



City of Avondale

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

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

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



**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Wednesday, March 10, 2021 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 Revised Minutes 4-0**
The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will consider the approval of the February 10, 2021 meeting minutes. The Board will take appropriate action.
- 3. BOARD ORIENTATION** **Discussion Only**
- 4. FEE SCHEDULE UPDATE** **Discussion Only**
- 5. FUTURE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS ENHANCEMENTS AND COMMUNITY CENTER
REPURPOSING PUBLIC INPUT** **Discussion Only**
- 6. RECREATION UPDATE** **Discussion Only**
- 7. PARKS UPDATE** **Discussion Only**
- 8. REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS** **Discussion Only**
- 9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** **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.

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Board Members:

Katherine Hall, Chair
Janet Beason, Vice-Chair
Monique Ayers
Marie Arellano
Glen Hein

Michelle Molina
Arrajane Rivera

Alternate:
Lilly Lazo

Staff Liaisons:

Bryan Hughes – Director
Corey Larriva, Assistant Director
Dominic DeCono – Management Analyst
Stacy Swainston – Recreation Supervisor
Tom Street – Parks Supervisor



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1. ROLL CALL BY STAFF LIAISON

Present: Board Chair Kathy Hall, Vice Chair Janet Beason, Boardmember Hein, Boardmember Marie Arellano, Bryan Hughes, Corey Larriva, Dominic DeCono, Janet Dayer, Stacy Swainston

Absent: Boardmember Ayers, Boardmember Lazo, Boardmember Rivera, Boardmember Molina

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will consider the approval of the February 10, 2021 meeting minutes. The Board will take appropriate action.

Motion: Vice-Chair Beason

2nd: Chair Hall

Approved 4-0

3. BOARD ORIENTATION

Janet Dayer provided an update regarding the Boardmember orientation process, which includes creating a binder that includes valuable information such as contact information, bylaws, best practices and other things that help with the success of each member. Janet mentioned the materials are being put together and will be available soon. Janet also mentioned that Boardmember Lazo and Boardmember Arellano will be reached out to by the department for a scheduled tour of the parks.

4. FEE SCHEDULE UPDATE

Assistant Director Corey Larriva provided an update regarding the fee schedule for the department, which includes a cleanup of fees that are no longer relevant and creates 4 different categories. These include the creation of fees for the Goodyear Farms Cemetery, which had not previously been established in the Fee Schedule. Corey also highlighted some specific fees that needed cleanup such as special events permit deposit, which had not been charged previously. Corey also mentioned the update of the alcohol permit that comes with an update in the fee schedule that makes it more transparent. No changes to the fee itself dollar wise, just language transparency. Corey also informed the board that the department will be charging a late fee for long term field allocations who are late on payments, which had not

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previously been charged. Corey also highlighted on the fees being established in the cemetery that were already being charged, just not established in the schedule.

Corey also mentioned that the department will be removing 16 total fees that were duplications or services that are no longer offered. An example used was the field prep fee, which had been mentioned on three different occasions, so that was being removed. Corey also mentioned that the bounce house fee is being removed because it is no longer being offered by the City. Some other fees include facility fees that are pertinent to the Library, which is now a part of Neighborhood Family Services and not Parks and Recreation.

Bryan asked Corey to provide the board an update on next steps for the city, which Corey mentioned that Finance will take the fees and compile them with the rest of all updated city fees during March and will then start the 60-day notice, which is required per Arizona Statute, and the fees will go before Council on June 7th and if approved, initiate on July 1, 2021.

Corey also mentioned that the department also wants to work closely with the board in establishing a cost recovery model that would be recommended and then formally adopted by the City Council in the near future.

5. FUTURE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS ENHANCEMENTS AND COMMUNITY CENTER REPURPOSING PUBLIC INPUT

Janet Dayer provided a presentation to the board on the public input thus far regarding the community center repurposing effort and neighborhood parks enhancements. Janet mentioned that the department met in February on 5 different occasions and so far, has collected 75 responses, with a goal of 150 from the public. Janet also shared the results of the responses that include votes to upgrade various facilities at the neighborhood parks, as well as the public's desires for the rooms at the community center.

Vice-Chair Beason asked if the department had a breakdown of the age demographics of people in the survey. Janet responded saying we do have the information and can provide it. Vice-Chair Beason was concerned that there might not be enough input coming from younger people, which Janet responded they are making that aspect focus.

Janet also mentioned that some of the facility recommendations at the park include roller coasters, actual lava, action figures, Fortnite figures and Janet responded with balanced answers to help provide an element of what the kids were asking for.

6. RECREATION UPDATE

Stacy provided an update regarding the 18-month calendar for signature special events as well as community special events. She specifically singled out the most recent event, which was State of the City, as well as the upcoming community events which are Food Truck Fridays and the Fishing Derby. Stacy also mentioned the Bunny Trail event, where the Easter bunny will come out to family homes to stay Covid-safe. She also touched on Eggstravaganza, which is a pre-registered egg hunt that will also be Covid-safe. Stacy also mentioned that

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Kidfest will be taking place on April 10th, which will be use the whole space at Friendship Park to be Covid-safe, as well as the movie night taking place.

Stacy also talked about the startup of the youth sports leagues, as well the end of the softball leagues and continuation of private tournaments.

Rec classes are also going such as youth/tot classes, dance, gymnastics, crafts classes and the programming has increased by 52% more programming offered.

Chair Hall asked about a date possibly to open the Senior Center, which Bryan responded saying that there is currently no date to open it, but Bryan did mention that some cities are looking to open up their senior centers in early April. Bryan said he would follow up with Neighborhood Family Services to see when the senior center might open up for sure. Corey gave a shout out to Stacy for the creation of the 18-month calendar to help show the improved organization of the department as well as the department's growth. Board Char Hall asked how folks can register for Eggstravaganza, which Stacy mentioned is on the parks and recreation website. Boardmember Arellano asked if little league baseball is being offered for kids 6-13, which Stacy mentioned Little League is provided as a 3rd party entity. Boardmember Arellano also asked if more sessions for 3-5 kids baseball classes would be offered, which Stacy the team would look at. Stacy and Corey mentioned that Avondale Little League and Parks and Recreation work very closely with each other where they do not compete but rather promote each other's services.

7. PARKS UPDATE

Bryan provided an update regarding the Parks and Recreation CIP, which started with the renovations at the Festival Fields restrooms. The project is currently 85% completed with new equipment, flooring in the bathroom as well as light fixtures, and new additions to the fencing at the softball fields. Bryan also touched on the crystal gardens trail improvements which is about 60% completed, which he believes will be completed by the end of the month.

Bryan also touched on the Van Buren Multi-Use Path which is 99% done and the final walk-through has been completed, scheduled to be opened on March 29th. Bryan did look into Boardmember Hein's concern of flooding and if any issues do arise, they would be covered under warranty. Bryan also touched on the continued construction at Alamar Park, which is moving along at the scheduled pace.

Bryan then discussed spraying is commencing at the parks and that the team got to do a special project at Festival Fields by spray painting the NASCAR logo at the park, which received national attention during the race back in November and the city is looking to gain publicity from this again.

Bryan also discussed the art project completion of the installation of new art fixtures around the south side of the lake at Festival Fields, which will take place on March 20th.

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8. REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Vice-Chair Beason mentioned she stopped by the previous Food Truck Friday event and did not realize how busy the park was at Friendship Park on Friday nights. She said she enjoyed the food truck experience and hopes more trucks can come to the event in the future.

Chair Hall mentioned she went to the movie night event, which was fun, but the event did get cold, so she went back to her car. She did take her kids to Las Ligas Park and Deconcini Park and later asked the kids what they wanted. They said more swings and monkey bars would be good additions.

Corey told Board Chair Hall to see the logo at Festival Field, which he thought would be a pretty cool experience for the kids.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Bryan did not mention any specific new updates for the board. Chair Hall suggested Corey bring food, which Corey happily agreed. Bryan suggested hopefully by summer in-person meetings will resume.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Vice-Chair Beason

2nd: Chair Hall

Approved 4-0

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Staff Liaison Signature: *Dominic DeCono* **Date:** Apr 19, 2021
Dominic DeCono (Apr 19, 2021 07:34 PDT)

Board Chair Signature: *Katherine Hall* **Date:** Apr 17, 2021
Katherine Hall (Apr 17, 2021 09:14 PDT)

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