



City of Avondale

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 2, 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

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, October 2, 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 6:14pm

Present: Janet Beason, Patti Nielson, LaChrisha Dourissaeu, Stephanie Rodriguez

Staff Present: Corey Larriva, Dominic DeCono, Brittany Garcia, Stacy Swainston, Stephanie Flood

Other: Lisa Paradis and James Clanton of Berry Dunn

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 September 11, 2024, meeting minutes.

Motion: Janet Beason Motions to Approve Minutes

2nd: Patti Nielson Seconds Motion

Approved 4-0

4. TEAM BUILDING

The Board and Staff will take turns sharing their favorite Parks, Recreation, and Libraries memory from any stage of their lives.

Janet Beason opens the floor by sharing her memory. Her favorite memory is the library. She loves to read and would walk to the library with her mother. She remembers how excited she was to move into the "Young Adult" section.

Pattie Nielson remembers taking her children to the library for storytime readings.

LaChrisha shares how impactful the library was to her in her childhood. She recalls reading so many books and winning pizza hut coupons.

Stephanie Rodriguez recalls playing soccer with her family at the parks. She loves how there are nets on the soccer goals, which is different from some city parks.

Dominic played a lot of rec sports growing up and loved the sensation of running around and playing.

Stephanie Flood's favorite memory of libraries is when she switched to being a public librarian because of the involvement with the community and how exciting the energy was compared to corporate libraries.

JR Clanton's favorite memory is feeling independent for the first time when he would get dropped off at the library.

Lisa Paradis spent a lot of her time during childhood at the library and recalls how fun and exciting it would be. Her favorite memory was going to the beach with her family and that led to her love of aquatics which then led to her path to parks and rec.

Corey Larriva's mother worked for Marana parks and rec and he recalls the summer camps he would attend as a child. He enjoyed meeting new people and going on the field trips.

5. VISIONING WITH BERRY DUNN

Lisa Paradis opens up the discussion by giving a project recap. They will be discussing the project planning, engagement analysis, and visioning goals. Some key components of the project is to create a framework that guides the future, considers all community members, and provides an action plan.

Lisa shows the group the environmental scan. The demographics for Avondale is changing drastically. Young and Older Adults will decrease, but the Older Adults will increase. The white population has decreased by 21.8% and those who identify as two or more races increased by 15.6%. Lisa discusses how staff believes there should be more information and training in regard to equity. Bilingual marketing, diverse instructors, and neighborhood specific programs are wanted as well. There is a wide array of inclusion that still needs to be addressed.

Avondale's components score 6% higher than the Berry Dunn national average for meeting expectations. Avondale also surpasses NRPA benchmarks for aquatic facilities (including HOA, splashpads, and aquatic center)

Avondale is below the acreage per resident median. We would need an additional 260 park acreage to reach median.

Avondale has a few components that are less than comparable cities, but offer 235 components over all. Janet questions how the social media survey compared to other efforts. Lisa and James answer that they believe the number of comments were extraordinary that they received and it was done in conjunction with a national survey as well. Corey speaks to how they did tabling events at New Penny Café and also did door to door.

In terms of facilities, 81% of respondents visited one of our facilities and 85% rated them "excellent" or "good". Some barriers were lack of desired features, lack of programs, and unawareness of facility locations. Overall satisfaction from the survey is 56%.

The group is shown the top investment priorities chart (facilities) – trails, indoor pools, and shaded areas are some of the high priorities for survey takers. Creative spaces take up most of the Medium Priority chart. Low priority was multipurpose fields and diamond fields. Dominic goes into the reason why this is very surprising to staff, because a majority of the phone calls we receive in office are for field rentals.

The top priorities (programs) that the survey discovered were adult fitness classes, community events, and more art based programs. The low priority programs surveyed were geocaching, golfing, and special needs/adaptive programming. Janet asks if the survey was only given to certain ages. Lisa answers that for the survey it has to include a certain number of different demographics.

The group is given sentence strips to write down what service or resource Parks/Rec/Libraries should focus on in "1-5" and "5-10" years. Stephanie shares that she would like to see more pickleball courts and tournaments. She would also like to see more craft options after 5pm. Janet would like to see an increase in bilingual resources being offered in the library. She would also like to see more libraries. Patti would like to see more adult classes, mainly for seniors. She believes it is important to remember that group needs engagement. LaChrisha wants us to focus on increasing staff and making sure the retention is there. She suggests programs with WestMec or Estrella or ASU West. She wants to see us engage more with the youth and get them involved for college credit. She also wants to increase community marketing via other medias (Instagram, tv, local stations).

Lisa closes out by saying that the draft/final plan should be done by December. The Master Plan will have an extensive list for the PRLD. It will showcase the building blocks for future plans for the department.

6. 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.


Patti Nielson questions how profitable the aquatic center was, and Corey goes into detail to how the aquatic center met its' year goal in the first month of operation. The Tolleson Unified School District is going to be partnering with the aquatic center for their swim teams practice and meets. LaChrisha Dourisseau asks if there is an update on the water calendar. Corey answers that the costs of the project has gone up and the calendar may come in a different format. The GoBond committee process will be starting soon. Corey will find out time commitments and requirements for the board members.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Janet Beason Motions To Adjourn Meeting
2nd: Patti Nielson Seconds
Approved 4-0 to Adjourn Meeting
Meeting Adjourned at 7:59pm

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 junt


Lilly Lazo (Nov 14, 2024 10:06 MST)

11/14/2024

Brittany Garcia

11/18/2024

Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes









10.2.2024

Final Audit Report

2024-11-18

Created:	2024-11-14
By:	Brittany Garcia (bmgarcia@avondaleaz.gov)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAjgyWZFP5qbc506ZTSFrHjcOZJEzITne

"Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes 10.2.2024" History

-  Document created by Brittany Garcia (bmgarcia@avondaleaz.gov)
2024-11-14 - 3:12:33 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to lilycindy2@gmail.com for signature
2024-11-14 - 3:12:37 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to Brittany Garcia (bmgarcia@avondaleaz.gov) for signature
2024-11-14 - 3:12:37 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by lilycindy2@gmail.com
2024-11-14 - 5:05:58 PM GMT
-  Signer lilycindy2@gmail.com entered name at signing as Lilly Lazo
2024-11-14 - 5:06:37 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Lilly Lazo (lilycindy2@gmail.com)
Signature Date: 2024-11-14 - 5:06:39 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Document e-signed by Brittany Garcia (bmgarcia@avondaleaz.gov)
Signature Date: 2024-11-18 - 5:14:40 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Agreement completed.
2024-11-18 - 5:14:40 PM GMT