

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2014

SUMMARIZED MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

James Baker
Denise Burley
Jessica Fitchett
Charles Hammersley
Thomas Ziegler

STAFF PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Zachary Nelson

MEMBERS ABSENT

Gregory Kleiner

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Fitchett at 4:04 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Baker, Burley, Fitchett, and Hammersley were present for roll call. Commissioner Ziegler arrived at 4:09 p.m. Commissioner Kleiner was absent.

3. APPROVAL OF MARCH 12, 2014 MINUTES

Motion made by Commissioner Hammersley to approve the March 12, 2014 minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baker. Motion passed with unanimous approval (4 yea votes).

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

5. PRESENTATION ITEM

A. REGIONAL PLAN. Community Development staff was not present to make a presentation.

6. ACTION ITEMS

A. PROPOSED RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA ESTABLISHING A DONATION AND MEMORIAL PROGRAM FOR THE CITY'S PARKS. Jack's Little Brother (JLB), a non-profit group approached the Parks and Recreation Commission in February 2013 asking that a garden be placed in Foxglenn Park to provide a memorial for families who have lost a baby due to miscarriage, stillbirth, or infant death. The City has a policy for naming or changing the name of City facilities, but it was felt that the scope of this kind of project didn't fall under that policy; and the Legal Department thought it was necessary to create a policy establishing a donation and memorial program for the City's parks. Staff is looking for approval of the policy from the Parks and Recreation Commission so they can forward the recommendation to Council for their approval. Motion made by Commissioner Hammersley to recommend to Council approval of the proposed Resolution, establishing a donation and memorial program for the City's parks. Motion seconded by Commissioner Baker. Motion passed with unanimous approval (5 yea votes).

ACTION ITEMS (Cont'd.)

- B. FY15 PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS. FY15's budget was submitted by both Parks and Recreation with the same bottom line number as FY14's. It was asked of staff that they include in the future trending information from one year to the next so the Commissioners have something to reference. In 2012 Parks programs funded by the general fund received a \$140K increase, and last year the BBB programs received a \$110K increase. In the last two years Parks has received an additional \$130K for capital projects. Last year 25% of the Recreation's training budget was reinstated. Both Parks and Recreation staff were asked to submit a priority list of projects that could be funded by BBB revenues. The list was included in the packet for review and estimated completion of projects is June 30, 2015.

Motion made by Commissioner Hammersley to approve the Parks and Recreation budgets as submitted. Motion seconded by Commissioner Burley. Motion passed with unanimous approval (5 yea votes).

- C. FY15 PARKS AND RECREATION FEES SCHEDULE. Last year City Council approved fee increases for Parks and Recreation programs with an additional 7% increase identified for FY15. The City is planning to complete a City-wide fees study in the near future, but at the present time there aren't any benchmarks to compare Flagstaff with other cities. The 7% increase will impact the adults more than youth as staff has tried to keep costs affordable for kids. It was noted that it would be helpful to the Commission if staff provided some kind of statistics as to how these increases would impact future fees.

Motion made by Commissioner Hammersley to approve the 7% fees increase for Parks and Recreation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Burley. Motion passed with unanimous approval (5 yea votes.)

7. DISCUSSION/STANDING ITEMS

- A. INTENDED PLANS FOR THE NORTH SAN FRANCISCO PARCEL AND THE SCHULTZ PARCEL FROM THE LAND INVENTORY. It is the City's intent to make the North San Francisco parcel owned by the City of Flagstaff as part of Buffalo Park through an ordinance sometime in the near future. Staff is still working out the details regarding the Schultz "Y" parcel, but it is anticipated that it would be designated as open space. Staff has received clear direction from the City Council and it is anticipated that both of these projects will be accomplished sometime this summer.

- B. STATUS OF THE 2004 BOND FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR LAND ACQUISITION AT CHRISTENSEN PARK. This item was put on the 2004 Bond and voted on by the public in May 2004 as question 307. The question was to provide for future City park needs for the acquisition of up to approximately 250 acres of lands located on Lake Mary Road for the proposed Regional Lake Mary Park, and lands located adjacent to Mount Elden Middle School and Christensen School for future neighborhood parks; and to pay all costs and expenses properly incidental thereto and to the issuance of bonds. The bonds would be in one or more series, wouldn't mature more than 25

DISCUSSION/STANDING ITEMS (Cont'd.)

years from the date or dates of their issuance, would bear interest at a rate or rates not to exceed 10% per annum, and would have such other provisions as approved by the City Council.

In meeting with the Finance Department it was identified that a bond capacity issue could arise if these bonds were to be issued in the same time frame as the Core Services Facility Yard. The Forest Service has contacted the City in the past regarding some of these lands and Mike O'Connor will confirm the bond capacity and contact the Real Estate Manager with that information to see how to move forward with acquiring property for the Christensen Park.

- C. SOLIERE PARK PROPOSAL. Staff didn't have anything new to report.
- D. BUSHMASTER PARK UPDATE. There is a possibility that funding for the Phase 2 part of the project could get approved during the budget process so the project could be potentially done as a whole project. Staff will continue to work on developing a scope of work and working with the neighborhood groups and associations. They are looking at putting out a "call to artists" to paint a mural on the restroom building that would complement the drawings already there. It was noted that the park hasn't been "tagged" since the murals were completed.
- E. PUBLIC WORKS CORE SERVICES YARD UPDATE. The services of a local engineering firm have been retained and they are looking at the City owned property at McAllister Ranch and another unidentified site on the east side trying to identify infrastructure costs at both locations. Staff is hoping that the estimates will be in by April 28th and they can go to City Council with a proposal on May 20th.

8. REPORTS

- A. OPEN SPACES COMMISSION UPDATE. Ideas on how to preserve open space without buying it will be explored in the future as well as developing a master plan for open space. The Commission is trying to figure out what to incorporate into the plan and how to organize the information. Staff will be writing the plan and presenting it to both Commissions.
- B. MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS OF PARKS AND RECREATION. Stage 1 fire restrictions will begin implementation on Friday, April 18. Permits will not be issued for open burning within the City of Flagstaff. Use of charcoal barbeque grills is prohibited at Thorpe Park, McMillan Mesa Park, McPherson Park and Buffalo Park. No smoking will be allowed at Thorpe Park, McMillan Mesa Park, McPherson Park, Buffalo Park, Disc Golf Courses or Flagstaff Urban Trail System (FUTS). Open fire pits and open flame devices (like chimineas) will be prohibited (even those with a spark arrestor screen). Gas grills and portable gas stoves that have an on/off switch are still allowed in City parks and private campgrounds. May 10 is the Soar into Spring Festival at Foxglenn Park. The first children's Health Fair will be held at the Aquaplex, in partnership

REPORTS (Cont'd.)

with North Country Healthcare, on May 17, with free admission for all kids. This will also kick-off National Water Safety Month and the Mayor will be reading a proclamation announcing it during the Health Fair. Jay Lively will be closed May 1-9 for routine maintenance.

9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS TO AND FROM COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF. May 19-23 is National Public Works Week, and Recreation will be involved this year. Fun activities, ice skating, and an employee appreciation lunch will be served along with a proclamation read by the Mayor. County Parks and Recreation is looking for citizens to vote for them, hoping to win the Bell Built Program. They are hoping to split \$100,000 prize money with two other groups, for a bike project to be built in 2014 by IMBA Trail Solution. The grant money would help fund the construction of the beginner and intermediate trails at the proposed bike park project.

Fort Tuthill Bike Park would be a fully-featured mountain bike skills park at the County Park. The proposed skills park would contain a wide array of progressive features to appeal to all levels of bike riders. The park will be free, open to the public, and available for competitive events and skills clinics, utilizing the IMBA Bell Built Grant to implement the intermediate, and potentially beginner and flow trail features

10. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE MAY 21, 2014 MEETING

- Christensen Bond Funds Update
- Soliere Park Proposal Update
- Bushmaster Park Update
- Public Works Core Services Yard Update

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:46 p.m.