue. Mr. Payan said that he would let them know the County Attorney's position regarding the petitions.
 - c. Aquatics: The Picture Rocks swimming pool had a 5000 gallon/day leak due to a problem with the suction line which is being repaired.
 - d. The NW YMCA received a \$400,000 grant from Angel Charities to build a teen room at the center.
 - e. A portion of the Centro del Sur Community Center building will be managed by Aztlan Boxing for their boxing program.
 - f. Mt. Lemmon Community Center: An agreement is being drafted to allow various community groups to use the community center.

F. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S)

- a. The next commission meeting will be held on June 4, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. at a venue to be determined
- b. Election of officers
- c. Ms. Mehulka's presentation regarding the Tucson Mountain Park brochure
- d. The Native Seeds/S.E.A.R.C.H building dedication
- e. Draft language on park designation and park rules
- f. Northwest Community Center site plans
- g. Mr. Anderson to give an update on the loop trail system

- h. Updates on Centro del Sur and Mt. Lemmon
- i. Update on the Rillito Racetrack termination notice and negotiations
- j. Draft letters:
 - (1) Supporting the County's regarding Childcare Licensing which would also show the financial impact to the community.
 - (2) Letter to the Board of Supervisors asking that the remaining two positions be filled County Attorney's advice on the petitioning process
- k. Potential revenue increases

G. CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Mr. Dale Faulkner discussed need for additional soccer fields, possibly at Rillito Regional Park, due to lack of fields resulting in deteriorating conditions due to overuse. He also discussed the potential of private parties funding and operating a soccer complex at the park.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Motioned by Mr. Barker and seconded by Mr. Catino, the meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.