

TUCSON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Tucson Parks & Recreation Commission that the Tucson Parks & Recreation Commission will hold the following meeting, which will be open to the public.

Wednesday, May 24, 2023- 3:30 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting

**In-person at the Tucson Parks & Recreation Administration Office, Mesquite Conference Room
and Teams Virtual**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 264 139 340 104

Passcode: f6nX2j

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Or call in (audio only) [+1 213-293-2303](tel:+12132932303) United States, Los Angeles Phone Conference ID: 672 700 458#

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair, Beki Quintero at 3:32 p.m. Those present and absent were:

Present:

Commissioner Azul Navarrete-Valera, Ward 1 Representative

Commissioner Manon Getsi, Ward 2 Representative

Commissioner Robin McArdle, Ward 3 Representative

Vice Chair, Beki Quintero, Ward 5 Representative

Absent:

Chair, Steve Poe, Ward 6 Representative

Staff Present:

Lara Hamwey, Tucson Parks & Recreation

Greg Jackson, Tucson Parks & Recreation

Mike Hayes, Tucson Parks & Recreation

Sierra Boyer, Tucson Parks & Recreation

Dawnee Moreno, Tucson Parks & Recreation

Diana Schroeder, Tucson Parks & Recreation

Other:

Jennifer Shopland, Friends of Rio Vista

Ron Sparks, Chairperson, Parks & Connections Bond Oversight Commission

Bill Dupont, Colonia Solana

2. Approval of Minutes: April 26, 2023 (Action Item)

Motion was made by Commissioner, Getsi duly seconded by Commissioner McArdle to accept the April 26, 2023, minutes. Motion was carried by 3-0. (Chair, Steve Poe was absent. There is no representation for Mayor and Ward 4)

3. Call to the Audience

Ron Spark, member of the 2018 Parks + Connections Bond Oversight Committee shared information regarding the Santa Cruz River loop and installation of directional signs.

Constituent, Jonathan Paul Salvatierra asked to hold his comments until after the meeting and

provided an explanation for the request. Director, Lara Hamwey explained the protocol for Call to the Audience.

Bill Dupont with Colonia Solona neighborhood shared various concerns with the Reid Park Master Plan. The concerns are regarding open space and destruction of trees for installation of car parking.

No action was taken.

4. Strategic Plan

Deputy Director, Greg Jackson spoke on the item and provided a PowerPoint presentation with information. The department is updating its Strategic Plan, and the planning processes were provided in detail. The planning process involves team efforts and staff of all levels.

Commissioner McArdle commended staff for their involvement and efforts with the initiative.

No action was taken.

5. Reid Park Master Plan Survey (survey results provided in meeting packet)

Deputy Director, Greg Jackson provided a PowerPoint presentation with information on the Survey Three Results for the Reid Park Master Plan. Mr. Jackson explained the various categories and levels of responses. In addition, Mr. Jackson shared the various community engagement activities for the surveys which served as informative and an invitation for decision participation.

There were comments and discussion.

No action was taken.

6. Reports / Announcements

a. Parks and Recreation Commissioners

Vice Chair, Beki Quintero shared information regarding a kid's camp that will take place in the Peace Garden at the Manny Herrera Jr. Park. The camp runs from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays beginning June 7 through July 12. The camp includes parent and child engagement activities. Additionally, there is a project for a storybook walk on the park pathway behind the peace garden. It is hoped that the path will be ready by June 7.

No action was taken.

b. Staff (distributed in meeting packet)

Deputy Director, Mike Hayes reported information on the opening of swimming pools. The department will open 20 pools across the city. There were over 260 aquatic staff hired. Facility improvement projects were completed at various pools in preparation for opening and use. Mr. Hayes provided a brief update on field maintenance projects as well. The department is using a new product called Tiff Tuff which is a hearty Bermudagrass, and it maintains turf quality under drought stress. In addition, the Tiff Tuff does not go dormant like other warm season lawns. It was also mentioned that the department is implementing the B-shift. The B-shift staff will work Tuesday through Saturday from 2:00 p.m. through 10:00 p.m. and will be in active parks with different events taking place. Mr. Hayes ended by saying that staff sit on a city safety team. The safety team offers a "safety tailgate" training every other Wednesday with different safety topics covered. De-escalation trainings are taking place as well.

that bids for projects are coming higher than hoped, and staff are working through those challenges. Deputy Director, Greg Jackson spoke on the Capital Reports that were provided in the meeting packet and provided updates on various projects. The projects at the CSM Martin "Gunny" Barreras Memorial Park are in its final stages. A grand reopening of the park will be held on June 3, 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Jackson briefly spoke about the Santa Rita Park Master Plan and said that an area at 3rd Avenue from 22nd Street to 21st Street will be closed to incorporate the space into the park. This will allow for a more seamless connection from the area to the park.

No action was taken.

c. Director

Ms. Lara Hamwey shared information regarding a celebration for the opening of Freedom Pool and its new water slide at the Ward 4 Freedom Park Splash Bash on Friday, May 26 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The pool received other improvements such as a new deck and shell surface, filters, and bathhouse.

No action was taken.

7. Commission Future Agenda Items and Next Meeting Date

a. Future Agenda Items:

Elder Programs- Type and Outreach. Commissioner McArdle requested item.

Summer Break- Director, Hamwey suggested to add as an item.

No action was taken.

b. Next Meeting Date:

Wednesday, June 28, 2023, 3:30 p.m.

No action was taken.

c. Location:

Hybrid Format- In-person at the Tucson Parks & Recreation Administration Office, Mesquite Conference Room, 900 S. Randolph Way and Microsoft Teams Virtual

No action was taken.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

Commissioner Getsi made a motion to adjourn the meeting. All committee members were in favor of the motion. The motion was carried by 3-0. (Chair, Steve Poe was absent. There is no representation for Mayor and Ward 4)