



City of Avondale

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

 [**Link to Summary of Council Actions**](#)

 [**Link to Meeting Minutes**](#)



**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at 6:30 P.M.**

Online Meeting

Join the meeting: <https://avondaleaz.zoom.us/j/7773818863>

Using a Mobile Device? Download the Zoom Cloud Meeting App

Join the meeting with audio only: Call 301-715-8592 (meeting ID: 777-381-8863)

Agenda

1. Roll Call by Staff Liaison

2. Approval of Minutes **Approved**

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will consider the approval of the July 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes.

3. Community Park at Alamar Update **Discussion Only**

4. Community Park at Alamar – Recommend Adopting Name – ACTION ITEM

Alamar Community Park name Approved

5. Parks and Recreation Department Strategic Plan 2020-2021 **Discussion Only**

6. Recreation and Quality of Life Fund **Discussion Only**

7. Recreation Update **Discussion Only**

8. Parks Update **Discussion Only**

9. Reports from Board Members – Discussion Only **Discussion Only**

10. Future Agenda Items – Discussion Only **Discussion Only**

Cost Recovery Policy
Free Speech Zones at Parks
Parks Tours

11. Adjournment **Approved**

Members will attend either in person or by telephone conference call.

Los miembros asistirán en persona o vía teleconferencia.

Individuals with special accessibility needs, including sight or hearing impaired, large print, or interpreter, should contact the City Clerk at 623-333-1200 or TDD 623-333-0010 at least two business days prior to the meeting.

Personas con necesidades especiales de accesibilidad, incluyendo personas con impedimentos de vista u oído, o con necesidad de impresión grande o intérprete, deben comunicarse con la Secretaría de la Ciudad al 623-333-1200 o TDD 623-333-0010 cuando menos dos días hábiles antes de la junta.

Board Members:

Oscar De Alba – Chair	Michelle Molina
Katherine Hall – Vice Chair	Arrajaneé Rivera
Glen Hein	Monique Ayers
Glenn Coleman	
Janet Beason	

Staff Liaisons:

Bryan Hughes – Director
Miranda Gomez – Assistant Director
Dominic DeCono – Management Analyst
Stacy Swainston – Recreation Coordinator



**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at 6:30 P.M.**

Online Meeting

Join the meeting: <https://avondaleaz.zoom.us/j/7773818863>

Using a Mobile Device? Download the Zoom Cloud Meeting App

Join the meeting with audio only: Call 301-715-8592 (meeting ID: 777-381-8863)

Agenda

1. Roll Call by Staff Liaison

Present: Director Hughes, Assistant Director Gomez, Analyst DeCono, Coordinator Swainston

Members present: Vice Chair Hall, Boardmember Coleman, Boardmember Hein, Boardmember Beason, Boardmember Ayers

Members absent: Chairman De Alba, Boardmember Rivera, Boardmember Molina,

2. Approval of Minutes

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will consider the approval of the July 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Coleman

2nd: Beason

Vice Chair Hall:	Aye
Boardmember Coleman:	Aye
Boardmember Beason:	Aye
Boardmember Hein:	Aye

3. Community Park at Alamar Update

Director Hughes got the chance to talk to Brookfield Residential about the development of the Alamar Park and the remaining work that needs to be done in the design phase. Actual construction will begin possibly in October or November. Amenities include, splash pad, playgrounds, amphitheater, open space, a dog park and much more. Timeline for completion is Spring of 2022.

Director Hughes also gave a visual presentation of the proposed Alamar Park to the board. He mentioned that the park will be adjacent to an elementary school and overviewed the amenities. Director Hughes also mentioned that one of the long-term project of all community parks is that there will be Wi-Fi available to the public. There are currently projects taking place at Festival Fields and soon to be at Friendship Park in October to add Wi-Fi.

Board Members:

Oscar De Alba – Chair	Michelle Molina
Katherine Hall – Vice Chair	Arrajane Rivera
Glen Hein	Monique Ayers
Glenn Coleman	
Janet Beason	

Staff Liaisons:

Bryan Hughes – Director
Miranda Gomez – Assistant Director
Dominic DeCono – Management Analyst
Stacy Swainston – Recreation Coordinator



Aspiring. Achieving. Accelerating.

Director Hughes then discussed the name Alamar including its origins and what the community wanted to communicate to the board and the department what the name meant. Director Hughes also discussed the internal process of suggesting a name for the park. Brookfield recommended Alamar Park as the name but mentioned there were four top suggestions. Director Hughes expressed his support for the name Alamar Park, but also stated the other names were good choices.

Boardmember Beason made a mention because of the money and investment the community is making that Alamar should be the recommendation. Boardmember Coleman also expressed his support for the name, as well as Vice-Chair Hall. Because the park is in the Alamar Community, it would likely be referenced

4. Community Park at Alamar – Recommend Adopting Name – ACTION ITEM

Motion: Boardmember Beason (amend motion to name Alamar Community Park)
2nd: Coleman

Vice Chair Hall:	Aye
Boardmember Coleman:	Aye
Boardmember Beason:	Aye
Boardmember Hein:	Aye

5. Parks and Recreation Department Strategic Plan 2020-2021

Director Hughes mentioned that staff did a retreat at the end of June to get to know staff better and to develop a department strategic plan in the upcoming year. Director Hughes mentioned that Assistant Director Gomez crafted the plan and that it addresses the department goals, threats, opportunities and areas of focus to improve moving forward. Director Hughes mentioned the possibility of creating a 3-year strategic plan after the end of next year as a possibility.

Boardmember Beason mentioned that it was extensive and impressed with the level of detail. Vice Chair Hall hoped that the materials mentioned are things that the board can assist with. Boardmember Coleman mentioned wants to be more involved with the planning of the department. Director Hughes mentioned that staff's intention is to continue finding opportunities to work with the board and get them involved.

Boardmember Beason proposed a mini retreat to possibly discuss those opportunities of participation with the board. Assistant Director Gomez mentioned that there are some difficulties with the long-term planning because of how new staff is to the city as well as the pandemic. However, she did mention for the longer-term plan (3-5 years) that staff will be leaning on the recommendations of the board.

Boardmember Ayers mentioned the possibility of discussing pet projects with the board members. Vice Chair Hall also mentioned the possibility of setting up a sub-committee for these types of projects and actions.

Board Members:

Oscar De Alba – Chair	Michelle Molina
Katherine Hall – Vice Chair	Arrajane Rivera
Glen Hein	Monique Ayers
Glenn Coleman	
Janet Beason	

Staff Liaisons:

Bryan Hughes – Director
Miranda Gomez – Assistant Director
Dominic DeCono – Management Analyst
Stacy Swainston – Recreation Coordinator

6. Recreation and Quality of Life Fund

Director Hughes provided an update on the upcoming initiative. This includes publicity pamphlets that are being distributed to the public. The pamphlet includes two arguments for the initiative and none against. He also mentioned materials will be distributed to business owners as well. Director Hughes also reminded the board of what is included in the proposed initiative.

Vice-Chair Hall mentioned the possibility of voting stickers or another material expressing their support of the initiative. Director Hughes mentioned he would follow up with Vice-Chair Hall on this topic.

Boardmember Beason expressed hope that the information will be sent out in a timely manner. She mentioned that she received her primary ballot before receiving information from the city regarding the initiative. She did make mention that it's possible that this is out of the city's control.

7. Recreation Update

Coordinator Swainston mentioned that there are two tournaments in August and that the rest of the fields are booked on weekends for the remainder of 2020. Programming will start back up again in September and staff are working on guidelines for both staff and for the players.

Billy Moore Days was also mentioned that it was moving forward with safe guidelines in place, as well as a movie night on September 12th, as well as a new event (Family Fishing Derby) on October 4th.

She also mentioned that there are new staff being added to the department. Specifically, 2 new recreation programmers are being added, as well as more recreation assistants. This past week, staff has also been participating in the Arizona Parks & Recreation Association virtual conference. It was decided the event would go to all virtual in early May.

Assistant Director Gomez updated the Board that Billy Moore Days can't proceed safely as planned and will instead have virtual events step in its place. All other events will have safety measures in place. Activities like bounce houses and rides will not be available due to the pandemic, but other leisure events will be offered.

8. Parks Update

Director Hughes mentioned that APRA awarded the Outstanding Facility Award to Avondale for community of communities of up to 100,000 for Festival Field Phase 2. This will be presented to the City Council at the meeting on August 24th.

Analyst DeCono mentioned that department revenues were excellent for FY 19/20, despite the Covid-19 pandemic and gave a detailed report on how revenue is tracked and how the forecast looks for the following year.

Board Members:

Oscar De Alba – Chair	Michelle Molina
Katherine Hall – Vice Chair	Arrajane Rivera
Glen Hein	Monique Ayers
Glenn Coleman	
Janet Beason	

Staff Liaisons:

Bryan Hughes – Director
Miranda Gomez – Assistant Director
Dominic DeCono – Management Analyst
Stacy Swainston – Recreation Coordinator



Director Hughes mentioned that improvements at Goodyear Farms Cemetery are nearly finished and that the turf at both Festival and Friendship are continuing to improve. Vice Chair Hall asked about the Park Signs, which Director Hughes mentioned that all of the signs should be up the end of next week.

9. Reports from Board Members – Discussion Only

Boardmember Beason mentioned she was very pleased about the stories of Parks employees on social media for National Parks and Recreation Month. Vice Chair Hall mentioned her excitement seeing this as well. Boardmember Beason asked about feedback overall, which Director Hughes mentioned it greatly increased social media foot traffic.

Boardmember Ayers mentioned her happiness with the shade structure over at Dessie Lorenz Park being put up. Boardmember Ayers also asked about updated signage in that area. Director Hughes mentioned that staff will make an inquiry with Planning & Engineering to look into that.

10. Future Agenda Items – Discussion Only

Cost Recovery Policy
Free Speech Zones at Parks
Parks Tours

11. Adjournment

Motion: Beason

2nd: Hein

Vice Chair Hall:	Aye
Boardmember Coleman:	Aye
Boardmember Beason:	Aye
Boardmember Hein:	Aye
Boardmember Ayers:	Aye

Members will attend either in person or by telephone conference call.

Los miembros asistirán en persona o vía teleconferencia.

Individuals with special accessibility needs, including sight or hearing impaired, large print, or interpreter, should contact the City Clerk at 623-333-1200 or TDD 623-333-0010 at least two business days prior to the meeting.

Personas con necesidades especiales de accesibilidad, incluyendo personas con impedimentos de vista u oído, o con necesidad de impresión grande o intérprete, deben comunicarse con la Secretaría de la Ciudad al 623-333-1200 o TDD 623-333-0010 cuando menos dos días hábiles antes de la junta.

Board Members:

Oscar De Alba – Chair	Michelle Molina
Katherine Hall – Vice Chair	Arrajaneé Rivera
Glen Hein	Monique Ayers
Glenn Coleman	
Janet Beason	

Staff Liaisons:

Bryan Hughes – Director
Miranda Gomez – Assistant Director
Dominic DeCono – Management Analyst
Stacy Swainston – Recreation Coordinator