

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

9/13/2023

Meeting Date

10/11/2023

Date Minutes Were Approved


Lilly Lazo (Nov 2, 2023 12:02 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 (Nov 1, 2023 17:19 PDT)

Staff Liaison





City of Avondale

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Lilly Lazo, Chair

Stephanie Rodriguez, Vice Chair

Marie Arellano, Board Member | Janet Beason, Board Member

Mayra Espino, Board Member | Cecilia Lopez, Board Member

Patti Nielson, Board Member | Vannesa Cornejo, Alternate Member

Parks & Recreation Department

Bryan Hughes, Director

Corey Larriva, Assistant Director

Rachelle Nunez, Administrative Assistant

City Hall – Sonoran Conference Room

11465 West Civic Center Drive

Avondale, AZ 85323



Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
Notice & Agenda
Wednesday, September 13, 2023

SONORAN CONFERENCE ROOM | 11465 WEST CIVIC CENTER DRIVE | AVONDALE, AZ 85323

REGULAR MEETING
6:00 PM

Physical Access to the Conference Room will be available 30 minutes prior to the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIR

Call to order- 6:03pm

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

Present Board Members: Chair Lily Lazo, Vice Chair Stephanie Rodriguez, Board Member Janet Beason, Board Member Mayra Espino, Board Member Marie Arellano, Board Member Cecilia Lopez, Board Member Vannesa Cornejo

Present Staff: Bryan Hughes, Corey Larriva, Stacy Swainston, Mark Foote, Denise Thurman, Rachelle Nunez

Absent: Patti Nielson

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 May 10, 2023, meeting minutes. The Board will take appropriate action.

Motion: Board Member Marie Arellano

2nd: Board Member Mayra Espino

Approve 7-0

4. NATIONAL LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH

Avondale Civic Center Library Manager Denise Thurman introduces herself and informs the board about September being National Library Card Sign Up Month. She discusses the several activities being hosted during this month with the primary goal being encouraging new library card holders and to show appreciation to those whom currently have library cards. Denise also mentions Amnesty Month being alongside National Library Card Sign Up Month which allows patrons whom may have overdue library fees to be waived. She expressed the importance of waived fees which will provide patrons the opportunity to utilize libraries again. Denise presents to the board a large photo op of a library card which has been used for social media and marketing. Board members participate in support of libraries and takes a picture with

the large photo prop. Denise mentions that you do not have to be an Avondale resident to receive a Library Card. Corey recognizes and congratulates Denise for her newest position being the Civic Center Branch Library Manager.

5. 2023 ARIZONA PARKS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION AWARDS

Bryan shares the recent accomplishments recognized at the Arizona Parks and Recreation Association (AZPRA) awards banquet, "Best of the Best" that took place in August. He details the four awards received being; The Outstanding Program-Youth Enrichment Award: Blank Canvas Summer Showcase, The Outstanding Facility Award: Alamar Park Facility, The Outstanding Public Official Award- Mayor Ken Weisse and the fourth award, The APRA President's Award being awarded to Corey Larriva. Bryan takes time to recognize Corey for all his hard work and dedication in assisting with planning the 2023 APRA Conference.

6. AQUATIC CENTER UPDATE

The Aquatics Supervisor Mark Foote updates the board on the progress of the Avondale Aquatics Center. Mark discusses and details the project description, budget, and projected completion time, being currently estimated for January 2024. A drone footage overlooking the construction site is shown to the board, while he narrates the progress and explains the specific areas of the Aquatics Center. Mark further discusses the upcoming construction plans. He shares a couple of projected event dates, one being planned for April Pools Day on 4/20/2024, and the other being the Grand Opening projected for 5/25/2023. Mark discusses the training that will take place in ensuring quality Lifeguard staff for the upcoming Aquatics Center needs. Mark overviews the potential programming, operational hours during the summer season and off season along with the planned open swim hours. He explains the potential surrounding partnerships that offer club aquatics teams and what that could look like for Avondale Aquatics Center. Mark further discusses the projected open public swimming hours for Summer being open at 12pm and the closing times would vary depending on the day. He also talks about the proposed fees that will not be resident restrictive and that cost being planned for \$3.00 per hour. He mentions the possibility of priority resident fees but still working on what that fee scale will look like. Mark discusses the plans for swimming lesson times, fees, along with adult lessons being provided. He shares the differences between offering recreational swim team opportunities in comparison to competitive swim team opportunities. Mark mentions that the off hours of the pool will be available for rent but no fees have been chosen yet. He further discusses the needs for the part time lifeguards and how staffing 20 lifeguards will be needed for the operating hours with the plan to have 70 total part time lifeguards hired.

Vice Chair Rodriguez asks if there will be a tube rental?

Mark answers with the fee being a facility fee, tubes will be included in that fee.

Vice Chair Rodriguez asks if the lifeguards will also be cashiering?

Mark replies with yes, the lifeguards will be scheduled for cashiering shifts.

Vice Chair Rodriguez asks if there will be bike racks and if there will be an easier pathway for those who are walking or using bike?

Bryan answers that making crosswalks safer on Avondale Blvd. is currently being reviewed. He further discusses the plan of creating a multi-use path that would connect to the neighborhoods and circle around the Avondale Aquatics Center.

Board Member Lopez asks if there will be a Veteran discount for admission fees?

Mark states, no plan for a Veteran discount but there are senior discounts. He says that is something that can be looked at in the future.

Board Member Arellano asks if there is any promotion or marketing for the Grand Opening?

Mark talks about the marketing that usually takes place with other City events and that will be the same process for the pool opening. He further details that there is no snack bar and discusses the designated areas that will be used for outside food vendors.

Board Member Lopez mentions that 5-7pm time slots are too early and suggests for later times such as 7-9pm in order to accommodate those who work later in the day.

Chair Lazo asks what are the trash receptacles and what does that look like?

Mark mentions that he will need to look further into the plans in order to dissect the details of those specific plans.

Chair Lazo asks about the classes for teens and the aquatics fitness programming being available for teens as well?

Mark answers explaining the adult classes typically beginning at 12 yrs. old and up. He further explains the programming will depend on what the demand is coming from the public and that cannot be dictated until the pool is open and classes are running.

Corey asks Mark for clarification about the JR. Lifeguard program. Mark discusses the Jr. Lifeguard program and how it benefits those not of age to work, typically aged 13-16yrs.old and how the program introduces work experience skills.

Vice Chair Rodriguez asks what the expected capacity?

Mark says no capacity number just yet and it is currently being worked on.

Board Member Cornejo asks what the age that a child needs to have a parent?

Mark states that decision has not yet been made.

Board Member Espino asks about the open swim pool time being strictly opened at 12?

Mark says the pool will be closed to all earlier in the day due to the planned programming being held.

Board Member Espino suggests providing opportunities for open swim earlier in the day when it gets hot.

Vice Chair Rodriguez asks if there will be a separate social media outlet for the Aquatics Center?

Mark replies, due to the pool being open year around, it will be challenging to navigate an entire separate social media and currently there are no plans for a separate social media outlet for the Avondale Aquatics Center.

7. PARKS AND PROJECTS UPDATE

Bryan discusses the parks projects that are currently being worked on. Bryan narrates the power point presentation beginning with the pictures of the progress of the Mountain View Community Center. Bryan mentions the opening is projected for October 30th. He continues his presentation with Dessie Lorenz Park and the updates that are currently taking place. Next, he mentions the Civic Center Park and informs the Board that project is awaiting an approval before can proceed. Corey discusses the information, plans and progress of the Sand Volleyball courts at the American Sports Complex. Bryan continues that Mountain View Park is currently in process with the projected completion date being in Spring 2024. He mentions Deconcini Park renovation is planned to begin Spring 2024. Bryan uses the power point to show the design concept for the new neighborhood park Donatela Park. He mentions this park is in need of further feedback from the community. Bryan shares some more pics of the Aquatics Center.

Vice Chair Rodriguez asks if the sand volleyball courts will be managed in the same manner as with American Sports Center?

Corey answers with the sand volleyball courts being treated as Parks and Recreation public facility rentals. Bryan mentions that it will primarily be used for programming and in the future can have allotted times for open play.

8. BOARD MEMBER AND STAFF COMMENTS

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and Staff may provide brief comments on current events and issues. This item is for information only. Items requiring discussion, deliberation or legal action must be placed on a future Advisory Board meeting agenda.

Chair Lazo asks for the updates on the trees that have been destroyed over the summer, due to the weather?

Bryan talks about the process that is currently taking place with replacing the trees and there will be an impact to the budget. He states there were 40 trees lost at Friendship. He ensures that project is continuously being worked on.

Board Member Cornejo asked if losing the trees was heat related?

Bryan talks about the heat and storm weather playing a factor in the loss of trees throughout the parks.

Board Member Lopez first recognizes the great job keeping up with the storm damage at Friendship Park and secondly asks, if when planning for trees, is the weather impact looked at?

Bryan answers that aspect is looked at however it is difficult to foresee when it comes to weather.

Chair Lazo asks about the bushes on Western Ave?

Vice Chair asks for an update on the plans for added pickleball courts at Friendship Park?

Bryan answers that a proposal has been given and there is currently movement to get that project started.

Board Member Beason mentions that Crystal Gardens has been completed and says, "it looks nice".

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Vice Chair Stephanie Rodriguez

2nd: Board Member Janet Beason

Approved 7-0

Meeting adjourned- 7:10pm

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"Personas con necesidades especiales de accesibilidad, incluyendo discapacidad visual o auditiva, letra grande, o interprete, deben de comunicarse con la Secretaria de la Ciudad al 623-333-1200 o TDD 623-333-0010 cuando menos dos días hábiles antes de la junta."