



City of Avondale

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 11, 2024

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Lilly Lazo, Chair

Stephanie Rodriguez, Vice Chair

Janet Beason, Board Member | LaChrisha Dourisseau, Board Member

Cecilia Lopez, Board Member | Patti Nielson, Board Member

Amy Soucinek, Board Member | Timothy Kroll, Alternate Member

Parks & Recreation Department

Corey Larriva, Director

Stacy Swainston, Assistant Director

Mark Foote, Aquatics Manager

Dominic DeCono, Senior Management Analyst

Brittany Garcia, Administrative Assistant

City Hall – Mesquite Conference Room

11465 West Civic Center Drive

Avondale, AZ 85323



Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Notice & Agenda Wednesday, September 11, 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

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

The meeting called to order at 6:06 pm

Present: Vice Chair Rodriguez, Boardmember Kroll, Boardmember Beason, Boardmember Lopez

Staff Present: Corey Larriva, Stacy Swainston, Dominic DeCono, Brittany Garcia, Kelsey Perry, Marysol Ortiz.

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 June 12, 2024, meeting minutes.

Motion: Boardmember Beason

2nd: Boardmember Lopez

Approved 4-0

4. STAFF AND DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Corey began with an update introducing new staff members Brittany Garcia and Marysol Ortiz. Corey then provided an update regarding the team's awards from the Arizona Parks and Recreation Association. One was for Outstanding Facility for the Avondale Aquatic Center and the other was the Partnership Award for the Tres Rios Partnership to help continue the Tres Rios Nature Festival at Estrella Mountain Regional Park.

Corey also provided an update regarding two new credentials earned by the department. Kelsey English and Paige Berriochoa both earned their Certified Parks and Recreation Professional certification over the summer. This will help enhance service and knowledge of the department for the community.

Boardmember Kroll asked if members of the advisory board could earn this, which Corey explained is possible.

Corey also announced that Stacy Swainston has been selected as the new Assistant Director of the Parks, Recreation & Libraries Department. He also announced that we will be back filling the position to hire a new Recreation Manager.

5. PUBLIC ART UPDATE

Dominic provided an update to the Parks Advisory Board on the Public Art Program.

6. AQUATICS UPDATE

Mark provided an update to the Parks Advisory Board on the Aquatics Program, specifically the performance of the program over the past summer. Mark also covered various events that took place at the facility in addition to statistics about the programs, revenue raised and total number of visitors.

7. RECREATION UPDATE

Stacy provided an update on the recreation side, specifically upcoming events in the fall. Stacy did a deep dive into the changes into Billy Moore Days, which included the location change and the date change from years past.

Boardmember Kroll made mention that back in Hawaii the departments of the city government dressed up trees in competition and maybe a similar idea could happen in Avondale. Stacy mentioned that the city does something similar for the city's Halloween event Creepin' Candy Crawl.

Vice Chair Rodriguez praised staff for adding more running-based events, which she stated will add value to the community. Boardmember Kroll asked if the Civic Center Park will have walking paths, which Corey made mention there will be two paths.

8. PARK AND PROJECTS UPDATE

Corey provided an update regarding various park projects going on in Avondale, which included the completion of the update to Mountain View Park. Corey also announced a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the grand reopening of the park in conjunction with Dino Discover Days at the Mountain View Community Center.

Corey also provided an update on the groundbreaking of the Civic Center Park, which is now under construction.

Boardmember Beason asked when the project will be completed, which Corey mentioned he believe it will be sometime in 2025.

9. 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.

Boardmember Beason made mention that she would love to see the icebreaker topic come back to the agenda for future meetings.

Corey also added that the next meeting will be a special meeting at the beginning of October to update the board on the department master plan update.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Boardmember Beason

2nd: Boardmember Lopez

Approve 4-0

Meeting Adjourned at 7:13pm

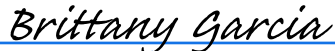
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Lilly Lazo
Lilly Lazo (Oct 8, 2024 17:50 PDT)

10/08/2024



Brittany Garcia
Brittany Garcia (Oct 8, 2024 17:38 PDT)

10/08/2024