

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

3.13.24

Meeting Date

1.10.24

Date Minutes Were Approved


Lilly Lazo (Mar 14, 2024 15:37 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 (Mar 14, 2024 14:23 PDT)

Staff Liaison





City of Avondale

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Lilly Lazo, Chair

Stephanie Rodriguez, Vice Chair

Janet Beason, Board Member | LaChrisha Dourisseau, Board Member

Patti Nielson, Board Member | Cecilia Lopez, Board Member

Amy Soucinek, Board Member | VACANT, 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, January 10, 2024

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

6:04am

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

Present: Stephanie Rodriguez, Cecilia Lopez, Janet Beason, Amy Soucinek, Lilly Lazo, LaChrisha Dourisseau

Staff: Bryan Hughes, Corey Larriva, Stephanie Flood, Rachelle Nunez

Absent: Patti Nielson

2. UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES

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

3. INTRODUCTIONS

Board Member and Staff Liaison Introductions

The Parks and Recreation Board Members welcome 2 new members. Board Member Soucinek and Board Member Dourisseau introduce themselves to the Advisory Board. Board Member Dourisseau begins her introduction by briefly sharing her journey in life detailing her career and family. She further details her time as a resident in Avondale. Board Member Soucinek introduces herself and begins by sharing about her residency in Avondale. She continues with talking about her and her husband's career background in Education and further shares about her family. The Advisory Board Members and Staff go around the table and introduce themselves to the newest members.

4. BOARD TEAM BUILDING EXERCISE

"If you had to be stuck on a deserted island for an unknown amount of time, what is the one thing you would bring with you?"

A discussion enfolds among Staff and Board Members during the team building exercise.

Corey- Pickleball item

Luis- Spice rack for fish meals

Bryan- Sunscreen

Rachelle- Book

Board Member Rodriguez- UV water bottle or solar radio
Board Member Beason- Clothes
Board Member Lopez- Partner
Board Member Soucinek- Boat
Chair Lazo- Bug repellent
Board Member Dourisseau- Swiss knife

5. ELECTION OF BOARD CHAIR

The Board will take appropriate action.

A discussion enfolds among the Advisory Board Members.

Chair Lazo offers to retain title of Chair of Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Committee. The board then takes a vote.

Motion: Board Member Beason

2nd: Board Member Dourisseau

Approved 6-0

6. ELECTION OF BOARD VICE CHAIR

The Board will take appropriate action.

A discussion enfolds among the Advisory Board Members.

Vice Chair Rodriguez offers to retain title of Vice Chair of Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Committee. The board then takes a vote.

Motion: Board Member Beason

2nd: Board Member Dourisseau

Approved 6-0

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board will consider the approval of the December 13, 2023, meeting minutes.

Motion: Board Member Beason

2nd: Vice Chair Rodriguez

Approved 6-0

8. AVONDALE CARES UPDATE

Luis Matamoros introduces himself as the President of Avondale Cares non-profit organization and highlights the positive benefits that Avondale Cares brings to the community. He further discusses the needs that Avondale Cares can support within the community. Examples listed are human and social services, housing, youth development, health and recreation, economic development, education, literacy, and needs of vulnerable populations such as homeless, senior citizens, and neighborhood revitalization and improvements. Bryan Hughes shares some history of Avondale Cares and the connection the organization has with the libraries. Bryan states that he wanted the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to be aware of Avondale Cares to bring awareness to the need of Avondale Cares which is currently seeking new members. He mentions that the Library Arts and Culture Manager, Stephanie Flood, is going to be overseeing the Avondale Cares Board as a Liaison. Bryan briefly discusses the foreseen potential of fundraising opportunities that Avondale Cares can produce.

Board Member Beason asks, "What is expected as member of the board?"

Bryan states that the Avondale Cares Board is seeking a variety of expertise individuals that could overall benefit and provide growth to the board.

9. AVONDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY UPDATE

Stephanie begins the library update by summarizing the library stats and further highlights those stats on Power Point. She shares that in 2023, 183 teens provided over 500 hours of volunteer services. Stephanie recognizes the library staff for all their good work and dedication that has been done with program planning. Stephanie lists the upcoming library events:

- Steamfest
- Solar Eclipse Week
- Earth Week
- ESOL Classes
- Outdoor story time series

She explains that with the Libraries Division newly being a part of Parks & Recreation, the two areas are continuously collaborating to bring programming together. Corey then promotes the opportunities to get a library card and to spread the word because there are many resources offered within the libraries. Corey mentions the library card counts do impact the shared funding the library receives and that it is important for the community.

Board Member Beason discusses her personal participation and experiences among the Avondale Libraries.

Board Member Soucinek mentions her children are excited for the new Dragon program offered at the libraries.

Board Member Beason asks, "if there are seeds being offered at the libraries?"

Stephanie answers by saying the seeds are offered year around at both library branches.

Corey mentions the multiple divisions within the Department and states if the board would like more information from any other division to let him know.

Chair Lazo shares how she uses the library as an adult and specifies using HOOPLA for movies.

Stephanie further discusses how to fully benefit from having a Library Card.

Vice Chair Rodriguez asks, "Do Library Cards expire?"

Stephanie answers, "Yes, if the card is inactive, they do expire and to reactivate you go into the library and can get it activated."

Board Member Beason asks about the Volunteer services and opportunities offered?

Stephanie answers that with volunteer hours being a requirement for graduating highschoolers volunteer services are offered yearly.

10. PARKS AND PROJECTS UPDATE

Corey begins with sharing about the groundbreaking for the Volleyball Courts with 50 people in attendance. He states it is anticipated to be under construction for 5-6 months and to open in the summer and ready to host programs. Bryan further mentions the volleyball courts being at competition court quality. He adds that this complex is needed for the West Valley and oversees it being a busy facility.

Vice Chair Rodriguez asks if, "programming is being run by the Parks and Recreation Department?"

Bryan answers, "yes".

Bryan talks about the next item being the renovation set to take place at DeConcini Park. He shows the board pictures of the park concept and map on the power point. He discusses the renovation planned at that park and highlights that park being an older park with a need for a renovation. Bryan talks about the lacking ADA connectivity and focusing on accessibility will be important with the renovation. He states that this renovation will be a 6–9month project and is hoping to get started at the end of February.

11. BOARD MEMBER AND STAFF COMMENTS

The 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.

Bryan talks about the Master Plan update and says that the consultant will be in town on Feb 7th and would like to move the meeting to that date and cancel the Feb 14th meeting. He states the agenda will be sent out on January 31st.

Board Member Beason asks, “when is the grand opening of the Aquatics Center?”

Bryan answers with “April Pools Day” scheduled for 4/20/2024. He mentions that Council wanted the pool to be Avondale residents and guests only for the first 2 months.

Corey reminds the Board that the Mountain View Community Center (MVCC) is open and to stop by and see what is happening there.

A discussion then enfolds about the marketing that has been done to bring traffic over to the MVCC.

Corey states that all the pool jobs will be posted and live on January 15th with the hiring age beginning at 15 years old.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Board Member Beason

2nd: Vice Chair Rodriguez

6-0

7:06pm

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 Council Meeting.

“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.”