

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2019

**SUMMARIZED MINUTES**

**Members Present**

Brian Bloom  
Steven Flanagan  
Jennifer Grogan  
Ryan Martin  
Jim Stratton

**Staff Present**

Amy Hagin  
Rebecca Sayers  
Jonathan Wilson  
Lalena Guider  
Emry Pensinger

**Others Present**

\*See Attached

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Bloom called the meeting of October 21, 2019, to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Commission Chair Bloom, Commissioners Flanagan, Grogan, Martin, and Co-Chair Stratton were present for roll call.

3. **APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2019 MINUTES**

A motion was made by Commissioner Grogan to approve the September 16, 2019 minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Martin. Motion passed unanimously with five (5) yea votes.

4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Jennifer Kottra requested that Pickleball be added to the November agenda. The Flagstaff Pickleball Association would like to discuss needs and to find a site that can accommodate a Pickleball complex. The Flagstaff Pickleball Association is willing to fundraise in order to assist with the cost and development of a complex.

5. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. **Pollinator program** – (The Commission moved Agenda Item 5D to 5A.) Parks Supervisor, Emry Pensinger, presented a summary of the Pollinator project conducted at the Citizens Cemetery. The pilot program was created due to a decline in pollinator populations worldwide, including bees and butterflies. At the end of the study, plots that were irrigated were more successful than those only receiving natural water due to a limited monsoon season. Hydroseed might be more successful. The City of Flagstaff was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for the program and the test plot created near the Cemetery offices specifically to attract monarch butterflies.
- B. **Introductions** Burt Crockett has resigned from the commission, Brian Bloom has been renewed, and Mark Cox is a new appointment. Jon Wilson, the New Recreation Manager, introduced himself to the Commission.
- C. **Options for park development for Continental and Cheshire Park properties** (The Commission moved Agenda Item 5A to 5D)

**Continental Park Properties**

Parks and Recreation staff recently met with stormwater staff to review the 500-year flood zone and discuss what can be built in such an area. The land for Continental Park expansion is within this flood zone and development is restricted. Turf and multi-use fields can be placed in these kinds of areas. While current fields and structures are grandfathered in, any new building would have to be in compliance with stormwater requirements which restricts any kind of occupied structures. Ramadas and parking lots and fields would be allowed in these areas, but restrooms, concession stands, and other occupiable structures would not.

#### Cheshire Park Properties

Staff reported that there are eight acres available for development which are not restricted by flood zone or washes. There is an existing urban trail that goes through the property that would be best to relocate to the edges of the property. Access would need to come from Highway 180, which is managed by the state Department of Transportation and their requirements for development would need to be considered. Depending on how the land is developed, a parking lot would need to be included.

#### D. Christensen Property

Parks received the cultural resource study that the Commission previously requested for the ten acres available for park development near the old Christensen school. The study found no cultural structures or artifacts on the parcel. Access continues to be a concern and likely needs to come across Forest Service land to the east. This would require an easement or purchase from the Forest Service. A ballot measure passed in 2004 included \$2.8 million to acquire land to expand on the City's property or provide access. The Commission requested that staff develop ideas for the development of all these park properties and provide the Commission with recommendations based on what is allowed at each location and the needs of Parks and Recreation.

#### 6. REPORTS

- A. Monthly Highlights of Parks – No questions or discussion
- B. Monthly Highlights of Recreation – No questions or discussion
- C. Monthly Highlights of Open Space – No questions or discussion

#### 7. INFORMATION ITEMS TO AND FROM COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF

Sayers invited the Commission to the Halloween Harvest Event on October 31 from 4:00 to 7:00 PM at Heritage Square.

#### 8. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER 18, 2019 MEETING

- Rio De Flag – Speaker Marie Jones
- Pickleball
- Westside park update
- \$2.8 Million Ballot Initiative details

#### 9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4.53 p.m.

## Attachment

### Others Present

Irv Callahman - submitted a written comment card in support of adding Pickleball to the November agenda.

Kate Carlin

Jim Dryer - submitted a written comment card in support of adding Pickleball to the November agenda.

Jacqueline Fields - submitted a written comment card in support of adding Pickleball to the November agenda.

May Lou Gushatra – Stone - submitted a written comment card in support of adding Pickleball to the November agenda.

John Hook - submitted a written comment card in support of adding Pickleball to the November agenda.

Jennifer Kottra - submitted a written comment card in support of adding Pickleball to the November agenda.

Randy Marlatt submitted a written comment card in support of adding Pickleball to the November agenda.

Rachael Mews - submitted a written comment card in support of adding Pickleball to the November agenda.

Megan Morehouse - submitted a written comment card in support of adding Pickleball to the November agenda.

Remi Morehouse

Val Paleski - submitted a written comment card in support of adding Pickleball to the November agenda.

Sandra Smith - submitted a written comment card in support of adding Pickleball to the November agenda.

Christa Terhufen - submitted a written comment card in support of adding Pickleball to the November agenda.

Wendy Tooker submitted a written comment card in support of adding Pickleball to the November agenda.