

Lake Havasu City
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

October 26, 2015
Lake Havasu City Police Facility Meeting Room
2360 McCulloch Blvd.
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403

Summary Minutes

Call to Order: Chairman Mark Talley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Logan Johnson, Brett Miller, Jim Rosensweet, Robert Smith, Mark Talley, Vicki Warner, Bart Wagner, Scott Welte

Excused: Jennifer Luzzi

Minutes: Approval of the minutes of meeting on September 28, 2015; Member Jim Rosensweet moved to approve as written; seconded by Scott Welte and unanimously carried by the Board.

Include Lake Havasu City on the AZ Trails System:

Manager Dan Keyes informed the Board the inclusion of our Trail System in to the Arizona Trails System was on the list of priorities that was developed and recommended by the Trails Advisory Committee to this Board and at our last meeting the Board approved to move those priorities forward. Keyes developed a memo to the city administration and met with Community Services Director, Greg Froslic regarding those priorities and he has approved all of those items. Keyes indicated he has been given the clear to move forward. Staff will continue to move forward and work together as a community to in order to make these things happen and we will continue to press forward in order to accomplish those task.

Chairman Talley asked Keyes to remind the Board of those top priorities. Keyes responded update the 2006 Trails Plan, to be listed with the AZ Trails System, Piccadilly Point, Water Trails, Bike Routes/ Lanes within the City, Trail from Rotary Park South to Contact Point.

Keyes touched on the Piccadilly Point trail spur and stated he will be working with administration and the City Council to see if funds that were allocated for the SARA Park Trail Head project reallocated for construction of the Piccadilly Point Trail Spur which came in with an estimate of twenty thousand dollars.

Board Member Bart Wagner stated he believe the Hwy 95 trails are listed on the AZ Trails System. Wagner stated any trail connected to that would be eligible for grants.

Field Needs Assessment:

Chairman Mark Talley stated the Filed Needs Assessment meeting that was held on Tuesday, October 6, 2015 had a great turn out with all the different sports groups represented.

Division Manager, Dan Keyes stated staff was predicting a packed house and it was. All sports were represented at the meeting and especially Soccer. That group seems to be hurting the most with 700-800 participants and essentially less than two fields to play on. Keyes stated the presentation was good, the explanation of level of service and what the thoughts about moving forward were put out there in a clear and concise manner. At the end there was discussion about potential funding and I think at this point we need to work through some of those issues. The City Manager at the end of the meeting stated he will get together with Greg Froslic, Community Services Director and discuss it before we move forward. Keyes reported that discussion has not happen so far that he is aware of but he is sure it will take place. Keyes has been given direction by Froslic to look at interim solutions. Those interim solutions would be to work with the School District to use the Buena Vista site as a temporary semi-permanent fields as well as the Cypress site so much so to also direct our consultant to come up with a preliminary plan on how those fields may be laid out in those different areas. In addition we are in the process of contacting the school district and setting up those discussions on how we could work together on this interim solution. At this time I do not have any additional information as it relates to a larger sports complex. The study is not complete, we have to make some decisions as a City I believe once we do that the consultant will come back with possible funding options for us to explore. We have a tremendous amount of opportunity in this town, certainly a need and we will work together to keep moving forward.

Chairman Talley asked if we are losing use of the ASU fields. Keyes responded we haven't been told we are losing them yet but we are predicting at some point as ASU becomes more successful and expands its programs that we could lose use of that ground at this point no one has said if that is going to happen for sure. Chairman Talley asked if the Pop Warner field is going to be over seeded next year. Keyes said it is on our target list and we saw those improvements on the ASU fields and those user groups are happy with that unfortunately it does take it out of commission during an important time but we also know over seeding can only happen during a certain time of year to be successful. We will continue to work with the groups and give them as many options and alternatives as possible. In the mean time we will try and make the existing fields that we have as safe and playable as we can.

Chairman Talley requested that staff and PRAB members have a meeting with the different sports groups and have a discussion on what we will be doing in the future. Talley stated this is not a project that is going to happen overnight it is going to take years. Talley said we also need to have some kind of funding to maintain those fields, and aquatic center and such.

Member Jim Rosensweet asked if the consultant is going to give the City any type of estimate on how much it would cost to make some of these school fields usable. Keyes responded the consultant would overdraw a conceptual design on the sites we discussed and with that would be rough cost estimates as well.

Member Bart Wagner asked if part of their task to look at funding too. Keyes responded yes part of their task is to look at various funding options and present those to the City as well for further thought and review. Is one of those options City Bed Tax. Keyes indicated we have not seen that segment of the study yet. Keyes stated they are about 75% complete with the study and the last meeting we just had was crucial and they were hoping that specific decisions would be made so they could move forward. Keyes would imagine that the Bed Tax might be one of those options.

Chairman Talley wanted to reiterate what they Mayor previously said if we do move forward with the Bed Tax it is going to take two-thirds 67% to get that to past. Talley said it is not impossible we have a good core group for all the sports to get that started. Talley said remember it is a bed tax for the people using our facilities not a tax on the citizens of Lake Havasu City.

Member Brett Miller wanted to give some background on the ASU potential loss of the fields. Miller spoke with the City Manager regarding the agreement and it states the School District is leasing the buildings to ASU. The School District still manages and owns the fields which the City waters and maintains the fields. He stated ASU is a user on those fields and is in line just like any other sports group. Miller asked if there is a chance at looking at the existing school fields and play on certain parts of the fields. If you have existing green spaces there are grants available to get lights built. Miller brought in a school district maintenance agreement from the town he grew up and the City/School District have an agreement where the City owns the fields after 4pm every day and the weekends and the City charges the School District for the maintenance of the fields. The agreement was set-up in 1988 initially and a revised agreement in 2003. This is a good option that we could use existing green spaces we have. Chairman Talley asked if we are looking into this option. Keyes stated yes we are looking into this as well and when we meet with the school district this topic will be on the agenda as well.

Aquatic/Recreation Division Update:

Manager Dan Keyes provided the Board a report to include Trails Advisory Committee, Athletic Field Assessment Study, Pickleball Courts, Aquatic Center Marquee and Amendment to Ordinance 11.06.330.

Special Events update included; Basic Wake & Skate Event, Sean's Potluck BBQ, Annual Chillin n' Swillin Brewfest, Pooch Party in the Park, Annual Turkey Trot and Desert Firework Shootout.

Recreation Update included; Youth Basketball Clinic, Kidzart, and London Bridge Days Parade.

Aquatic Update included; Youth and Adult Learn to Swim lessons, Call for Presenters Spring Frenzy, Pool Closed in observance of Veterans Day, Turkey Trot, Pool Closed in Observance of Thanksgiving Holiday, Frozen Beach Party.

During the Update on the User Friendly Access at Rotary Park Chairman Talley asked Manager Mark Clark to step forward. Chairman Talley wanted to personally thank Mark Clark and his crew for getting this project done painlessly and quickly. Member Warner also thanked the MSD staff and the staff at Aquatics and Recreation.

Clarification was given during the update on Lucas Oil Thunder on the River. The skate park will be closed during racing hours only and full access to the park for walkers until 8am in the mornings. Member Vicki Warner asked what part of the beach would be accessible and Keyes responded no beach access during Oct. 2-4.

Member Vicki Warner asked what ages the special activities for adventure camp

Future Agenda Items:

Discussion on Aquatic/Recreation Division title changed back to Parks and Recreation

Call to the Public:

N/A

Adjournment:

There being no further business, member Jim Rosensweet moved for adjournment at 6:45 p.m.; seconded by member Scott Welte and unanimously carried by the Board.