

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, August 30, 2023- 3:33 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting

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

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

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

Present:

Chair, Steve Poe, Ward 6 Representative

Vice Chair, Beki Quintero, Ward 5 Representative

Commissioner Azul Navarrete-Valera, Ward 1 Representative

Commissioner Manon Getsi, Ward 2 Representative

Commissioner Robin McArdle, Ward 3 Representative

Staff Present:

Lara Hamwey, Tucson Parks & Recreation

Dawnee Moreno, Tucson Parks & Recreation

Mike Hayes, Tucson Parks & Recreation

John Bonillas, Tucson Parks & Recreation

Sierra Boyer, Tucson Parks & Recreation

Diana Schroeder, Tucson Parks & Recreation

Other:

Ronald P. Sparks, 2018 Parks + Connections Bond Oversight Commission (PCBOC)

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

Motion was made by Commissioner, Manon Getsi duly seconded by Commissioner, Robin McArdle to accept the July 26, 2023, minutes. All committee members were in favor of the motion. Motion was carried by 5-0. (There is no representation for Mayor and Ward 4)

3. Call to the Audience

Mr. Ronald Sparks spoke to the commission regarding the Alamo Wash and requested information on management of the space and plans for the wash. Mr. Sparks also asked for information on potential acquisitions.

No action was taken.

4. Tucson Parks & Recreation Commission Awards

Director, Lara Hamwey spoke on the item, and the purpose of the agenda item is to confirm with the committee that the program will launch on September 1st with a two-week deadline for recommendations. The on-line nomination form was shared previously with the board as well as during the meeting.

Commissioner Manon Getsi requested to extend the allotted characters for the field describing "why does this person(s)/partner deserve this award". Public Information Officer, Sierra Boyer explained that the form does limit the number of characters to 1,000 and it cannot be extended. Ms. Boyer suggested adding

an option to upload a file such as Word and PDF documents. Ms. Getsi agreed with the recommendation. There was discussion on the 2-week deadline and limiting the number of winners to keep manageable and meaningful. It was consensus of the board to use September 15 as the deadline for submittals and to limit the number 3 per category.

No action was taken.

5. Discussion on Proposed of Zoo Asset

Director Hamwey explained that on August 2nd, the department launched a 45-day process for the proposed naming of six different zoo assets. The letter came from Nancy Schlegel, from the Reid Park Zoological Society. Ms. Hamwey continued to say that significant donations have been made to the zoo in correlation to the first project, which is the World of Play at Reid Park Zoo. The Angel Charities donated a significant amount of money for that project. The project is coming in at a higher cost and the zoo is working on donations to help close the gap of funding and for some of those donations that are quite significant. Part of the donation is given with an agreement for naming. The board received a copy of the letter that outlines the different pathway to Asia assets that would be named in correlation to those donations. Ms. Hamwey said that she has not received any letters of support or against the proposal of the naming's and the department is working towards taking it to Mayor and Council on September 19.

***Motion was made by Vice Chair, Beki Quintero, duly seconded by Commissioner, Manon Getsi to approve the zoo assets and naming initiative. The motion was carried by 5-0. (There is no representation for Mayor and Ward 4)**

6. Reports / Announcements

a. Parks and Recreation Commissioners

Vice Chair, Beki Quintero provided information on a Burrito Run at Mission Manor Park on September 17. The activity is a fundraiser for the Sunnyside Foundation. Volunteer opportunities are available as well. Information can be found on the Sunnyside Foundation website.

No action was taken.

b. Staff (distributed in meeting packet)

Administrator Dawnee Moreno reported that the department wrapped up its women's fast pitch league. There were eight teams. It was the first program in at least 15 years, and it was very successful. The department also has a women's slow-pitch program. This is also a first with it being exclusive women teams. Ms. Moreno added that the Boo Bash will take place on October 21 at the Lincoln Park. She also reported that there was a health fair at the Santa Rosa Center during the weekend of August 26. The staff received positive feedback on the event. To add, the various recreation centers have been closed for annual summer cleaning. Ms. Moreno invited the board to stop by the Randolph Center to see the art mural, which is in honor of long-time employee, Kathy Roberson who worked for the department for over 25 years. Ms. Roberson taught pottery for Leisure Classes. Ms. Roberson passed last year from Alzheimer's and her pottery instructors, colleagues and students put together this tribute to her.

No action was taken.

c. Director

Ms. Lara Hamwey spoke about the Ready Set Rec Fall kick-off event on September 23 at La Madera Park from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The family event will have a DJ, prizes, and all the Ready Set Rec vans with various fun activities. Ms. Hamwey also spoke about the Arizona Parks and Recreation Association (APRA) in Glendale, Arizona on August 22-24. The department was presented with a

marketing award. Ms. Hamwey commended Public Information Officer, Sierra Boyer for her efforts with helping promote lifeguard jobs.

No action was taken.

7. Commission Future Agenda Items and Next Meeting Date

a. Future Agenda Items:

Report on Dog Parks

Alamo Wash

Old Trees lost to weather systems.

No action was taken.

b. Next Meeting Date:

Wednesday, September 27, 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 4:13 p.m.

Motion was made by Vice Chair, Beki Quintero, duly seconded by Commissioner, Robin McArdle to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried by 5-0. (There is no representation for Mayor and Ward 4)