



**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Wednesday, January 12, 2022 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

CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIR

1. ROLL CALL AND STATEMENT OF PARTICIPATION BY THE STAFF LIAISON

Present: Vice Chair Beason, Boardmember, Arellano, Boardmember Nielson, Boardmember, Boardmember Lazo

Absent: Boardmember Johnston, Boardmember Ayers, Boardmember Vasquez

2. UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES

(Time is limited per person. Please state your name.)

3. INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

No update here as new boardmember was absent.

4. ELECTION OF BOARD CHAIR

Boardmember Nielson nominated Janet Beason as Chair of the board, seconded by Boardmember Lazo. Janet Beason elected Board Chair 4-0

5. ELECTION OF BOARD VICE-CHAIR

Boardmember Lazo nominated Boardmember Arellano for Vice Chair. Chair Beason nominated boardmember Lazo for Vice Chair. Boardmember Lazo deferred her nomination to Boardmember Arellano's nomination. Boardmember Arellano elected Board Vice-Chair 4-0.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will consider the approval of the December 8, 2021 meeting minutes. The Board will take appropriate action.

Motion: Boardmember Nielson

2nd: Boardmember Lazo

Approved 4-0

Board Members:

Monique
Ayers
Marie
Arellano
Janet

Lilly Lazo

Patti Nielson

Staff Liaisons:

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



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7. PARKS AND RECREATION 2021-22 STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Corey provided an update regarding the FY22 Strategic plan. Corey explained that the plan is an annual plan that outlines an action plan for the department to accomplish key goals. In section 1.0 Produce Outstanding Customer Experiences, the department is on track to be complete by the end of the year and currently is at 58% completion. Corey mentioned that he really likes the 6-month check-in because it allows the department to see where they are at. Chair Beason then asked if they are set based on priority, to which Corey replied they are not set in any sort of priority and believes they all have critical importance.

For 2.0 Deliver Dynamic Recreation services, Corey mentioned that the department is at a 50% completion percentage. He mentioned that there has been success in this area, with 6 new program offerings this year and three have run. Corey also mentioned that the goal is on track for completion by the end of the fiscal year.

For 3.0 Provide Safe Places to Play & Connect, Corey stated that the department is at 54% completion and is on track to finish the goals in this area.

For 4.0 Plan for Growth & Achievement, Corey stated that the department is at 56% completion and is on track for completion by the end of the fiscal year.

Corey also mentioned that on page 9 of the strategic plan the 5-year CIP plan is listed and shows the major projects that the department is working on to complete. Corey mentioned that the department has many major projects that are being worked on which include Alamar Park, a community center renovation and a new aquatic center design and development. Chair Beason asked when the fiscal year runs through which Corey confirmed runs from July 1st to June 30th.

Corey did also mention one project is nearly completed which is the Crystal Garden Trails Improvement project is going through final walkthrough in the next week for final completion. Chair Beason then asked if all the projects in the CIP are directly related to Parks and Recreation, which Bryan stated all are related, while some do crossover with other departments.

Chair Beason then asked a question about the progress of Wi-Fi being implemented at the parks, which Bryan mentioned he did not have an update to provide at the moment but would get back to her.

Corey then circled back saying that the board can assist with the strategic plan by assisting with the SWOT analysis (strength, weakness, opportunities and threats). This would happen in May in preparation for the next year.

Bryan commented that this is an important step to take an objective view of the department to accomplish goals and improve, and that if we weren't meeting goals we wouldn't be doing our jobs of providing good service to the community.

Boardmember Lazo then asked about what would be in the works for the partnerships with schools for the parks and recreation department. Corey then mentioned that this is in the

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strategic plan, but it has been a challenge because many schools have had a difficult time returning to full operation.

One aspect the department is working on is creating the shared use facilities to help offer those opportunities to schools to use those facilities for their programs. Boardmember Lazo did mention that its worth exploring the idea of partnerships with schools as both the City and the schools try to navigate through the pandemic. Bryan did mention that the department is having production dialogue with the school districts, but nothing has been made official yet and is part of the goal moving forward.

Corey then mentioned a story about when the department was working on a grant for the sand volleyball courts and mentioned that the opening of the facilities will help with collaboration of both new programming and competitive play, and both would be welcome.

8. DEPARTMENT ACCREDITATION UPDATE

Senior Management Analyst Dominic DeCono provided an update regarding the department's national accreditation progress for the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA). Dominic mentioned that the department's accreditation is due March 14th to the national agency and that a virtual visit will be conducted by the visiting committee on May 23rd. Dominic also mentioned that the department is somewhere between 90%-95% completed on the accreditation process and the department feels confident it will be recommended to be accredited. Boardmember Lazo asked what the benefit and purpose of the accreditation was to which Dominic mentioned that it helps ensure that the department is following best practices of the industry and the accreditation process provides accountability for that by making municipalities prove it.

9. RECREATION AND SPECIAL EVENTS UPDATE

Corey then provided an update regarding the recreation division and special events that are upcoming, which include Poppin' in the Park, the Tres Rios nature festival, the Tres Rios Golf Tournament. The golf tournament has the goal of raising funds for the Active Avondale scholarship program. Other events include KidsFest, Family Campout and Avondale Fiesta.

Chair Beason asked if there will be food trucks in the park, which Corey confirmed will be the case. Corey mentioned that the movie nights in the park and the Food Truck Friday's have been combined to create the Poppin' in the Park event.

Corey then stated that registration for the spring programs and sports leagues is now open. Chair Beason asked if the board can have access to the messages being sent out for program registration to which Corey said they will work the board to make happen.

Boardmember Lazo asked if text updates are available to which Corey said yes, the department is, but it has been a process. Boardmember Lazo said she'd be the first person to sign up if it becomes available.

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Boardmember Lazo then asked if there were any extra clean ups being done for the Tres Rios event. Corey mentioned that there is a volunteer group to do a clean up before the event. Additionally, the department will have a clean up crew during the event to ensure trash clean up is a priority for the event.

10. PARKS AND PROJECTS UPDATE

Bryan mentioned the Lakes at the BLVD project is at 99% completion and will do a grand opening on February 12th. Bryan then mentioned that the Donnie Hale Revitalization project is underway, and that the fence is down at Mountain View Park and has been reopened to the public. Chair Beason then asked if Alamar Park has finished, to which Bryan mentioned is very close to finishing and the city is working on rerouting El Mirage Road. Bryan also mentioned tours for board members will resume shortly.

11. REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

No updates from the board.

12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Board expressed interest to know more about accreditation in the coming months as the department gets closer to the virtual accreditation visit. Bryan also mentioned during the next meeting a report will be provided on the supplemental requests

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Boardmember Lazo

2nd: Chair Beason

Approved 4-0

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

Los miembros participaran ya sea en persona o por medio de llamada Telefonica o por vídeo. 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 Secretaria de la Ciudad at 623-333-1200 o TDD 623-333-0010 cuando menos dos días hábiles antes de la junta.

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Dominic DeCono

Dominic DeCono (Feb 15, 2022 16:20 MST)

Feb 15, 2022

Janet H. Beason

Janet H. Beason (Feb 15, 2022 17:40 MST)

Feb 15, 2022

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