



City of Avondale

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

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

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

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Wednesday, October 14, 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** **Discussion Only**
2. **Approval of Minutes** **Approved**
3. **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Review of existing Agua Fria Multi-Use Path by Officer Archer, Avondale Police Department**

Discussion Only
4. **Recreation Program Survey Results** **Discussion Only**
5. **Recreation Update** **Discussion Only**
6. **Parks Update** **Discussion Only**
7. **Reports from Board Members** **Discussion Only**
8. **Future Agenda Items** **Discussion Only**
9. **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.

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1. Roll Call by Staff Liaison

Miranda started off the meeting by selecting Boardmember Hein as acting chair of the meeting.

Present: Acting Chair Hein, Boardmember Ayers, Boardmember Beason, Boardmember Coleman

Absent: Chairman De Alba, Vice Chair Hall, Boardmember Rivera, Boardmember Molina

2. Approval of Minutes

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will consider the approval of the September 9, 2020 Meeting Minutes.

Motion Beason
2nd Coleman

Approved 4-0

Acting Chair Hein	Aye
Boardmember Beason	Aye
Boardmember Coleman	Aye
Boardmember Ayers	Aye

3. Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Review of existing Agua Fria Multi-Use Path by Officer Archer, Avondale Police Department

Officer Jim Archer gave a presentation to the Advisory Board that was the same presentation given to the Coldwater HOA regarding safety concerns along the Agua Fria river trail. The presentation was done as an analysis by Officer Archer of the area in question. Officer Archer went into detail regarding the issues expressed by the neighborhood about potential drug and criminal activity by transient individuals potentially being on the trail and entering the neighborhood from it. The report issued by Officer Archer indicated that evidence suggested that there were no excessive build up of transient camps, drug activity or other forms of criminal activity along the trail. This was

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



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contrary to what was expressed by the HOA president when this initial presentation by Officer Archer was given.

Officer Archer also mentioned that the neighborhood has several issues there that are easily observable such as damaged gates that are no longer functional, fences that are not locked and fences are able to be jumped. In short, there were multiple forms of entry into the neighborhood outside of the trail that any person could use to easily gain access to the neighborhood according to Officer Archer's analysis. Officer Archer explained that this defeats the argument that the riverbed trail exposed more of the neighborhood to nefarious activities than other forms of entry into the neighborhood that exist. Officer Archer also explained the walkway in the neighborhood has several lighting issues that are a significant safety issue.

It was suggested by Officer Archer that one way to increase security along the trail area near the HOA (the Van Buren underpass) is to add security cameras to the Water Treatment plant that oversees the underpass. An additional measure suggested was to hire Avondale off-duty officers to increase the security presence. Officer Archer also mentioned adding a public art element near the underpass would help mitigate blight and bring a sense of community ownership.

Acting Chair Hein asked about personal homeowner lighting on the outside of the home as a safety measure, which Officer Archer mentioned was a good idea because it acts a deterrent and increases security.

Boardmember Beason asked if any other HOA members of the Coldwater neighborhood attended outside of the president of the HOA and the HOA attorney, which Officer Archer said they did not. Officer Archer also mentioned that the HOA president approach

Boardmember Ayers asked for clarification exactly what the HOA was upset, to which Officer Archer said that the HOA put up a fence on the north side of the trail that they should not have put up. The city instructed the HOA to tear down the fence because it is not land owned by the HOA, and HOA leadership responded combatively to the request from the city, as they believed they owned the property. Officer Archer mentioned that this combativeness was evident in the presentation that Officer Archer gave to HOA leadership.

Boardmember Ayers asked if the fence was built without the city's knowledge or permission, which Officer Archer confirmed was the case.

Boardmember Beason thought that the presentation was very educational, even for the regular Avondale resident, which Assistant Director Miranda Gomez agreed.

4. Recreation Program Survey Results

Miranda revealed the results of a recreation program survey that was distributed to the board members, as well as Parks and Recreation staff. Miranda explained that staff and members of the board were aligned exactly on some areas of recreation programming, whereas recreation class offerings were very different. Miranda also explained that staff would be taking into consideration the results of both the board and staff recommendations and would use those to drive the decision of what new programming can be offered in the Spring of 2021.

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Glen Hein	Monique Ayers
Glenn Coleman	
Janet Beason	

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5. Recreation Update

Recreation Coordinator Stacy Swainston gave the update on the activities that took place from September. The first event mentioned was the first annual Fishing Derby. The event had over 100 attendees and was considered a success, although only 2 fish and one turtle was caught. Stacy also mentioned the success of the event Cycle Avondale that took place the following day. Stacy also discussed that City Management requested that the Parks and Recreation Department put on a drive-thru Halloween event that will be taking place later in the month.

Stacy also mentioned that the city will be doing a judging event for decorated houses for both Halloween and Christmas time. She mentioned that if any board members are interested in being judges, they could reach out to Dominic.

Miranda also said that Avondale will be hosting, in partnership with NASCAR, a watch party for the NASCAR Championship race taking place in early November. The event will take place at the BLVD. The event will be able to host 250 people, who will watch from their vehicles, and can receive memorabilia only available from the event.

Stacy wrapped her presentation saying that there will be a virtual Veteran's Day run and highlighted the virtual event taking place this week which is Billy Moore Day's. She also highlighted the increase in softball and other sports participation.

6. Parks Update

Miranda had mentioned that there were several dead Queen palm trees that were removed over by Doc Rhodes Park as a result of the summer heat, as well as other repairs made to various parks during the month. Dominic made mention that the summer heat in Arizona killed most of the Queen palm trees and that those trees might not be replaced with the same species of tree due to a lack of availability commercially.

7. Reports from Board Members – Discussion Only

Board members did not have anything to report.

8. Future Agenda Items – Discussion Only

November meeting cancelled due to Veterans Day holiday

9. Adjournment

Motion Coleman
2nd Beason

Approved 4-0

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Glenn Coleman	
Janet Beason	

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Staff Liaison Sign-Off: *Dominic DeCono*
Dominic DeCono (Jan 7, 2021 16:56 MST)

Date: Jan 7, 2021

Boardmember Sign-Off: *Katherine Hall*
Katherine Hall (Jan 7, 2021 19:03 MST)

Date: Jan 7, 2021

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Katherine Hall – Vice Chair
Glen Hein
Glenn Coleman
Janet Beason

Michelle Molina
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