



City of Avondale

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 13, 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

VACANT, Board Member | Amy Soucinek, Alternate Member

Parks & Recreation Department

Bryan Hughes, Director

Corey Larriva, Assistant Director

Rachelle Nunez, Administrative Assistant

City Hall – Mesquite Conference Room

11465 West Civic Center Drive

Avondale, AZ 85323



Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Notice & Agenda Wednesday, March 13, 2024

MESQUITE 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

6:03 pm

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

Present: Lilly Lazo, Cecilia Lopez, Stephanie Rodriguez, Janet Beason, Bryan Hughes, Rachelle Nunez, Jason G.

Absent: Amy S., Patti Nielson, Corey Larriva

2. UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board will consider the approval of the January 10, 2023, and February 7, 2023, meeting minutes.

Motion- Board Member Beason

2nd- Board Member Rodriguez

Approved 4-0

4. BOARD TEAM BUILDING EXERCISE

“Playlist or Podcast?”- A discussion enfolds among the board members and staff.

Bryan- Playlist with preference of 40's music.

Board Member Beason- Podcast, listing favorites genre being murder and smart list.

Vice Chair Rodriguez- Depends on the mood, listing favorite podcast being “Hidden Brain” and favorite playlists are Taylor Swift and Falloutboy.

Chair Lazo- Podcast, listing the two favorites being “Unlocking Us” and “Elvis Durant Morning Show.”

Rachelle- Playlist with a variety of music taste.

Jason- Playlist listing favorites being oldies, R&B, and swing. And Podcast favorite is “Linkdin’ Learning”.

Board Member Lopez- Playlist with it depending on the day for the genre of music.

5. BOARD PARK OBSERVATIONS – CRYSTAL GARDENS PERIMETER TRAILS

Board Member Beason mentions that she has been living in the Crystal Gardens Community for 20+ years and takes time to positively recognize the work that has been completed. She further compliments the river rocks that enhanced the look near the water.

Vice Chair Rodriguez left the meeting at 7:01pm.

Bryan mentions that the Crystal Gardens project started before he was hired and states that Corey has taken on that project. He further explains the process in how that space is maintained. Bryan discusses that public works manages the water, parks manage the surroundings, and the HOA manages the irrigation.

6. AVONDALE PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN

Bryan begins by introducing Jason Genk; the Barry Dunn consultant who is the Project Manager of the Master Plan. Jason begins by briefly sharing his career background and provides an overview of the Berry Dunn organization. Jason discusses the importance and purpose of a Master Plan. He shares what will be addressed in building a Master Plan and highlights Berry Dunn's strong attribute which is the pride that Barry Dunn performs action in following through and community engagement. He then proceeds with discussing the different phases of the Master Plan and encourages the board to be on the lookout for future opportunities to provide a voice for the needs that can be overlooked in the community. He then presents the branding for the upcoming marketing campaign to gain more engagement. Jason talks about the different ways that will be involved in gaining Avondale residents involvement. He further describes some communication tools that will be utilized such as an online portal, in person pop ups with Barry Dunn team, and surveys with the initiative in reaching insight and information regarding the needs of the community.

Board Member Lopez asks, "how did you select those surveys distributed to the community?" Jason answers that they use a Survey firm called ETC. And that their process is comprehensive and looks at the locations and demographics to ensure all the community is representative.

Chair Lazo asks, "How do you provide the accessibility for all residents in Avondale in ensuring inclusion to participate in the survey?" Jason answers that they will start with the demographics and will continue until they reach a percentage of all demographics of Avondale.

Vice Chair Rodriguez asks, "How long have they been doing this service for Avondale?" Jason answers with it being the first time.

Board Member Beason asks if they will bring in additional team members for pop ups and what are the demographics for those individuals? Jason states that demographics change every pop up. He lists the demographics of the individuals who will be attending the pop up for the upcoming Eggstravaganza. One individual is of the Hispanic/Latino background and details his background. Then he lists the other individual being an African American gentlemen and Jason briefly details his background. He reassures the board that the team that goes to the in-person pop ups are diverse.

Jason continues with discussing the analysis that will be completed. He details and provides examples of each analysis that will be researched and evaluated. He then talks about phase 4 labeled visioning which is the gathering of all the information and the review that will determine if the findings were enough information or if more is needed. Jason briefly details the phases of planning the Master Plan and talks about the last phase 6 being labeled implementation. Jason ends with presenting the tentative schedule and the completion being expected for the end of the Summer tentatively the end of August. He opens to the board for questions.

A discussion enfolds between the board members and Jason. Jason recognizes the board for their input and ideas and welcomes them to always reach out if they have any other suggestions or questions.

7. PARKS AND PROJECTS UPDATE

Bryan begins by talking about the completed MUSCO LED Lighting project at Friendship Park, costing \$875,000. He further discusses that overall; the LED lights will be more cost and energy efficient.

Board Member Lopez asked if the lights were recycled.

Bryan answers, yes, and informs the board the light replacement also included an eco-friendly process. Bryan continues with talking about the Sand Volleyball court construction and refers to the power point pictures that document the construction process.

Board Member Beason ask for the opening date?

Bryan answers with the opening date being sometime in May.

He further shares that the Volleyball courts will be the well needed higher quality, professional grade courts in the West Valley. Bryan moves on talking about the Mountain View Park playground renovation and details the construction process via PowerPoint. He Continues with the Sam Garcia Sernas Plaza improvements and details the plans on the intentions to make the area safer for the children. Bryan then talks about the Aquatics center construction progress and notes that there will be upcoming interviews for lifeguards. He briefly mentions the DeConcini park construction has begun.

Board Member Beason asks for the opening of the Aquatic Center?

Bryan answers with the Grand Opening planned for Saturday, April 20th at noon and states that all the board members will be invited. Bryan states that more details will be available at the next meeting in April.

8. 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.

Board Member Lopez expresses concern about the heavy traffic in Avondale and she feels as if it is getting worse. She further expresses her concern for the future traffic of Avondale, especially now with the new building happening. Bryan mentions that he can't answer that specific question but mentions that when the street improvements are completed, he expects the traffic to be better.

Chair Lazo supports Board Member Lopez concern with the Avondale traffic. She mentions there is a need to create a better way of public transportation within the community. Chair Lazo asks if going to the Council meetings would be beneficial in expressing the traffic concerns and be provided some further information? Bryan answers that the Traffic and Engineering Department would be the best contact in finding further information regarding the Avondale traffic flow.

A discussion enfolds among the board members about the traffic impacts among Avondale.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Board Member Beason

2nd: Board Member Lopez

Approved 3-0

7:32pm

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."



Lilly Lazo (Oct 8, 2024 17:51 PDT)



Dominic DeCono (Oct 8, 2024 16:58 PDT)

10/08/2024