

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2013

SUMMARIZED MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Denise Burley
John Fall
Charles Hammersley
Emily Outhwaite
Brian Young

STAFF PRESENT

Kathy Drummond
Shauna Fisher
Brian Grube
Louis Lucero
Michael O'Connor
Steve Zimmerman

OTHERS PRESENT

David Bereson

MEMBERS ABSENT

Gregory Kleiner

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Young at 4:06 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Commissioner Fall, Hammersley, Outhwaite, and Young were present for roll call. Commissioner Burley arrived at 4:08 p.m. Commissioner Kleiner was absent.

3. **APPROVAL OF APRIL 17, 2013 MINUTES**

Motion made by Commissioner Outhwaite to approve the April 17, 2013 minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hammersley. Motion passed with unanimous approval (4) yea votes.

4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None**

5. **ACTION ITEMS**

A. **RECREATION SERVICES FEE SCHEDULE.** Recreation Services Director Brian Grube distributed a revised fee schedule for Recreation Services, which was different than the one sent in the agenda packet. The City is looking at increasing Recreation revenues and the new schedule shows increases over the next three years. Recreation fees are typically reviewed each year, but haven't been increased since 2009. In July of 2012 the Council identified their goals and objectives for the next two years. Topmost among those were maintaining quality infrastructure and addressing employee compensation and in order to do that the City needs to generate more revenue.

The revenue stream was looked at and underfunded areas were identified and addressed. The last Fee Study completed by the City was in 2009. The proposed fee increases were completed by staff and fees were increased from 10% to 57%, depending on the service. The only group that got targeted at a higher rate was the Adult Programs. The fee increases previously identified for this year at Jay Lively Activity Center didn't get approved by Council, but the funds were allocated. A formal Fee Study will be done in the future and the Finance Manager will be steering that. The first reading in front of City Council is July 6, with the second reading on July 16.

ACTION ITEMS (Cont'd.)

Dave Bereson, 885 Weston Trail, representing both the Flagstaff Adult Hockey League and Youth Hockey League feels the City does a good job pricing services overall, but he has issues with the equitability between user groups. He feels that parents of children playing hockey pay a lot more for their children to participate than those parents whose children play soccer, baseball, or softball. Increases in adult fees may mean that there will be less players to pay the increase. He asked the Commission to make a recommendation to City Council to conduct a User Fee Study before recommending increasing fees.

Motion made by Commissioner Hammersley to approve the Recreation Services Fee Schedule as presented by staff. Motion seconded by Commissioner Fall. Four (4) yea votes (Commissioners Fall, Hammersley, Outhwaite, and Young. One (1) nay vote (Commissioner Burley).

- B. USE FOR UNUSED 1996 BOND FUNDS. At the April meeting the Commission requested to make a formal recommendation to the City Manager and Council as to where they would like to see the 1996 Bond Funds allocated. Commissioner Hammersley and the Parks Department held two public workshops and created a concept plan for Bushmaster Park. The final comments have been received and the final meeting will be held later this evening. There has been positive support from the community to make change to Bushmaster Park for safety reasons.

Motion made by Commissioner Hammersley to recommend to the City Manager that the funds from the 1996 Recreation Bond be used to improve Bushmaster Park. Motion seconded by Commissioner Burley. Five (5) yea votes (Commissioners Burley, Fall, Hammersley, Outhwaite, and Young).

6. DISCUSSION/STANDING ITEMS

- A. JACK'S LITTLE BROTHER (JLB) PROJECT. Staff recently met with the proposers and they will be submitting a revised proposal to the Commission at a later date which will fit within the City's established guidelines.
- B. 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. The Police Department has been involved on almost a daily basis and several law suits have been filed. Commissioner Outhwaite has stated that she wants to be proactive in trying to locate property where a Westside park could be appropriately placed. Staff will provide a map of City-owned parcels on the Westside at the June meeting in hopes of trying to offer options.
- C. NAU AQUATICS UPDATE. Recreation Services Director Grube stated that his involvement in the project is completed; the next phase is to go into construction.

7. REPORTS

- A. OPEN SPACES COMMISSION UPDATE. The Open Spaces Commission won't meet until next week so a report won't be available until the June meeting.
- B. MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS OF PARKS AND RECREATION. Louis Lucero, Recreation Program Coordinator, at Joe C. Montoya Community and Senior Center, shared that he has recently developed a program called "Senior Tours." He began walking to City Hall for City Business and participants asked to join him. After talking with several other individuals, they indicated they were interested in touring other facilities as well. A collaboration with Coconino County Health Services provides transportation. To date the group has toured City Hall, Main Library, Aquaplex, Ice Rink, YMCA, Francis Short Pond, and Flagstaff Recreation Center. While encouraging participants to be active, they are also getting the benefit of learning about their community and everything is accessible and free. The program has taken off and it is inspiring for staff to see these individuals participate and get out into the community.

May 29 is the National Senior Health and Fitness Fair. So far, 22 outside vendors have been secured and a partnership formed with Flagstaff Medical Center who will be providing the speakers. Baseball camps for ages 7 to 14 will be celebrating its 11th year in partnership with Peaks Baseball and Coconino High School. The program has been very successful and past participants are currently playing professional baseball.

Cheshire, Thorpe, Ponderosa, and Cogdill tennis courts will be resurfaced and many of the City's parking lots will be repaired this summer. The Soar into Spring Event was held last weekend, with overwhelming success. Programs are rolling into summer beginning June 2. Concerts in the Park begin the first week in June. July is Parks and Recreation Month and several special events have been planned and a proclamation will be read at the July 3 Concert in the Park. The Aquaplex had two 2 facility buyouts last month. The Security System is almost completely installed, a few more pieces have to fall into place and then it will be operational. A lifeguard class will be taught this weekend, one more participant is needed for a full class. There is still one vacancy for a Parks and Recreation Commissioner.

8. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS TO AND FROM COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF.

National Public Works Appreciation Week is next week. The Mayor will be signing a proclamation; the City will be showcasing different Public Works areas, and hosting a Public Works Equipment Show on Tuesday, May 21 from 3:00-6:00 p.m. in the Wheeler Park parking lot. In addition, Bike to Work Week is also next week, with the City hosting a parade on Sunday in the downtown area. Commissioner Burley and Commission Fall will be absent for the June meeting. Commissioner Hammersley will be absent for the July meeting.

9. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE JUNE 19, 2013 MEETING.

- Review of City-owned property for a Westside park.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.