



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, September 4, 2019

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

1. Call to Order

Chairman Standage called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

2. Roll Call

Present 5 - Chairperson Standage, Commissioner Moeller, Commissioner Waldie,
 Commissioner Buzzin, and Commissioner Borey

Excused 2 - Commissioner Schoenbeck, and Vice Chair Gage

Staff Present:

Liz Langenbach, Parks and Recreation Department Director

Mary March, Parks and Recreation Department Administrative Assistant

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Standage led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Acceptance of Agenda

[19-375](#)

Chairman Standage called for a motion to accept the agenda for September 4, 2019, regular meeting.

Commissioner Buzzin motioned to accept agenda as presented. Commissioner Waldie seconded. The Parks and Recreation Commission accepted the agenda as presented.

Approved in a vote of 5 in favor 0 opposed. (yes: Borey, Moeller, Buzzin, Standage, Waldie. no: none)

5. Acceptance of Minutes

[19-377](#)

May 1, 2019

Parks and Recreation Regular Meeting

Chairman Standage called for a motion to accept the minutes of May 1, 2019 regular meeting.

Commissioner Waldie motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Buzzin seconded. The minutes were approved in a vote of 5 in favor 0 opposed. (yes: Waldie, Borey, Moeller, Buzzin, Standage. no: none.)

6. Parks and Recreation Director's Report

Director Langenbach advised the commission Nick Blake, Parks Superintendent is retiring after 25 plus years with the City, his last day is September 30th. We are looking at how to structure the parks division. Our plans are to keep the Superintendent position within the structure, vacant for now and have two supervisors as we have in the past. Nick will stay on in a consultant capacity. His landscape architectural skills are very needed. He is currently working on landscape projects at the roundabout and improvements to the downtown median.

[19-378](#) Facilities Update - Director's update on projects and opportunities in the parks and other service areas.

Director Langenbach advised the design fees for the Dog Park are approved in our new budget. As well as funds for additional playground equipment for Prospector Park Phase II and Phase III playgrounds, which will complete the last of the playground improvements at this facility. Skatepark fencing will be replaced, this is well overdue and has served us for 20 year.

[19-379](#) Program Update - Director's update on upcoming events and activities.

Director Langenbach demonstrated access to the City's website and our Parks and Recreation department activities, special events, volunteer opportunities information, highlighting the upcoming Festival of the Superstitions and Veteran's Day Parade which is held on November 11th, every year, big event for our veteran's.

7. Old Business

[19-380](#) Dog Park Design and next steps - The City Council has directed staff to begin the design phase of the Dog Park, start exploring funding sources and begin working with Pinal County to finalize agreement.

Director Langenbach advised dog park recommendation was taken to the City Council where direction was received to work on design and enter into an intergovernmental agreement with county and update existing intergovernmental agreement with the county to stipulate items related to the dog park operations i.e. Maintenance Day, Monday etc...

Further advised we are also directed to explore funding sources. Development fees are growing with affordable housing development going in and commercial growth. We will apply for grants and corporate sponsorship as we did with Flatiron Park. Paws & Claws likes the concept very much. Initially we will need the site surveyed to deal with drainage which is a major issue before design phase can even start. It does not drain well and any assistance or related experience is welcomed.

Initial ideas include a solar lighting pilot program, grid fencing that blends in, decomposed granite walkways, public art and utilization of shade.

8. New Business

[19-381](#) Make A Difference Day projects - Discussion on Make a Difference Day, October 26th, will spotlight two meaningful volunteer opportunities to enhance the downtown area in Apache Junction.

Make a difference day is a cooperative effort with Arizona Sustainability Alliance, the Apache

Junction Community Development Corporation, local community businesses, the City of Apache Junction and anyone who would like to volunteer to revegetate and beautify the Apache Trail Median Project and Think Desert at Flatiron Park on October 26, 2019. AJCDC is reaching out to business owners to make donations for improvements in front of their businesses. The Arizona Sustainability Alliance will provide native trees to reintroduce canopies for native plants. Community Services Workers will water by hand for the first year and anyone and everyone is encouraged to volunteer and come together to make a difference.

9. Call to Public

None

10. Requests for Future Agenda Items

Dog Park Updates

11. Adjournment

There being no further business Chairman Standage adjourned the meeting at 6:58 pm