



City of Avondale

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

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

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



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Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Wednesday, December 9, 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. **Introduction of New Board Member** **Discussion Only**
3. **Approval of Minutes** **Approved 4-0**

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will consider the approval of the October 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes.

4. **Staff Updates** **Discussion Only**
5. **Recreation Update** **Discussion Only**
6. **Parks Update** **Discussion Only**
7. **Recognition of Outgoing Board Members** **Discussion Only**
8. **Reports from Board Members – Discussion Only** **Discussion Only**
9. **Future Agenda Items – Discussion Only** **Discussion Only**
10. **Adjournment** **Approved 4-0**

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:

Katherine Hall – Vice Chair
Monique Ayers
Janet Beason
Glenn Coleman
Glen Hein

Michelle Molina
Arrajaneé Rivera

Alternate:
Lilly Lazo

Staff Liaisons:

Bryan Hughes – Director
Dominic DeCono – Management Analyst
Stacy Swainston – Recreation Supervisor



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1. Roll Call by Staff Liaison

Present: Acting Chairwoman Hall, Boardmember Hein, Boardmember Beason, Boardmember Ayers, Boardmember Coleman, Boardmember Lazo

Absent: Boardmember Molina, Boardmember Rivera

2. Introduction of New Board Member

Acting Chairwoman Hall and Bryan introduced Boardmember Lily Lazo to the board.
Boardmember

3. Approval of Minutes

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will consider the approval of the October 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Beason
2nd: Hein

4-0

4. Staff Updates

Bryan Hughes made mention of multiple staff changes. He first mentioned that Assistant Director Miranda Gomez resigned to become the Community Services Director with the City of Buckeye. Stacy Swainston was promoted from Recreation Coordinator to Recreation Supervisor. Janet Dayer also is joining the department as a Management Associate through the City Manager's Office and will be the department for the foreseeable future. Janet comes to the department as a former Community Outreach Manager from the Neighborhood & Family Services Department. Additionally, the department will be bringing on Mickelle, who is a part time recreation assistant will be working in the department as Department Intern.

5. Recreation Update

Recreation Supervisor Stacy Swainston started off the update by discussing the department's launch of a new website (CivicRec).

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She also mentioned that we are recruiting for the Recreation Coordinator position for Sports, as well as the Coordinator position for Special Events, as well as the Recreation Programmer position for the Special Interest Classes.

Stacy did mention that WinterFest was cancelled as a result of rising Covid-19 cases, same with Food Truck Fridays. She also mentioned that CulturePop and Tres Rios were also cancelled due to Covid-19. She did mention that the department is still running softball tournaments and advising Covid-19 guidelines for all participants.

Stacy also provided an update that Avondale was featured in the Pickleball Magazine for National Pickleball Week, and also provided a shoutout to Bryan for completing his graduation on his master's in public administration.

Bryan provided an update that the department and the City are closely monitoring the Covid-19 situation and will keep everything open as long as possible without shutting down.

Acting Chairwoman Hall asked if we are getting increased requests for out-of-state tournaments at our fields, which Bryan mentioned because of our limited field space, we cannot accommodate those requests, which Stacy concurred with. Stacy also mentioned that the recreation team is closely monitoring the tournaments that are running and enforcing rules to ensure they are being conducted safely.

Boardmember Ayers asked about facility reservations and whether or not the department has a plan in the event a third shutdown is announced. Bryan responded saying we would proceed as we have during the previous shutdowns which we could offer refunds, credits and rescheduling for facility reservations.

6. Parks Update

Bryan reported that the Parks team did significant tree trimming over at Dessie Lorenz Park as well as other facilities in the last month. He also reported that Parks painted the NASCAR logo at Festival Fields Park, which received a national shoutout by NBC during the Saturday race of NASCAR Championship week.

Bryan also mentioned that back in September, Parks and Recreation formally took over all of the landscaping maintenance and that includes places like City Hall, fire stations, the community center as well as other places. He mentioned that the team has done significant tree trimming in multiple places across the city, including an area that had become so overgrown, it was hiding an existing multi-use trail. That has now been cleaned up.

Bryan also discussed that the Van Buren Multi-Use Path and the Agua Fria Trail running from Van Buren to the I-10 are nearly completed and will be soon open to the public.

Bryan also brought up a major improvement project at Crystal Gardens, which includes trail and pathway upgrades in the amount of nearly \$264,000. He also mentioned the major fencing upgrades taking place at Festival Field and Friendship Park, which are the amount of nearly \$200,000.

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In addition to these projects, Bryan also discussed the Land, Water and Conservation Fund grants the department is pursuing at Donnie Hale Park.

Bryan discussed that both he and Dominic are preparing the FY2022 Budget, specifically the CIP moving forward, which will have nearly \$3.5 million dollars of improvements.

7. Recognition of Outgoing Board Members

Bryan started off by wishing Glen Coleman best of luck and thanking him for his service to the advisory board as his term ends after this meeting.

Boardmember Coleman was happy to see the number of improvements in the community and was receptive of the Bryan and the rest of the board compliments and his commitment to serving on the board.

8. Reports from Board Members – Discussion Only

Acting Chairwoman Hall mentioned that she is getting to observe the trail go up along Van Buren road and she is very happy with the new pathway lighting that is being constructed because it can help those on the trail and is looking forward to it finishing.

Boardmember Hein asked about the construction on Avondale Blvd right across from the ASC. Bryan mentioned that it's high end apartment complexes going up.

9. Future Agenda Items – Discussion Only

Bryan started off by saying we will be electing a new Chairman and Vice Chair will be elected at the next board meeting. Bryan also answered Boardmember Lazo's inquiry regarding where agendas are posted. Boardmember Beason also mentioned we would want to do a introduction package for new board members that includes information and a tour of city facilities.

10. Adjournment

Motion: Hein
2nd: Beason

6-0

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Staff Liaison Signature: *Dominic DeCono* **Date:** Jan 19, 2021
Dominic DeCono (Jan 19, 2021 15:53 MST)

Board Chair Signature: *Katherine Hall* **Date:** Jan 19, 2021
Katherine Hall (Jan 19, 2021 15:46 MST)

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