

Lake Havasu City
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Monday, January 23, 2017
Lake Havasu City Police Facility Meeting Room
2360 McCulloch Blvd., Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403

Summary Minutes

Call to Order: Chairwoman Ashley Pascual called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Jason Keough, Garrett McNerney, Ashley Pascual, Robert Smith, Rhonda Smolek, Mark Talley, Bart Wagner, Scott Welte

Call to Public: Bree Daugherty with the University of Arizona Nutrition Network introduced herself to the board and gave an overview of their program to hopefully collaborate with the board on future programs.

Jason Henderson, a Lake Havasu City resident and cyclist, experienced some incidents on the island bike path. He indicated his 5 year old granddaughter was almost hit by a car that was turning into a subdivision. He would like to request cross-walks be painted. He is concerned the path is not safe as is for cyclist and other users.

Minutes: Approval of the minutes of meeting on December 19, 2016; Member Mark Talley moved to approve as written; seconded by Robert Smith and unanimously carried by the Board.

Staff Report:

Staff Report

Recreation Services Manager, Mike Keane updated the Board; Recreation Division reported Fire Fighters Charities donated \$5,500 to our Youth Scholarship program, these proceeds were generated from the Pumpkin Festival; Little Dribblers Basketball program began on Saturday, January 14th, program has 41 participants 5-8 years old registered; Winter Camp ended on January 6th with 170 registered which was 70 more than last year; a wilderness and remote first aid class was held, with off road enthusiasts in mind, to help provide outdoor safety tips.

The Aquatic Division reported a new session of swim lessons will begin in February; Adult Archery class coming up February 16 and 23rd; a Water Safety Instructor class will be held February 2nd- 5th; Pet First Aid will be offered on February 21st; staff is working on lifeguard training and recruitment for the summer season. Starline Elementary students voted the Aquatic Center as their favorite place for entertainment.

At the Community Center the drop in Pickleball attendance has increased so we are looking at offering some additional time for play; Chinese New Year festival

fundraiser for HPA will be held on February 2nd; HCHF Heart Symposium on February 4th; Western Welcome Giant Garage Sale on February 10th; Tree Dedication on February 11th; Mark Hahn Dinner Banquet on February 12th; US Airforce Jazz Band concert on February 15th; Daughters of the American Revolution BUNCO party on February 22nd; LHHS Educational Tour Group Pasta Dinner Fundraiser on February 25th; and Westwind Productions Senior Tradeshow on February 28th. We had 3 BMX pro riders visit the skatepark in the month of January.

The Dick Samp Pickleball Court cement has been poured and the posts have been installed; currently waiting on concrete to cure. Once the concrete cures the surface will be laid, lines painted and fencing installed.

CID is still evaluating some comments brought to them in reference to Cypress Park.

Board member Rhonda Smolek inquired about the status of the SARA Trailhead. Mike Keane explained City Council approved bid to construct 45 parking spaces, the concrete pad to hold the restroom, and then restrooms will be brought over from old transit center.

Aquatic Center Assessment Update

The waterslide has been removed. Next step is to install the supports for the new slide which we expect delivery in late February. Ozone system should be out to bid any day now.

Trails Subcommittee Report – Rhonda Smolek

Member Smolek announced two trails have been submitted to AZ State Parks AZ 100 Premier Trail for review, included is the Island Trail and Shoreline Trail. Once information is received back from them they will move to water trail and mountain bike trail. Has been some concern regarding no signage on existing trails. Signage is required by AZ Premier Trail. Mark Clark explained the repairs to the Island trail are occurring as funding is available. Repaving costs approximately \$20 per sq. yard. Member Smolek indicated the Trails Subcommittee has been trying to develop a volunteer program where enthusiasts can help maintain trails through manual labor. Mike Keane explained the City has a great volunteer program and the first step would be to get them cleared as City volunteers. He will discuss with HR department adding a separate section for trails. Member Talley asked what the current process for volunteering is. Mike Keane explained it is an online process which takes approximately a week. Chairwoman Ashley Pascual asked who would be notified once someone goes through the Volunteer process and checks they are interested in trails. Mike Keane stated their information would be passed on to him. Member Smolek asked if there is an update on lease between State of AZ land Trust and the City in regards to acquiring Piccadilly Point. Mike Keane stated he doesn't have an update however with the spending limitations he's not

sure what the status on that is. Next meeting for the Trails Subcommittee will be on February 8th at 4 p.m. at the Aquatic Center.

Public Hearing:

Grand Island Park Hours

City received a request from the Grand Island Townhome Association to request the hours at Grand Island Park be changed in order to install gates to become a gated community. They are requesting the gates be open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and would be closed all other times. Grand Island Park was donated to Lake Havasu City by MCO Properties as part of the developmental agreement between the City and MCO Properties, the agreement was signed in 1998 and there is no true reference to park hours in that agreement. City Council is able to adjust park hours. If a recommendation is made by the Board to alter park hours it would need to be approved by City Council in order to change the City ordinance which currently states all parks will remain open until 11:00 p.m. The park hours have been changed several times to meet community needs. The last time the hours were adjusted was in 2014. The park does get night use at the Frisbee golf course. There is a reference of crime; Mike Keane explained he reached out to the police department. Since October 2015, we found there were 4 police reports in the park; 2 were drug related, 1 was theft related and 1 was car without plates. After speaking with staff, it was felt the 6:00 p.m. closure might be a little early especially during the summer months. Chairwoman Pascual asked if the City maintains the park. The City does maintain the park as well as the restroom. She also asked if all parks currently fall under the same hours. Mike explained they currently all do however he did have a discussion with the City Attorney who indicated they don't all have to close at the same time. It's currently that way to provide simplicity so the community knows all parks close at the same time. Member Bark Wagner asked if there is any lighting. There is lighting inside the restroom and one on the outside. Chairwoman Ashley Pascual asked why the 6:00 p.m. time. Mike Keane wasn't sure on the time.

Chad Nelson explained the development doesn't want to invest in gates if they can't restrict the hours. In his discussion with home owners the time frame was for simplicity. The homeowners don't want to restrict access to the public who uses the park. He feels the gates would be a good thing and they would help with cars slowing down to have to enter the development.

Tom Gehrhart enjoys going to the park and viewing the sunsets. He would hope that the gates wouldn't close until at least an hour after sunset.

Don Cantrell, president of HOA, explained they are comfortable with the public who utilizes the park. They do not want to restrict access to all public. He wanted to clarify they are just requesting to restrict vehicular access; there is still trail access at different parts of the path around the island. He explained the HOA owns and maintains the streets. Stewart Schmeling explained the street is privately owned, the city has maintained an easement over that private street in order for the public to have access to the park. Document was part of the

original agreement. Mr. Cantrell says that easement is not a recorded document; that was never finalized.

Matt Waford, Vice-President of Disc Golf Club, explained they run a night time league that plays weekly on Tuesdays. Most members work and don't get off until dark. He feels that they are a deterrent to crime. Chairwoman Ashley Pascual asked how late the club is playing. He indicated they don't play later than 9:00 – 10:00 p.m. Member Mark Talley asked if they need to compromise on the time what would be his recommendation. Mr. Waford said 9:00 p.m. would be the latest. Member Keough asked if they use the park parking lot. Mr. Waford indicated they park in a dirt lot. Chairwoman Pascual asked if that lot is City owned. Mike Keane indicated that lot is privately owned.

Lee Pierson added they would be able to still leave later; they are just restricting vehicles entering.

Member Smolek asked if there are plans to put in a fence or gate on the southside of the development. Mr. Cantrell explained there would be gates at both ends of the development.

Vice-Chairman Wagner wanted to bring up possible issue of liability of a park being open at night without lights. He feels 11:00 p.m. is late for a neighborhood park to be open. Member Talley stated he agrees with Vice-Chairman Wagner. Mike Keane indicated maybe the adjustment needs to be made for all neighborhood non-lit parks. Member Welte stated it's not a decision that should be made without opening up discussion with other groups who may also be using City parks. Chairwoman Pascual stated she thinks it would be wise to look at this from an entire City standpoint. Mike Keane clarified the board would like this item to be brought back with more discussion regarding non-lit parks and recommendation on what closure times would be.

Future Agenda Items:

- Picadilly Point Status Discussion
- Island Trail Path
- Non-Lit Park Discussion
- Jean Knight to discuss connectivity throughout the City
- Cypress Park Update
- Pump Track Update
- Bree Daugherty with University of Arizona Presentation
- Spending Limitation
- Current Trail System Maintenance Discussion

Future Meetings:

February 27, 2017 at the Aquatic Center

Adjournment: There being no further business, Member Talley moved for adjournment 7:09 p.m.; seconded by Member Keough and unanimously carried by the Board.