

## TUCSON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION LEGAL ACTION REPORT

**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, February 25, 2026**

[Join the meeting now](#) Meeting ID: 217 038 807 113 73 Passcode: YY7jR7MR

Dial in by phone [+1 213-293-2303](#) United States, Los Angeles Phone conference ID: 766 772 725#

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Beki Quintero at 3:40 p.m. Those present and absent were:

**Present:**

Chair Beki Quintero, Ward 5 Representative- In person attendance

Vice Chair Manon Getsi, Ward 2 Representative- In person attendance

Commissioner Kathy Dong, Mayor's Representative- In person attendance

Commissioner Antonio Ramirez, Ward 1 Representative

Commissioner Kathy Altman, Ward 3 Representative- In person attendance

Commissioner Maurice Roberts, Ward 6 Representative- In person attendance

**Absent:**

Commissioner Darin Gregg, Ward 4 Representative- Virtual attendance

**Staff Present:**

Lara Hamwey, Tucson Parks and Recreation

Andi Padilla, Tucson Parks and Recreation

Jasmine Chan, Tucson Parks and Recreation

John Bonillas, Tucson Parks and Recreation

Aaron Sanchez, Tucson Parks and Recreation

Orlie Johnson, Tucson Parks and Recreation

Sara Turpen, Tucson Parks and Recreation

Diana Schroeder, Tucson Parks and Recreation

**Other:**

Richard Hernandez, Constituent

Angie Cathemer, Constituent

Babara Jones, Friends of Danny Lopez Park

Raul Ramirez, Constituent

Max Torres, Constituent

Frank Sotomayor, Constituent

Anthony Nelson, Constituent

Jean Ramirez, Constituent

Kimiko Washington, Constituent

Rene R. Lopez, Constituent

Edgar Soto, Pima Community College, Southern Arizona Sports, Tourism and Film Authority (SASTRA)

Kendall Kroesen, Alliance for Ecological Park Management (AEPM)  
Rebecca Glysson, Tucson Clean and Beautiful  
Marica Garcia, Constituent  
Eva Carrillo Dong, Constituent  
Rene R. Redondo, Constituent  
Victor Rivera, Barrio Sin Nombre  
Robin McArdle, Constituent

2. Approval of Minutes: January 28, 2026 (action item)

**Motion was made by Commissioner Maurice Roberts duly seconded by Commissioner Kathy Altman to accept the January 28, 2026, minutes as presented. The motion was approved by a voice vote,**

**6-0. (Commissioner Darin Gregg was absent)**

3. Call to the Audience

*At this time, any member of the public is allowed to address the Committee. Speakers are limited to three (3) minute presentations. Pursuant to the Arizona Open Meeting Law, individual Committee members may ask that the matter be placed on a future agenda, or respond to criticism made by speakers. However, the Committee may not discuss or take legal action on matters raised during "call to the audience".*

Comments were received from a range of community members on the current facility renaming and proposals.

Barbara Jones spoke before the commission to express concerns about Danny Lopez Park, including the presence of Stinknet, fire activity and littering.

Kimiko Washington provided comments advocating for a commemorative memorial at the Mission Manor Park Aquatic Center for the youth who lost their lives in local parks, with a recommendation to incorporate the name of her son as a tribute to those remembered.

Robin McArdle addressed the commission regarding an initiative to rename the Silverlake Park to Jerry Neely Park, and senior congregate meal programs.

4. Park Renaming Proposals (action item)

The survey results summarizing public comments on the facility naming proposals listed below were previously distributed in the meeting packet.

a. Kennedy Park Softball Complex to Stacy Redondo Fields

The public feedback showed strong overall support for the name change.

**The motion to approve the naming proposal and forward it to Mayor and Council for approval was introduced by Commissioner Antonio Ramirez and seconded by Vice Chair Manon Getsi. The motion carried unanimously, with all commission members voting in favor, 6-0. (Commissioner Darin Gregg was absent)**

b. Mission Manor Park to Raul M. Grijalva Park

The public input demonstrated strong community interest and a variety of viewpoints with notable opposition expressed.

Commissioner Antonio Ramirez motioned to request that Mayor and Council rename Mission Manor Park to Raul M. Grijalva Memorial at Mission Manor Park. Additionally, Commissioner Ramirez recommended installing a memorial tribute to Raul M. Grijalva within the park, featuring a monument with photographs and written text highlighting the history, and legacy of Raul M. Grijalva, along with QR code linking to recorded reflections. The proposal also includes hosting an unveiling event at the park to formally dedicate the memorial. Commissioner Kathy Dong seconded the motion. All commission members were in favor of the motion. (Commissioner Darin Gregg was absent.)

The commission expressed that this approach balances honoring Raul M. Grijalva lasting contributions to the community while preserving the historical identity of Mission Manor Park.

- c. Mission Manor Aquatic Center to Ramona F. Grijalva Aquatic Center  
Public feedback showed majority of respondents expressed opposition to the proposed name change.

Commissioner Antonio Ramirez moved to name the Mission Manor Aquatic Center to Ramona F. Grijalva Aquatic Center. Commissioner Kathy Dong seconded the motion. A voice vote was conducted, resulting in a tie, with Commission members, Beki Quintero, Manon Getsi and Maurice Roberts voting in opposition and Commissioner's Kathy Altman, Kathy Dong and Antonio Ramirez voting in support. (Commissioner Darin Gregg was absent)

- d. Joaquin Murrieta Park to Saloman R. Baldenegro Park  
Community feedback indicated a majority supported the name change, and minority expressing opposition.

Commissioner Antonio Ramirez motioned to request that Mayor and Council rename Joaquin Murrieta Park to Saloman R. Baldenegro Memorial at Joaquin Murrieta Park. Commissioner Antonio Ramirez also recommended installing a monument featuring photographs, written text, and QR code accompanied by an unveiling event. Commissioner Kathy Altman seconded the motion.

A voice vote was held, with Commission members Beki Quintero, Manon Getsi, Maurice Roberts and Kathy Dong voting against the motion, and Commissioner's Kathy Altman and Antonio Ramirez voting in favor. The motion was unsuccessful due to majority of votes in opposition.

There was discussion. Majority of the commission showed agreement in upholding the survey findings and public feedback supporting the renaming of the park.

A secondary motion to approve the renaming proposal, Joaquin Murrita Park to Salomon R. Baldenegro Park was made by Commissioner Antonio Ramirez and seconded by Commissioner Kathy Dong. The motion carried unanimously, with all commission members voting in favor, 6-0. (Commissioner Darin Gregg was absent)

Manon Getsi. The motion carried unanimously, with all commission members voting in favor, 6-0. (Commissioner Darin Gregg was absent)

- 5. Ecological Alliance Park Management/Department Liaison

A brief discussion was held regarding the designation of appointed staff as the point of contact for the Ecological Alliance Park Management program.

6. Subcommittee Report

The subcommittee provided updates related to the February 16, 2026, agenda including a proposal for Tucson Employee Community Engagement Series, offering an approach to promote the department's programs and secure external resources.

Vice Chair Manon Getsti presented a motion to forward the proposal to the Mayor and Council for approval. Commissioner Maurice Roberts seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, with all commission members voting in favor, 6-0. (Commissioner Darin Gregg was absent)

7. Park Operations Structure

The commission deferred the item to the next meeting, due to extended discussions on earlier agenda items.

8. Reports / Announcements

a. Parks and Recreation Commissioners

Information was provided.

b. Staff (distributed in meeting packet)

Staff shared program information.

c. Director

Director Lara Hamwey provided additional program updates.

9. Commission Future Agenda Items and Next Meeting Date

a. Future Agenda Items

Items were discussed.

b. Next Meeting Date:

Wednesday, March 25, 2026, 3:30 p.m.

c. Location:

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

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

**Motion was made by Vice Chair Manon Getsi, duly seconded by Commissioner Maurice Roberts to adjourn the meeting. All committee members were in favor of the motion. (Commissioner Darin Gregg was absent)**