

Monday, February 25, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Lake Havasu Police Facility Meeting Room
2360 McCulloch Blvd., Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403

www.lhcaz.gov

1. CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Chairperson Welte called the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Welte led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Cheri Kowalski conducted a Roll Call of the Board members:

Regular Board Members Present: Chairperson Scott Welte, Vice-Chairperson Jason Keough, Ashley Pascual, Chuck Vaughn, Lauren Vedder, Mark Zieff

Excused: Rick Knotts, Robert Smith

Council Member Excused: Michele Lin

Parks & Recreation Staff Present: Mike Keane, Cheri Kowalski

4. CALL TO PUBLIC

- None

5. MINUTES

5.1 Approval of January 28, 2019 Meeting Minutes

- Member Vaughn made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of January 28, 2019 as written, seconded by member Keough and carried by the following vote:
AYE: 6 – Welte, Keough, Pascual, Vaughn, Vedder, and Zieff

6. COMMUNICATIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PARKS & RECREATION MANAGER REPORT

6.1 Parks and Recreation Managers Report

Mike Keane provided updates to various items:

- End of the season youth basketball party at the Aquatic Center on March 2.
- Youth Spring Break Camp will be held at Starline March 11 – 15.

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- NOVA gradation on March 1 and immediately following graduation, all of the participants will have a swim party.
- During Spring Break March 11 - 15, the pool will be open for Open Swim from 1p.m. – 4p.m.
- Credence Clearwater Revival tribute band February 26.
- Lake Havasu City Police Department Night out Neighborhood Watch event February 27.
- Mark Hahn Dinner Banquet February 23.
- Art Guild Spring Show March 8 – 10.
- Bob Seger tribute band March 14.
- Havasu Stitches Quilt Show March 16.
- Western Welcome BUNCO March 18.
- Lake Havasu City Fire Department is sponsoring a weather spotter class March 19.
- AZ Collectible and Firearms Show March 23 & 24.
- Home Show March 29 – 31.
- Chili cook-off at London Bridge Beach March 2.
- Annual Havasu Deuces car show at Rotary Park ballfields March 2.
- Lake Havasu Pickleball Association will hold a tournament at Dick Samp Park March 8 – 10.
- Extreme Machines will be having an event on the parcel on Quiero and McCulloch Blvd March 9.
- The Renaissance Faire at SARA Park Rodeo Grounds March 15 – 17.
- The Magical Night of Music at the parcel on Quiero and McCulloch on March 22.
- International Scooter Association qualifier at the Rotary Park Skate Park on March 23.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

7.1 Discussion: CIP Update

Parks and Recreation Manger Mike Keane updated the Board on the CIP. Requests are with our engineering department fine-tuning the cost estimates. They are due back to the finance department mid-March.

- *Board member Pascual asked Keane to go over what our department submitted for request.*
- *Keane responded our request included SARA Park, Aquatic Center facelift, HVAC to the Pool, Solar Thermal holding tank, and Pickleball courts at Dick Samp.*
- *Board member Pascual asked if that was separate from the Island field renovations that we talked about at our last meeting.*
- *Keane replied yes that is what was in the previous year's CIP. That money would be coming from what was approved last year.*
- *Board member Pascual asked if the baseball field at SARA Park is also from last year's budget.*
- *Keane responded that is taking that money from that project and shifting over there and possibly some renovations to some other fields.*
- *Board member Pascual asked if that is a go project and has it been approved.*
- *Keane responded there is still some conversation through Council and staff.*
- *Board member Pascual asked if he had a timeline on that.*
- *Keane replied no he has not been involved in those conversations as of yet.*
- *Board member Vaughn stated he hopes the engineers do better than what they estimated the cost at SARA Park, which doubled. He asked if this is for the new FY 19/20 budget.*
- *Keane responded correct this is for the FY 19/20 budget.*

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- *Board member Vaughn asked even though they see everything does not mean everything will get approved.*
- *Keane replied they are looking at the long term, within the next five years. We put those request in so the plan can move forward.*
- *Board member Vaughn stated one of the smallest amount projects is the Pickleball courts.*
- *Keane responded that project was one of the smaller dollar amount projects that we turned in as far as our Parks and Recreation.*
- *Chairperson Welte opened this agenda item up to the public.*
- *Brett Miller wanted to comment to the Board on the SARA Park project. He has changed his tune on it. He would rather not do it. He has run two soccer tournaments in this town. They have hosted 30 teams and a little over 20 teams this last year. We have an application in to host 90 teams in 2020. When that application was submitted, he was approached by Bullhead City to move the tournament to their venue. They offered to line the fields and do everything free, no field rentals because they want it on their schedule. He politely declined. He does not see the need for a \$20M field complex in Havasu, especially if you are going to go head-to-head with Bullhead City and they are willing to give it up for free. All the baseball tournaments they host are free. He would rather see and he has presented this to this Board in 2015 the money be put into the school fields. We have enough grass area at the schools to support 150-team tournament if we wanted to if we made the fields safe and playable. The City already pays the water for the fields. The fields at the schools are pretty tore up, the grass is not in good condition, and the ground is not level. His child goes to Jamaica and there are parts of the field they are not allowed to use but we still water them. If we could fix the fields at the schools, do some renovations to the Island field, and make it a little wider so we can get a soccer field on there that is all we need to stay on the state calendar and really grow the tournaments in Havasu.*
- *Board member Vaughn asked how many actual soccer fields do we have compared to Bullhead City.*
- *Miller responded they have a big flat area of grass that can configure any way they want. With full size soccer fields, they can fit 14 fields.*
- *Board member Vaughn asked how many fields do we have. Miller responded full size fields including the high school field is four altogether. That is including building a field inside the ballfields at Rotary Park. A football field is the right length but it is only 53 yards wide. That is why he was saying if you can make the Island field a little wider that would get us another field there, the high school has two fields and you can fit another field at Jamaica. With just the two full size fields, we can support 16 teams like a U-15 and above which play on those smaller fields. The more fields obviously the more teams we can support. The younger children play on smaller size fields that fit ASU, Nautilus, and Starline. The nice thing about tournament play is most of the games happen during the day. If we get a lot of teams we extend it and go into the night a little bit. It is not imperative that all of the fields get lights. If you talk to the neighbors along Cypress which he has the last two tournaments he has walked the neighborhood to let them know there is going to be a lot of people in the area and if they have any questions to call him on his cell phone. Many of them came back to him and stated they went to the meetings, they were against the lights at Cypress but now that we have seen how it is implemented and they love it. He believes Cypress is a good example to the community to say this is how lights can be done correctly if we do light something.*

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- Board member Vaughn asked if there are any restrictions on the City giving away services like that to outside groups.
- Keane responded we do not waive fees. We have a fee structure that we follow. Miller responded to the discussion and stated he does not intend to take the tournament anywhere else. The fees that the City charges compared to fees that clubs in Phoenix pay; he will happily pay what the City is charging. He has all of his own paint and striping equipment and he does the fields himself. What he is getting at is if you spend \$20M building a bunch of fields at SARA, you are going to want to recoup some of those cost quickly. There is only two soccer clubs in town. The State says one soccer club can only host two tournaments a year. That would be a maximum of four tournaments you could have in Havasu hosted by the local clubs and the other issue is the tournament calendar is booked from September until May. Those dates do not open very often. With a maximum of four tournaments from local clubs it would take you decades to recoup that.
- Board member Vaughn asked if he has held any tournaments at Cypress.
- Miller responded both of his tournaments he has hosted at Cypress. He stated the fields at Cypress are awesome he stated they are some of the best fields in the State. The staff that maintains them are awesome to work with they do a great job.
- Board member Pascual wanted to add a comment that the Mohave Daily News reported after their last tournament that the revenue brought into the surrounding area was over \$3M for just that weekend. It goes back to what she brought up last meeting. Not only do we have the opportunity to make great places for all of us that live here to enjoy but also a wonderful economic opportunity for the City and for local vendors. She was in Bullhead City for a tournament for the weekend and she visited many of the local places and spent money. She hopes that we see that as an opportunity in the near future, she likes the idea of a partnership with our school district as well.
- Miller stated he knows other tournament directors up in that area and they do include Laughlin, NV in that because most of the people stay in Laughlin. In Havasu there is not really anywhere else to stay. You would have a larger impact here than Bullhead City.

7.2 Discussion: Teen Break Update

Parks and Recreation Manager Keane stated Teen Break will be held March 12 through March 14. We have received over \$10K in donations for the program and for scholarships. Thank you to the community for really stepping up and helping us fund this event. Our registration opened today and we had over 20 registrations just today. Traditionally Teen Break numbers come in the week of. The staff has put together a great program. We plan to use more of the beach area and highlight down towards the lake.

- Board member Pascual asked if there will be barriers on both side and how will it be set-up.
- Keane responded it will be on the southern end of Rotary Park and we will barricade off at the wash and then up by the skate park. We will be utilizing the skate park on Wednesday; however, the skate park will be open on Tuesday and Thursday.
- Board member Pascual asked how someone would find out about a scholarship.
- Keane replied they could ask for it at the time of registration.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- National After School Program Professional Appreciation Week
- CIP Update

8. FUTURE MEETINGS (fourth Monday of each month)

- March 25, 2019
- April 22, 2019

9. ADJOURN

- Member Vaughn made a motion to adjourn at 6:30p.m., seconded by member Keough and carried by the following vote:
AYE: 6 – Welte, Keough, Pascual, Vaughn, Vedder, and Zieff