



City of Apache Junction, Arizona

Meeting Minutes Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Location:

City Council Chambers
at City Hall
300 E Superstition Blvd
Apache Junction, AZ
85119

www.ajcity.net
P: (480) 983-2181

Wednesday, November 7, 2018

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

1. Call to Order

Chairman Standage called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present 7 - Chairperson Standage, Commissioner Schoenbeck, Commissioner Moeller, Commissioner Gage, Commissioner Waldie, Commissioner Buzzin, and Vice Chair Borey

Staff Present:

Liz Langenbach, Director

Mary March, Administrative Assistant

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Wayne Standage led the Pledge of Allegiance

4. Acceptance of Agenda

[18-484](#) November 7, 2018

Chairman Standage called for a motion to accepted the agenda for November 7, 2018 regular meeting.

Commissioner Buzzin motioned to accept the agenda as presented. Vice Chairman Borey seconded. The Parks and Recreation Commission accepted the agenda as presented. Approved in a vote of 7 in favor 0 opposed. (Yes: Gage, Moeller, Buzzin, Schoenbeck, Standage, Borey, Waldie. No: none)

5. Acceptance of Minutes

[18-485](#) September 5, 2018

Chairman Standage called for a motion to accept the minutes of September 5, 2018 regular meeting.

Commissioner Schoenbeck motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Buzzin seconded. Approved in a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed and 1 abstained. (Yes: Gage, Moeller, Buzzin, Schoenbeck, Standage, Borey. No: none. Walker Waldie newly appointed

commissioner obtained.)

6. Parks and Recreation Director's Report

Liz Langenbach congratulate Commissioners Frank Schoenbeck and Wayne Standage on their reappointment and introduced newly appointed Walker Waldie who advised the commission he had moved to Apache Junction a couple or so years ago and has three little kids. Studied Experience Industry Management and Recreation Management, more of the business side, so he has an understanding of Parks and Recreation's function. He is a fifth generation Arizona native and his family uses the parks a lot.

Liz reminded the Commission of the Citizen Leadership Institute coming up, everyone should have received an invite email. The schedule is two Wednesdays a month for 2 to 3 months, is very informative about city departments and regional services. Highly recommend anyone who had not attend to check it out. If you know of anyone that may be interested please advise them to sign up this would include high school students.

Our annual Halloween Festival, held at Flatiron Park received a record number of participants, a little over 3,000. The businesses across the street headed up by business owner Charlie Wise wanted to be involved, so they contacted Jamie Sullivan, Recreation Superintendent and sixteen businesses hosted a trunk or treat event. This was so well received they ran out of candy and more was provided.

Annual Fit Families Mudrun was held October 20th had 400 participants, the annual average for this event. Our department does not pay for advertisement, we utilize facebook and instagram, which has its own challenges related to flyers and graphics.

Most recent Movie in the Park was well attended with 250 participants.

The Annual Festival of the Superstitions, a partnered event with the Chamber of Commerce is coming up this weekend, along with the Annual Veterans Day Parade which will be held on Sunday with the Veteran's Tribute immediately following at the park.

Councilman Chip Wilson will have free ponyrides for kids. Superstition Horsemen's Association sponsors this event and Chip and his wife volunteer their time and pony.

Upcoming events include the Wellness Event, November 18th at the MGC and the Holiday Event, Tree Lighting Ceremony and Parade, December 1st.

Also please be advised during lunch tomorrow, November 8th at the MGC, Veterans will be honored during the lunch program, you are welcome to attend.

Please be advised that at our December meeting we will be electing officers for the new calendar year. So give that some thought.

Parks has replaced two pieces of very used playground equipment at Prospector Park Phase II and III, with a new "Rev 8 Spinner" replacing merry go round and a contemporary swing apparatus. We will continue to look and add more components.

Last year we replaced the kooldecking at the pool, new surface was very well received softer and cooler. This year we will be replastering the pool, addressing ADA required updates and

since the equipment needs to be removed during the replastering this will be the perfect opportunity for the water features to be refurbished. Project to start in December.

Judy Borey inquired if playground equipment was KaBoom.

Liz Langenbach replied that KaBoom is a status allowing us to apply for designated grants with KaBoom for purchase. Nothing was available for us at this time.

Remember we still need to replace equipment at Superstition Shadows Playground, where we relocated that equipment to the complex park. Due to it's location we need to get input from the school and neighboring community. We have recieved requests primarily for fitness stations and related equipment.

BLM R&PP Lease renewal update is a follows: Silly Mountain lease is current and is for twenty five years, this is our newest lease. The Multi-Use Trail is in 25 year renewal process which takes about 10 months, Rodeo Grounds and Prospector Park need amending before we renew due to parking lot development associated with both leases. The rodeo grounds development plan needs to be amended in order to move forward with renewals. While leases are being renewed we will be looking into whether patent or purchase of our leased lands would be advantageous. BLM actually recommends once substantial improvements are done. Patents follow the same rules as the R&PP Lease but it is ours. Just and FYI that Pinal County's Peralta Park is also a BLM R&PP leased property.

7. Old Business

[18-486](#)

Dog Park Study, Presentation and discussion on Dog Park Study, to include information gathering and community input process for identifying locations, amenities, costs, funding sources, etc...

Liz Langenbach relayed we have received direction from the City Council to research implementation of a dog park facility and provided handout and information related to short term solutions like Pop up Pup Parks which grants are available for and fenced storm water detention basin. Information on Dog Parks to visit in Mesa, Gilbert, Queen Creek, Chandler and Florence was provided with facilities located in a parks noted. Funding sources would include grants usually \$5 - 30 thousand dolllars, development fees depending on location, Corporate sponsorships which was very successful with Flatiron Park but is a lot of work, general fund (tax) dollars less likely lots of competition for other projects, bonds and other capital facility campaigns. Can also do some things in-house. Costs related to design costs, construction costs, maintenance and operation costs. Water from retention area designed to offset watering costs of grass. Public Works has an agressive plan to capture run off storm water. Maintenance may be offset by enlisting volunteers.

Potential locations include Prospector Park which we already have construction documents on the shelf for with a price tag of 1.8 million dollars in 2008. Silly Mountain has a conceptual design that includes a dog park also 1.8 million in 2008. County Complex detention basin proposed by County with City has parking lot, shade, restrooms available, some lighting but, has drainage issues. County Complex is a BLM leased property and would need to check if use is acceptable. Discussion stalled several years ago.

We also have Superstition Shadows Park that already has some amenities in place.

ASU student performed a study in 2017 related to dog park and recommended a smaller scale

minimum 1 acre park with basic amenities, closer to residential areas. Amenities should include minimum 5ft fence with separate areas for small and large dogs, shade, seating and water features. Municipal dog parks are typically funded through municipal bonds and capital improvement projects. Grants are available mostly small.

After some discuss with the commission starting with one or more smaller dog parks, strategically placed received the most interest. A focus group was suggested and Jesse Gage, Walker Waldie and Heather Moeller all expressed their interest.

8. New Business

9. Call to Public

None

10. Requests for Future Agenda Items

Dog Park Study; Game & Fish Migration; Social Media Campaigns/Plans; Playground Lighting @ Prospector Park

11. Adjournment

There being no further business Chairman Standage adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.