



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Virtual Meeting

7/19/2021 4:00 PM

Draft Minutes



Members Present

Members

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Richard Conway | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Mark Cox (Chair) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Austin Kerr | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Ryan Martin (Co-Chair) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Ezekiel Ogden | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Stephen Parsons |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Aurelia Yazzie | |

Councilmember / Liaison to the City Council

Councilmember Salas

Staff Present

- Lalena Guider - Administrative Specialist
- Martin Ince - Transportation Planner
- Shawn Mullaney – Parks Supervisor
- Emry Pensinger – Parks Supervisor
- Rebecca Sayers – Parks, Recreation, Open Space Director
- Jon Wilson - Recreation Manager

Guests

- Amelia Blair – Northland Preparatory Academy
- Jennifer Kottra -Flagstaff Pickleball Association

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM by Chair Cox.

1. **ROLL CALL**
Chair Cox, Co-Chair Martin, and Commissioners Conway, Kerr, Yazzie, and Parsons were present for roll call.
2. **APPROVAL OF THE MAY 17, 2021 MINUTES**
A motion was made by Commissioner Martin to approve the May 17, 2021 minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Conway. Motion passed unanimously with six (6) yea votes.
3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
No Public Participation.
4. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**
 - A. Parks Greenhouse project - Shawn Mullaney and Emry Pensinger
Shawn Mullaney and Emry Pensinger presented on the City of Flagstaff Pollinator Program and the challenges and goals in extending a sustainable growing season. The newly completed greenhouse will provide growing stock for the Pollinator Program and its climate battery system will provide a working example for the public.
 - B. Northland Preparatory Academy student presentation on Thorpe Park research - Amelia Blair
Amelia Blair gave her Senior study presentation titled “Use of Thorpe Park by People with Disabilities,” which outlined the need for additional services to Thorpe Park and the park system to further provide for the disabled in the community through partnerships, community outreach and additional services.
 - C. Buffalo Park Accessible Trail project – Rebecca Sayers and Martin Ince
Martin Ince updated the Commission on the grant application to the Arizona State Parks Land and Water Conservation Fund to be submitted by the end of July. The grant will require a local match

that can be made with City funding. The State may be instituting a Lottery Grant which could be another option for matching funds. Ince requested a letter of support from the commission to include with the application. Chairperson Cox agreed to write a letter on behalf of the Commission.

D. **Ponderosa Park Phoenix Suns Rebound Project update – Rebecca Sayers**

Sayers reported on the City Council approved additions to the Phoenix Suns / APS rebound project for replacing basketball courts. Ponderosa Park was chosen for the grant project. Parks is contributing additional funds to convert the one underutilized tennis court into two permanent pickleball courts.

Jennifer Kottra, President of the Flagstaff Pickleball Association, expressed appreciation for the new courts while addressing a greater need for more permanent pickleball resources. Kottra highlighted funding possibilities and expressed a request for eight to twelve permanent pickleball courts in the next year with a long-range goal for a pickleball complex.

E. **Potential funding assistance for Special Events – Jon Wilson**

Recreation Manager Jon Wilson outlined Special Event Funding and the possible use of funds from the American Rescue Plan to assist event promoters adversely affected by the pandemic and event restrictions. The funds would assist by covering application and permit fees charged by the City for public events.

5. **COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS, CITY COUNCILMEMBER REGINA SALAS**

Councilmember Salas was not in attendance.

6. **REPORTS** - Monthly highlights of Parks, Recreation and Open Space

The Commission reviewed the reports with no questions.

7. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS TO AND FROM COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF**

Sayers updated the commission on the Museum Fire flood damage. The newly poured courts at Ponderosa Park suffered no damage, but the playground at the park was flooded and will require heavy equipment to remove debris, cleaning, and replacement of surfacing. Bushmaster park was also impacted by flooding which affected some of the pollinator projects and damage to the more natural areas on the south and east ends of the park. Several FUTS trails including the Centennial Park area are damaged and are currently being assessed. The Frances Short Pond suffered significant fish die off due to floodwaters and decreased dissolved oxygen availability. Shawn Mullaney and crews are assisting Streets with ongoing clean up.

8. **AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE AUGUST 16, 2021 COMMISSION MEETING**

- Parks and Recreation Master Plan Goals/Policies/Accomplishments
- Update Buffalo Park Accessibility Grant – Universal exercise equipment

8. **ADJOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned at 6:03 PM