



MEETING MINUTES CITY OF AVONDALE, ARIZONA

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

2/8/2023

Meeting Date

3/8/2023

Date Minutes Were Approved


Lilly Lazo (Apr 18, 2023 08:05 PDT)

Chair

CERTIFICATION AND ATTESTATION

I hereby certify that the accompanying document is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the aforementioned meeting. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that the quorum was present.


Rachelle Nunez (Apr 18, 2023 07:41 PDT)

Staff Liaison





**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.**

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

AGENDA

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

Present: Chair Lilly Lazo, Vice Chair Stephanie Rodriguez, Board Member Marie Arellano, Board Member Janet Beason, Board Member Patti Nielson, Board Member Mayra Espino

Staff: Bryan Hughes, Corey Larriva, Stacy Swainston, Dominic DeCono, Rachelle Nunez

6:01 p.m. Meeting called to order.

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 January 11, 2023 meeting minutes. The Board will take appropriate action.

Chair Lazo stated that her name was misspelled in the minutes.

Motion: Board Member Beason said that she motions with the correction of the minutes.
2nd: Board Member Arellano

4. BOARD TEAM BUILDING EXERCISE

The team building exercise is-
“What word do you often misspell?”

Vice Chair Rodriguez begins the exercise by stating that the word she often misspells is “macaroni”.

Board Member Beason said the word she often misspells is “enthusiasm”.

Chair Lazo said the word she often misspells is “exercise”.

Board Member Espino said the word she often misspells is “because”.

Board Member Arellano said the word she often misspells is “occasion”.

Corey stated the word he misspells is “efficiency”.

Bryan stated the word he misspells is “receipt”.

Stacy stated the word she misspells is “unfortunately”.

Dom stated the word he misspells is “cemetery”.

Rachelle stated the word she misspells is “liquor”.

Board Member Nielson said the word she misspells is “conscious”.

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5. RECREATION AND SPECIAL EVENTS UPDATE

Stacy begins by stating that the team is in event season and lets the board know, that if interested in volunteering to please let her know. Stacy discusses the planned exhibitors and activities for the upcoming Tres Rios event. Stacy said that Tres Rios is a two-day event, with the most popular day being on Saturday. She follows with talking about the upcoming community event, Family Campout. Stacy mentions that the Poppin' in the Park will be combined with the Family Campout Event. Stacy informs the board the details and plans for the Family Campout. Stacy continues by talking about Eggstravaganza and that it is a 3-day event that has egg hunts at different parks in the community.

Board Member Espino references last year Eggstravaganza having some registration process issues and Stacy replies that she will look into it.

Stacy continues talking about the spring events. She talks about Kidfest happening after Eggstravaganza on April 8th and the activities and time included with that event. Stacy mentions the following event being Avondale Fiesta which will be held on April 29th.

Board Member Beason mentions that parking was bad for the Avondale Fiesta event. Stacy replies that they are currently working on better parking solutions.

Stacy talks about the Memorial Day event is attentively for 6pm, and it may be held in the morning, but still unknown at the time. Stacy confirms that the 4th of July event will be held on July 1st. Stacy said if anyone wants to volunteer to please let her know. Before moving on to next agenda, Stacy mentions the control of extra-long lines at Tres Rios and to get there early if you do not want to wait in line.

6. BOARD PARK OBSERVATIONS – DESSIE LORENZ PARK

Bryan begins by talking about the vandalism and the uptick in vandalism at the Dessie Lorenz Park. He would like the boards comments about that specific park and any suggestions.

Board Member Nielson visited Dessie Lorenz Park late morning. Board Member Nielson said she liked the accessibility handicap space. She mentioned she can only see that park space being used for food trucks. She noticed 2 people on a bench and there was one trash can that was at the far end that could be moved more centrally. Board Member Nielson suggested adding an exercise course to utilize at that space. She mentioned that the park is very clean.

Board Member Beason visited Dessie Lorenz Park at 2pm: Board Member Beason said she noticed one homeless person there. She said she did not realize that there was designated parking for that park. Board Member Beason walked to the end of the park and did not realize the length of the park. She said she noticed two covered areas with no tables and figured having picnic tables would attract more homeless. She mentions there is nothing at that park to do for kids.

Vice Chair Rodriguez visited Dessie Lorenz Park at 6:30pm: Board Member Rodriguez said she drove by the park and did not stop. She said she does not like the traditional dog parks. And suggests having a fenced in space at Dessie Lorenz Park that caters to fetch activities for dogs.

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Board Member Espino visited Dessie Lorenz Park at 5:00pm: Board Member Espino said she because of the busy street and location she could not see her utilizing that park for her family.

Board Member Arellano visited Dessie Lorenz Park at 6:00pm: Board Member Arellano said she liked the Avondale emblem structure. She said she felt it is dangerous between the street and railroad especially for children. She mentioned the benches are ruined and eroded. She said there is no accessibility for parking. She said she agrees that the space should be repurposed into something more useful.

Bryan discusses what the park was like prior and the reason why the park is what it is today. Bryan mentions that Dessie Lorenz Park is a passive park meaning, there is no active amenities, it is meant for people to stroll through and enjoy it or sit at a picnic table. Bryan discusses some options that have been brought up on different ways to utilize that space. A discussion enfolds.

Board Member Espino suggests making that site be a site for bus or share ride.

Chair Lazo agrees with Corey on getting rid of the turf and adding a pollenate garden type of space. Chair Lazo added that she would like to see that space used for a bike ride, but that space does not connect.

Bryan mentions that the community uses the path at Dessie Lorenz Park to commute to the neighboring stores.

Board Member Lazo asks if the path can connect to another area? Bryan replies that he will have to check on that connectivity. Bryan adds that there is a plan for that path to go by the river. Bryan continues with details of the pathway's connectivity in the surrounding area.

Board Member Beason said she finds it interesting to name that park a passive park compared to an active park. Bryan replies with clarifying the differences between a passive park and active park. Corey said they plan on getting creative with Dessie Lorenz Park.

Board Member Beason asks if there is another park like this one? Bryan said there are is no other park that as linear like this one.

Chair Lazo suggests a nearby college that can contribute and partner with the future of Dessie Lorenz Park.

7. PARKS AND PROJECTS UPDATE

Corey begins talking about the pool update. He said that there will be a water test soon to see if it holds water. Corey discusses the pics shown in the PowerPoint and what features will be at the park. He shows the fly over of the pool and talks about the competition pool, and the recreation pool side. He shows location of the pump house, and the location dedicated for potential food trucks. He showed the footings and where the retention bases are in coordination with the Pool location.

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Corey mentions that it was important for the pool to not be pushed up against other neighbors and to have land space around the pool. Bryan said that there will be connectivity for the pool and the community so families can walk over to the pool.

Board Member Beason asked when the opening date is? Bryan replies as of now the date is January 15, 2024.

Corey continues with mentioning the Mountain View Community Center has been adopted by City Council. Corey discusses the renovation process currently at the Community Center.

Board Member Nielson asks if there were any pests found? Bryan replies that there was, but it was minor and small and that it was taken care of.

Corey points out that the space at the Community Center is much bigger. Bryan says that the Community Center is expected be ready in June 2023.

Corey follows with talking about the renovations of adding a pathway taking place at the extra space Field 2 at Friendship park. He discusses that they are planning for a sidewalk that will connect the neighborhood to Friendship Park. He hopes this pathway will create a more positive outlook and get rid of the dark spaces.

Board Member Beason asks how old is Friendship Park? Bryan replies with the park dating back to the 90s.

Bryan says that the goal for the Field 2 pathway space is to be completed by KidFest.

Board Member Nielson mentions she drove by the ASC and it was packed and busy. She is happy to see that many people coming to Avondale to do their sports activities. Board Member Beason discusses the retail in that area will benefit that families going to the ASC.

Vice Chair Rodriguez asks if they will get any updates about projects? Bryan replies that will coincide with the budget and hopefully will be able to update in April.

Chair Lazo asks what the plans for the Mountain View Community Center are? Stacy replies she is in the process of planning on moving programming over to the community center once it is opened. Stacy talks about the easy transfer of placing the existing programs over to the new center. She is excited about getting a teen program over at Mountain View Community Center. Corey further explains the workflow of the recreation team and it that the team is expanding.

Vice Chair Rodriguez asks, "how do you come up with programming?" Stacy replies with discussing the matrix that is used when creating programming.

Board Member Espino asks, "how the instructors process works?" Stacy replies with talking about the process of getting a contract set up. Corey further explains the 70/30 for fees. Stacy talks about contracting out to other spaces and businesses.

Board Member Espino asks, "what the benefit is for families to go to city for classes oppose to the business." Bryan replies with discussing the benefits of children using the rec classes as an introduction.

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Board Member Nielson asks, "if the community center will have a stage?" Stacy replies that there is no stage at the community center.

A discussion enfolds about the OTL (over the line) sport being added to the programming and the success it has received from the community.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Board Member Nielson

2nd: Board Member Arellano

Meeting Adjourned-7:13pm

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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