

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at 6:30 P.M.**

**Avondale City Hall – Mojave Conference Room
11465 West Civic Center Drive, Avondale, Arizona 85323**

AGENDA

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

Present: Chair Beason, Board Member Lazo, Board Member Patti Nelson, Board Member Rose Vasquez, Board Member Mayra Espinoza

Absent: Vice Chair Marie, Board Member Stephanie, Corey Larriva

Staff: Bryan Hughes, Stacy Swainston, Dominic DeCono, Rachelle Nunez, Ken Chapa

2. UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will consider the approval of the September 14, 2022 meeting minutes. The Board will take appropriate action.

Motion: Chair Beason

2nd: Boardmember Nelson

Approved 5-0

4. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Bryan introduces Ken Chapa- Economic Development Director for the City of Avondale.

Ken Chapa begins by detailing the Avondale BLVD space such as the foot square in size, and that it is 100% occupied, and highlighting AVEDA School and Phoenix Children's Hospital as some of the occupancies. Ken Chapa continues with listing all the business that are occupying the BLVD space. He further discusses the excitement for Dutch Bros while adding that there will be Alta Avondale apartments- 360 apartments. He then explained plans on how to enhance the volume of Old Town.

Board Member Espino asked if there is still a planned Starbucks to which Ken replies that a Starbucks will be taking a portion of the space where Ruby Tuesdays resides and the Ruby Tuesdays building itself will be a Law Firm. He further explains how the economic development team will be working with the merchants in that space and continuing to include them with economic development planning. Ken Chapa continues with showing a visitor's guide given out that highlights Old Town, specifically highlighting the NASCAR event. Ken further explains the purpose of the Better Block event as it was an opportunity to play with the "what if" in how to enhance the opportunities for Western. He explains the goal

is to attract the local neighborhood and to take pride and visit the Old Town and Western Avenue.

Board Member Espino comments how the pictures shown in the slides are a reminder of the importance of culture in a community which is experienced by being there. Board Member Vasquez adds to that comment expressing the importance of taking pride in your local plaza and community and it being available to do so.

Board Member Nielson asks if there will there be added parking and Ken says that as there is growth the parking questions will have to be addressed and the plans on how that can work. Ken follows up with, as of now there is no parking plans just yet. But he ensures the board that they are aware that the parking is an issue that will have to be addressed in the foreseen future.

Bryan Hughes asks if Ken sees any parks to support the businesses on Western. Ken replies with planning needing to be discussed with developers and the local businesses. Board Member Lazo ask if the team plans to balance keeping the culture here in the city among the community to which Ken answers currently, it is all about communication and gaining trust among the community and businesses. Ken further details that it does take time and it is a delicate situation. Bryan Hughes adds that there have been meetings in Cashion, and they are going door to door to provide information to assist in gaining trust among the community.

Boardmember Espino asked if the City of Avondale owns any of the retail spaces Ken explains that The City of Avondale does not own any of the retail spots. Ken then mentions that he will do some research on that grant program brought up from Board Member Espino.

Board Member Nielson expresses her concern about the traffic and the train tracks, and says if you want this place to grow how will traffic be managed? Ken replies with there being a more intense study and that they are aware of keeping track of traffic as the City grows. Board Member Vasquez adds with the bad traffic in comparison to Prescott and Chair Beason replies that Sedona traffic is awful. Chair Beason continues to add her concerns to the challenges with traffic out on Western.

Chair Beason asked how do you reach out to the community who have been residents for years to which Ken answers with the plan of trying to be more visible and available for open communication.

Board Member Lazo finds it interesting to use the Maslow Hierarchy of needs pyramid and the similarities it is for children the importance of keeping the culture in the community. Board Member Lazo agrees with Ken's vision and how the Economic Development team is approaching the growth and keeping the culture. Board Member Janet expresses how impressed she is with the vision coming from the Economic Development team and the balancing done between the BLVD and Western.

Bryan Hughes then moves forward with the meeting and thanks Ken Chapa for his time.

5. BOARD TEAM BUILDING EXERCISE

Favorite Candy:

Chair Janet Beason- Almond Joy

Board Member Lily Lazo-Kit Kat

Board Member Rose Vasquez-Almond Joy

Board Member Mayra Espino- Recess peanut cups
Bryan Hughes- M&M's
Board Member Patti Nielson-Chocolate raisins
Stacy Swainston-Easter Egg Reese's PB cup
Dominic DeCono-Reese's PB cup
Rachelle Nunez-Reese's PB Cup

6. RECREATION AND SPECIAL EVENTS UPDATE

Stacy begins by talking about the Cycle Avondale Event and shares a recap video. She follows that video with the Alamar grand opening and the recap video. Board Member Vasquez asked if there was fish in the pond. Bryan confirms that Game and Fish put in the Fish. Stacy continues with the giving details for the Billy Moore Days Event. Board Member Patti said she loved all the booths and vendors set up at the Alamar event. Chair Beason is asking where the carnival will be at. Stacy replies the space with the "blue". And confirms with Bryan, that it is Deconcini park. Stacy goes into more details about the set up and the new food partner Old Spaghetti. Chair Beason asks where the Park and Rec table will be at. Bryan answered it will be in front of Boys and Girls club. Boardmember Lazo added she would still like to see the name of Billy Moore to be changed. Stacy closes the special event topic and Bryan moves on to the next item on the agenda.

7. BOARD PARK OBSERVATIONS – ALAMAR PARK

Board Member Lazo loves the park and says the community deserves it.

Board Member Espino said the map address did not give the route to the Alamar park. Bryan answers that it is a new park and it will not show it just yet. Board Member Nielson asks if there is someone to contact to fix that issue. Bryan answers, that the pin shows the farm fields and it should update soon.

Chair Beason asked what is being built behind the park, to which Bryan said an Elementary school will be built. -Littleton Elementary.

Board Member Nielson likes that there is so much to do there, even for the dog. She continued and asked how many acres the park is, to which Bryan replied, 40 acres.

Chair Beason asked how can the city afford it, to which Bryan answers that is a partnership with the home builder Brookfield. Bryan then further details the amenities at Alamar. Board Member Espino says the ramadas are aesthetically beautiful.

Board Member Nielson expresses that she can see that the larger view long term and she appreciates the thought throughout when building. Chair Beason asked if there will be continuing building in that area. Bryan answers that Brookfield will be building more housing. Board Member Lazo expresses her excitement and loves the outdoor free gym. Stacy adds that there will be classes offered throughout the year for the gym.

8. PARKS AND PROJECTS UPDATE

Bryan Hughes begins by explaining that Donnie Hale is still waiting for power and once the date is official it will be a quick turnaround. Bryan continues with the resource center being delayed and hoping to begin construction next month and be open for June 2023.

He announces that the Civic Center Park will plan to coincide with the pool opening. Board Member Nielson asked what are the specific items we are waiting for causing the delay? And Bryan replied that it is specific odd items that are needed causing the delay.

Board Member Lazo questioned if any of the neighborhood parks will have dog parks. Bryan replied that the barking would not be ideal in a neighborhood so no planned dog parks for the neighborhood parks. Bryan proceeded by highlighting the dog park and the design of the dog park at Alamar.

9. NRPA'S COMMISSION FOR ACCREDITATION OF PARKS AND RECREATION (CAPRA) RECOGNITION

Bryan begins with that there are less than 2% of Parks and Recreation Departments that are accredited CAPRA. Bryan proceeds with going into detail about the CAPRA process and the hard work, dedication from multiple departments and all the staff. The CAPRA video was shown to the board. Bryan proceeds with the CAPRA standards to keep accreditation. Board Member Nielson compliments the teamwork among all the departments.

Chair Beason encourages everyone to sign up for the Citizenship Academy. She also notes that it is beneficial in learning about the City of Avondale.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Board Member Nielson

2nd: Board Member Lazo

Approved 5-0

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 video. Personas con necesidades especiales de accesibilidad, incluyendo personas con impedimentos de vista u oido, o con necesidad de impresion grande o interprete, deben

Janet Beason
Janet Beason (Nov 12, 2022 10:45 MST)

Nov 12, 2022

Dominic DeCono
Dominic DeCono (Nov 14, 2022 06:28 MST)

Nov 14, 2022