

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2014

SUMMARIZED MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

James Baker
Denise Burley
Charles Hammersley
Adam Kaupisch
Gregory Kleiner
Thomas Ziegler

STAFF PRESENT

Shauna Fisher
Brian Grube
Cathy Guetschow
Mike O'Connor
Steve Zimmerman

OTHERS PRESENT

26 members of the community supporting the renaming of the Outer Trail at Buffalo Park to the Nate Avery Trail (see file for names and addresses)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jessica Fitchett

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Kleiner at 4:05 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Baker, Burley, Hammersley, Kaupisch, Kleiner, and Ziegler were present for roll call. Commissioner Fitchett was absent.

3. **APPROVAL OF JULY 16, 2014 MINUTES**

Motion made by Commissioner Baker to approve the July 16, 2014 minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hammersley. Motion passed with unanimous approval (6 yeas votes).

4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** - None

5. **ACTION ITEMS**

- A. **NAMING THE OUTER TRAIL OF BUFFALO PARK THE NATE AVERY TRAIL.** Annette Avery spoke on behalf of the Avery family, along with other members of the community as to why they would like to rename the outer trail at Buffalo Park to the Nate Avery Trail. Nate Avery was a Pediatric Neurosurgeon who lived in Flagstaff and loved his patients and the community. He was an avid outdoorsman who liked to run the trails at Buffalo Park surrounded by the mountains and the city that he loved. They all feel that Buffalo Park is a place of peace and beauty that would be a fitting tribute to a man who dedicated his career to the betterment of mankind. Buffalo Park is now a pilgrimage for the Avery family and friends as they run, jog, and walk while remembering Doctor Avery and his contributions to the Flagstaff community.

Motion made by Commissioner Baker to name the outer trail at Buffalo Park to the Nate Avery Trail. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hammersley. Motion passed with unanimous approval (6 yeas votes).

6. DISCUSSION/STANDING ITEMS

- A. CHRISTENSEN PARK BOND FUNDS UPDATE. During the previous month's meeting the question was asked if the City was able to reallocate the 2004 Bond funds for park acquisition to future park sites other than Lake Mary Road, property adjacent to Mount Elden Middle School, and Christensen Elementary School. The City's Finance Director was unavailable to answer this question so Public Works staff will provide more information during next month's meeting. It was suggested that this item be removed from future agendas until the City is ready to explore potential bonding opportunities.
- B. SOLIERE PARK PROPOSAL UPDATE. Staff didn't have anything new to update.
- C. BUSHMASTER PARK UPDATE. Staff is hoping to have the bid out in January 2015, with an anticipated start date of April 1, 2015. The project will last 150 to 160 days and it isn't anticipated that the park will be closed during construction
- D. PUBLIC WORKS CORE SERVICES YARD UPDATE. Council has decided to move forward with the McAllister Ranch property for the Public Works Core Services Yard. A decision was made to move forward with the rezoning and annexation of the McAllister Ranch property before construction begins, which could take 8-12 months to complete. Twenty two (22) acres of the property has been identified for a potential west side park.
- E. CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATE. The Parks and Recreation Capital Projects list that was approved by City Council was distributed to the Commissioners for their review. Items on the list have been identified with start and end dates for the first, second, third, and fourth quarters of this fiscal year. It is anticipated that the Flagstaff Recreation Center tennis courts will be replaced by June 30, 2015 with the possibility of having them enclosed, as well as additional courts added. It was noted that the United States Tennis Association (USTA) requires five or more courts to host a tennis tournament. It was suggested that staff look into grants from the USTA to fund the addition of more courts.

7. REPORTS

- A. OPEN SPACES COMMISSION UPDATE. There was no quorum for last month's meeting.
- B. MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS OF PARKS AND RECREATION. The Seventh Annual Flagstaff Children's Music and Arts Festival will be held on Saturday, August 23 from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at Bushmaster Park. The Aquaplex's 6th Year Anniversary will be held on Wednesday, August 27. There will be drawings for discounts when patrons purchase annual pass memberships. A pool closure has been scheduled for October 1-31, to provide safety improvements and renovations in the pool area that will reduce plaster corrosion and staining of the pool tiles. Member retention is up at the Aquaplex and there are currently 700 active members. The fiscal year ended with the Aquaplex at a 64% cost recovery due to unfunded projects that were not anticipated.

8. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS TO AND FROM COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF. City staff has been working with the NAU Athletics Department to help bridge the gap between them and the community. The Concert in the Park series was extraordinary this year with there being only one exception. It was suggested that staff might want to look into using High School Bands for one of the concerts.

Public Works staff talked to John Saltonstall, the City's Business Retention and Expansion Manager. His job is to attract businesses to relocate and expand in Flagstaff, as well as to speak with businesses that are in financial trouble and are considering closing. Mr. Saltonstall has reached out to both Continental Country Club and Wyndham Resorts to discuss their current challenges and to see how the City can help them and their operations remain successful. It was suggested that Continental Country Club contact Vintage Partners, the developers for the project on Soliere Ave and County Club Drive, to discuss the possibility of a partnership. It was reported that City staff would be contacting other municipalities, as well as Brad Hill, the City's Utilities Director, to learn if there are any partnership or discounted water rate opportunities available to both private and public golf courses.

9. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE SEPTEMBER 17, 2014 MEETING

- Bushmaster Park Update
- Public Works Core Services Yard Update
- Capital Project Update

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

These minutes are a draft and haven't been approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission. Their next meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2014 where they will be on the agenda for approval.