

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2016

SUMMARIZED MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jennifer Grogan
Charles Hammersley
Adam Kaupisch
Michael Troche
Jim Stratton

STAFF PRESENT

Andy Bertelsen
Kathy Drummond
Michael O'Connor
Rebecca Sayers
Steve Zimmerman

OTHERS PRESENT

Christina Caldwell
Sharon Edger
Veronica Hipolito
Charlie Silver
Jerry Thull
Duane Weston

MEMBERS ABSENT

Brian Bloom
Thomas Ziegler

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kaupisch at 4:02 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Grogan, Hammersley, Troche, Chair Kaupisch, and Vice Chair Stratton were present for roll call. Commissioner's Bloom and Ziegler were absent.

3. APPROVAL OF August 17, 2016 MINUTES

Motion made by Commissioner Grogan to approve the August 17, 2016 minutes as written. Motion seconded by Vice-Chair Stratton. Motion passed with 5 yeas votes.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Veronica Hipolito, Dean of Student Development and Community Engagement at Coconino Community College, made a presentation and distributed a handout regarding Proposition 410: CCC Property Tax Budget Override, which will be on the upcoming November 2016 ballot.

Charlie Silver read aloud a letter from Rose Houk on behalf of the members of the *Friends of Thorpe Park* regarding the Mogollon property, which sits on 7.4 acres within the Thorpe Park boundaries. Her letter requested that City staff keep the community and the *Friends of Thorpe Park* informed and involved during the public input process.

5. DISCUSSION/STANDING ITEMS

A. Buffalo Park Update. During last month's meeting a citizen reported that he had noticed horseback riders using the Buffalo Park FUTS trail and they weren't cleaning up after their horses. City ordinance prohibits horses on park property and the FUTS trails. Staff walked the property and identified portions of the fence in disrepair and were unsuccessful in contacting the adjoining property owner(s). The fence was repaired and signs were posted stating that horses are not allowed. A week later staff noticed the fence was down again, as well as the posted signs. Staff is investigating other options for fencing, and the fence is scheduled to be repaired again on Friday, September 22. The Flagstaff Police Department has been informed of the issue and will be setting up game cameras to help identify the individual(s) responsible for removing the fencing and signs.

REPORTS (Cont'd.)

- B. Thorpe Park (Current Public Works Yard). Staff distributed copies of an aerial view of the Mogollon property. Council has decided not to sell the property to fund the new Core Service Facility. Staff updated the Commission on the current condition of the facility and answered questions. The three metal buildings on the property are planned to be removed, while leaving the malapais rock building which is a two level building with upper and lower level bays, and approximately 10,000-15,000 square feet. The building is not historical but it could be an interesting asset for whatever the area is developed into in the future. Environmental analysis has been completed and much of the required environmental remediation has been completed. Any additional remediation needed at the site will be completed once it is vacated.

The next step in the process is to begin the public outreach process to determine the needs of the community and how they could be integrated with the neighborhood's needs. There may be an opportunity for a future Parks and Recreation bond in a few years to serve the recreation needs of the community with this property. The City has a 20% limitation for general obligation bonds for water, sewer, lighting, open space, recreation and public safety facilities, and a 6% limitation on all others.

Staff is working with a consultant to create the design and construction plans for the new Core Services Maintenance facility. The original timeline was a 12-month construction process which is likely too optimistic for the \$21 million project (\$14 million bond approved). Staff still hopes to have the new facility ready for move-in by the end of 2017.

It was suggested that staff take Commissioners on a tour of the Mogollon site in the future. Jerry Thull, a representative from Flagstaff Soccer Club, has expressed interest in being involved in the public meetings. It was also mentioned that there is a group in Flagstaff that could be interested in seeing a children's museum on the site.

- C. Unfunded Capital List and Priorities Discussion. The unfunded capital list was reviewed. This list, along with the Master Plan, will be documents used to assist in determining the future use/development of the Mogollon property.

6. REPORTS

- A. Monthly Highlights of Parks. The monthly report was included in the agenda packet and stands as presented. The Police Department arrested the individual who was involved in the graffiti at Foxglenn Park and it was determined that the suspect is linked to other acts of graffiti in other areas of town. The outdoor fitness area at Bushmaster Park is scheduled to be completed in early October.
- B. Monthly Highlights of Recreation. The monthly report was included in the agenda packet and stands as presented. Staff is busy planning for the Halloween Harvest, which will be downtown at Heritage Square on October 31, and the Winter Wonderland event, which will happen in early December. The ice issues at Jay Lively Ice Arena that were brought up during last month's meeting have been resolved; the ice edger was in the shop for a couple of weeks and there wasn't a back-up. Siler Homes Activity Center (SHAC) is successful with 150 kids a week participating in arts and crafts and getting help with their homework. Telephones and computers are in the process of being installed. Opening the facility was a good, positive benefit for the community.

REPORTS (Cont'd.)

- C. Open Spaces Commission. The monthly report was included in the agenda packet and stands as presented.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS TO AND FROM COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF.

A commissioner requested an update on downtown parking meters as they may effect special events downtown.

The Public Works Director has decided to merge Parks and Recreation under the same section. It won't be a major change for the organization, but the Streets Section Head has a lot of projects where he needs to focus his attention. Rebecca Sayers has been acting as the Interim Recreation Section Head and is doing such a good job that she will be responsible for both Parks and Recreation. The greatest benefit is for the community as Parks and Recreation are both customer service focused and this change will reinforce that effort. Rebecca will also be the Commission liaison from this point forward.

Commissioners asked for an update on the Soliere private development project.

A Commissioner informed staff that students traveling back and forth to DeMiguel School are urinating in the ditch in University Heights Park. As the park is designed for the immediate neighborhood, where they can use their own residences for bathroom breaks, there are no plans to put a portable or permanent facility there. Staff will contact the school principal to apprise them of the situation.

Michael Troche was introduced as one of two new Commissioners recently appointed by Council. He is the General Manager of Motel 6 and came to Flagstaff for the first time in 2002. His goals are to be an advocate for the community. The other new Commissioner, Brian Bloom, wasn't available to attend the September meeting, but will be present for the October meeting.

City and NAIPTA staff will be invited to the October meeting to present information on the city's two bond/tax initiatives that will be on the November ballot.

8. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE OCTOBER 19, 2016 MEETING.

- Parks and Recreation fees and charges (delayed to November)
- City Court and Transit Tax initiatives information
- Tennis court update
- Snow play update
- Downtown parking meters
- Soliere Project Update

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.