

## **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, January 22, 2025- 3:30 p.m.**

**Hybrid Meeting**

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

Join on your computer [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 286 700 686 38 Passcode: TAI4Wz

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Or call in (audio only) [+1 213-293-2303](tel:+12132932303) United States, Los Angeles Phone Conference ID: 465 484 285#

### **1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair, Beki Quintero at 3:30 p.m. Those present and absent were:

#### **Present:**

Chair, Beki Quintero, Ward 5 Representative

Vice Chair, Manon Getsi, Ward 2 Representative

Commissioner, Antonio Ramirez, Ward 1 Representative

Commissioner, Robin McArdle, Ward 3 Representative (arrived at 3:37 p.m.)

Commissioner, Darin Gregg, Ward 4 Representative

Commissioner, Maurice Roberts, Ward 6 Representative

#### **Staff Present:**

Lara Hamwey, Director

Mike Hayes, Deputy Director

Dawnee Moreno, Deputy Director

Andi Padilla, Business Operations Administrator

Dean Hoskin, Recreation Superintendent

Aaron Sanchez, Recreation Superintendent

John Bonillas, Parks Superintendent

Sierra Boyer, Public Information Officer

Diana Schroeder, Executive Assistant

#### **Other:**

Jennifer Shopland, Friends of Rio Vista

Linda Turner, RillitoBend Neighborhood Association

### **2. Approval of Minutes: December 3, 2024 (Action Item)**

A motion was made by Commissioner, Manon Getsi, duly seconded by Commissioner, Maurice Roberts to accept the December 3, 2024, minutes. All committee members were in favor of the motion. Motion was carried by roll call, 6-0. (There is no representation for the Mayor sector)

3. Call to the Audience

Ron Spark presented concerns to the committee about city facilities and signage honoring individuals. Ron Spark is advocating for the creation of signage and emphasized the need to find financial resources to support a sign program.

**No action was taken.**

4. Plan Tucson Update

Cesar Acosta, Principal Planner, Planning and Development Services (PDSD), and Plan Tucson, Project Manager provided a presentation and overview of the Plan Tucson program.

The Plan Tucson is the city's General Plan, and the plan is in review for updates. Public engagement activities for the program took place at various facilities. The current engagement period closes January 31, 2025. Staff will then begin revisions to present a revised draft to the planning commission. Additional public hearings will take place in mid-March of this year. A final draft will be presented to the Mayor and Council for review in April or May 2025. The final draft Plan Tucson will be on the ballot for voter approval in November 2025.

5. Proposed Renaming of Christopher Columbus Park- action item

The proposal for the renaming of Christopher Columbus Park to Danny Lopez Park was shared previously in the meeting packet. The proposal was brought forward to the commission for review and approval to move forward to Mayor and Council.

Danny Lopez lived in Tucson and was a community leader as well as Tohono O'odham educator and mentor. The Tucson Native Youth Council and former TPRC Commissioner, Azul Navarette-Valera are leading the initiative.

A motion was made by Commissioner, Robn McArdle, duly seconded by Commissioner, Antonio Ramirez to approve the proposal to rename Christopher Columbus Park to Danny Lopez Park. All committee members were in favor of the motion. Motion was passed by 6-0. (There is no representation for the Mayor sector)

6. Vice Chair Election- action item

An election for the Vice Chair position was held during the meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner, Robn McArdle, duly seconded by Commissioner, Maurice Roberts to elect Commissioner, Manon Getsi as Vice Chair for the commission. All committee members were in favor of the motion. Motion was passed by 6-0. (There is no representation for the Mayor sector)

7. Update on Randolph Golf Course- update

Deputy Director, Greg Jackson provided an update on the Randolph Golf Course. In 2023, the design firm, Sasaki, completed a feasibility study to explore opportunities to enhance green spaces around the golf course as part of the Randolph Reimagined project. Concepts were shared with Mayor and Council in December 2023. Mayor and Council approved to move forward with Phase I of the project, which includes improvements to Del Ulrich Golf Course and 22nd Street walking experience. The department went through a Request for Quote (RFQ) process to hire a landscape golf architect company and golf course construction company to do the detailed design. A group of stakeholder meetings as well as a separate community meeting took place in September 2024. Consultants developed a proposal based on the feedback. An open house activity to share the plan will be held in Reid Park on February 1, 2025, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 February 17, 2025. Stakeholder meetings are scheduled to take place on January 31, 2025.

8. Reports / Announcements

a. Parks and Recreation Commissioners

Commissioner, Robin McArdle spoke briefly about the Martin Luther King (MLK) celebration on January 20, 2025, in Reid Park. Robin McArdle thanked everyone involved with the program.

Commissioner, Robin McArdle introduced Linda Turner with RillitoBend Neighborhood Association to speak about the Restoration Celebration of Rio Vista Natural Resource Park on January 25, 2025, at 11:00 a.m.

Vice Chair, Manon Getsi commented on the December 18, 2024, Awards and Service Pins Annual Luncheon. Committee members, Robin McArdle and Manon Getsi attended the luncheon and assisted with distributing the Tucson Parks and Recreation Commission Awards to award recipients.

Commissioner, Antonio Ramirez shared information about the Dia de Las Ninas community event at the El Pueblo Park on April 29, 2025. The event begins at 10:00 a.m. The activities include music, pinata, and fire truck.

Commissioner, Maurice Roberts inquired about various park items regarding Santa Rita Park including fencing, unhoused population, and police enforcement. The subject will be placed on the future agenda.

Chair, Beki Quintero, shared concerns regarding the maintenance of Gunny Park and Santa Rita Landscaping.

**No action was taken.**

b. Staff (distributed in meeting packet)

Recreation Superintendent, Dean Hoskin reported information on the Senior Olympic Festival. The program takes place at various facilities throughout the city from January 4, 2025, through February 2, 2025. It was also shared that the Therapeutic Recreation building is under construction for new lighting and sound installation. An open house took place at the Freedom Center on January 17, 2025. It is the first open house of the year. An open house event is scheduled for February 20, 2024, at the Randolph Recreation Center.

Parks Administrator, John Bonillas shared that the department hired a new Parks Superintendent, Adrian Jaramillo. It was also mentioned that staff teams dismantled the ice rink to store for next year's event. Currently, staff are preparing for the upcoming Rodeo in February.

Deputy Director, Dawnee Moreno provided information on summer lifeguard recruitment. There were 37 applicants. A swim test took place on January 18, 2025. There were 18 new staff recruited. The posting for a second lifeguard recruitment will be advertised on January 24-30, 2025.

Deputy Director, Greg Jackson provided project updates. The Jacobs Park project will be in bid next week. The initiative is an \$8 million dollar project. The project received federal funding, and construction is anticipated to being in April 2025.

The department completed the design of the Cushing Street Skate Park. Currently, the project is in the bidding process for a construction contract. Rio Nuevo board is contributing \$200,000 dollars toward the project. The Santa Rita Park project will be out to bid soon as well.

On January 30, 2025, the City of Tucson is hosting a virtual meeting for community feedback on the design of the 100-Acre Wood Bike Park.

c. Director

There was no information provided.

9. Commission Future Agenda Items and Next Meeting Date

- a. Future Agenda Items
  - Signage for amenities and facilities recognizing history, and honored people
  - Lifeguard Recruitment Process
  - Santa Rita Park
  - Partnerships with recreation centers for programs and services
- b. Next Meeting Date:
  - February 26, 2025, 3:30 p.m.
- c. Location:
  - Hybrid Format- In-person at the Tucson Parks and Recreation Administration Office, Mesquite Conference Room, 900 S. Randolph Way and Microsoft Teams Virtual

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

A motion was made by Vice Chair, Manon Getsi duly seconded by Commissioner, Maruice Roberts to adjourn the meeting. All committee members were in favor. Motion was carried by 6- 0. (There is no representation for the Mayor sector)