

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2013

SUMMARIZED MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Denise Burley
John Fall
Charles Hammersley
Gregory Kleiner
Emily Outhwaite

STAFF PRESENT

Kathy Drummond
Shauna Fisher
Brian Grube
Michael O'Connor
Nicole Woodman

OTHERS PRESENT

Minder Bal
Lindsey Jadar

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Burley at 4:00 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Burley, Fall, Hammersley, Kleiner, and Outhwaite were present for roll call.

3. **APPROVAL OF MAY 15, 2013 MINUTES**

Motion made by Commissioner Hammersley to approve the May 15, 2013 minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Fall. Motion passed with unanimous approval (5) yea votes.

4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Two second year medical students who recently began work at the North Country Healthcare Clinic, Minder Bal and Lindsey Jader, were present to observe the meeting.

5. **PRESENTATION ITEMS**

A. **RECAP OF JULY PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH.** Shauna Fisher, Recreation Supervisor at the Aquaplex distributed a handout highlighting some of the July events which included:

- Mayor Nabours reading the Parks and Recreation Month Proclamation at the Concert in the Park on July 4
- The Touch a Truck event was held on July 13 at the Aquaplex with 652 participants and 18 vehicles show cased
- The Big Kahunas' performed at the Aquaplex on July 27
- The Home Run Derby had 22 participants in the first round, 10 in the second round, and 3 in the final round with all 3 receiving awards
- Baseball camps were sold out for the 13th year with 35 individuals participating in each camp

The Fireworks Display at Continental County Club, which was co-sponsored by the City of Flagstaff, had to begin early because of rain and lighting, many residents missed the show. In the future they will advertise the event to begin between 8:00 and 9:00 p.m. so people will get there earlier. The Concerts in the Park were very successful and well attended this year, with the number of people attending the concerts at Bushmaster Park growing each summer.

6. DISCUSSION/STANDING ITEMS

- A. SHORTAGE OF A WESTSIDE PARK. The Boulder Point Homeowner's Association operates a small park which has created safety and noise problems within the neighborhood. It is in a detention basin, the play equipment is too large for the property, and it is too close to occupied homes. Staff is working with the Housing Division who is in the process of amending City maps and has asked them to come to next month's meeting to make a presentation regarding potential parcels for a Westside park.
- B. BUSHMASTER PARK UPDATE. Staff has completed their final estimates and they are in the process of putting together a staff summary to present to the Public Works Director and both Deputy City Managers in September. It is anticipated that staff will receive a final recommendation from management sometime in October. Parks staff has been contacted by Native Americans for Community Action (NACA) who may be interested in a partnership by providing an outdoor fitness center. The roller derby group has also supplied more information and staff will continue to meet with both groups during the next few months.
- C. JAY LIVELY ACTIVITY CENTER UPDATE AND TIMELINE. At the end of June the compressors at the Ice Rink starting having issues and during repairs both compressors completely failed. The ice has been completely melted since early July. The repairs have recently been completed with capital funds, at a cost of \$80,000, and the Rink reopened on August 19. City staff is looking at implementing a preventative maintenance plan and looking at ways to fund two new compressors next fiscal year. Some of the user groups were upset about the shutdown, but the Facilities and Recreation staff have worked hard to get it up and going as soon as possible.
- D. PARKS AND RECREATION USER FEES. The new Parks and Recreation fees will be implemented on September 1. To date only one member of the Hockey community has complained about the fee increases. Increases include a 17% across the board with some exceptions. Staff hopes to have a formal user fee study in motion by next year.
- E. AQUAPLEX SOLAR PROJECT UPDATE. Nicole Woodman from the City's Sustainability Section updated the Commission on the Aquaplex Solar Project. Three solar canopies will host 924 solar panels and generate 433,047 kilowatt hours a year. This will offset 38% of the Aquaplex's electric needs. The new system will compliment the roof mounted solar system installed on the Aquaplex last summer. That 300 panel system generates 11% of the facilities' electrical needs. This makes the Aquaplex's electricity sources almost 50% from renewable resources. The Aquaplex system is one of three new solar systems being installed on City property.

The Aquaplex is the City of Flagstaff's highest energy user in electric, natural gas, and water. This project is part of a 2010 initiative to generate more renewable energy. The cost of the three projects is a little over a million dollars and the City is using Capital funds for a lease purchase. APS has offered the City huge rebates and no sales taxes will be paid. These projects are an opportunity for the City to stabilize their energy costs. Management of the three solar systems will be outsourced. An additional bonus is covered parking for participants. The project will be completed by the end of September.

7. REPORTS

- A. OPEN SPACES COMMISSION UPDATE. The Open Spaces Commission won't meet until August 22, so a report won't be available until the September meeting.
- B. MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS OF PARKS AND RECREATION. The Aquaplex will be celebrating their 5th Anniversary on Wednesday, August 28. Staff is expecting a crowd for the celebration which begins at 4:30 with the Big Kahunas' playing in the lobby and light refreshments served. The Ice Rink will be holding a reopening celebration on August 30. Free ice skating and other activities are planned for the event. The Children's Music and Arts Festival was held last weekend with an all time high attendance recorded.

All of the Parks Capital Projects for FY 14 have been completed, which included chip sealing most of the parking lots and paving the parking lot at Ponderosa Park. A contract with the Arizona State Department of Corrections (DOC) for inmate labor has been utilized with inmates working in the parks in the early morning hours. So far they have installed chain link fencing, planted rose bushes, striped the red curbs where parking is prohibited at Foxglenn, Continental, Bushmaster, and Thorpe Parks and general maintenance and cleaning. The contract has saved the City a large amount of money for labor costs.

8. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS TO AND FROM COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF. NAU has announced that they have broken ground on the new Aquatic Center. They will be putting an additional \$1.3 million into the old Wall Aquatic Center to keep it going until the new Center is completed. They have also been talking about building a new 6 court indoor/outdoor tennis facility where the current aquatic facility is located.

Commissioner Outhwaite recently submitted her resignation from the Parks and Recreation Commission, so that leaves three vacancies on the Commission. Staff will be taking those three vacancies to Council in late August and it is hopeful three new Commissioners will be appointed. The Governor will be in town for the Governor's Conference on October 4 and there will be a Town Hall Meeting at the Joe C. Montoya Community and Senior Center later that day.

9. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE SEPTEMBER 18, 2013 MEETING.

- Election of a Co-Chair for the remainder of 2013
- Bushmaster Park Update
- Parks and Recreation Fees and Charges Update
- Shortage of a Westside Park
- Public Works Core Services Yard Update

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.