



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

apachejunctionaz.gov
P: (480) 983-2181

Wednesday, April 7, 2021

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

1. Call to Order

Vice-Chair Borey called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Roll Call

Staff Present:

Liz Langenbach, Parks and Recreation Director

Jamie Sullivan, Recreation Superintendent

Riley King, Parks and Recreation Management Analyst

Mary March, Parks and Recreation Administrative Assistant

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice-Chairperson Borey led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Acceptance of Agenda

April 7, 2021

Commissioner Frank Schoenbeck motioned to accept the agenda as presented. Commissioner Luciano Buzzin seconded.

Vice-Chairperson Borey called for a motion to accept the agenda for April 7, 2021 regular meeting.

5. Acceptance of Minutes

March 03, 2021

Commissioner Schoenbeck motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Buzzin seconded.

Vice-Chairperson Borey called for a motion to accept the minutes of March 3, 2021, regular meeting.

6. Parks and Recreation Director's Report

Facility Update - Director's update on projects and opportunities in the parks and other service areas.

Director Langenbach advised the dog park is going out for bid soon and a meeting is scheduled with the Art Commission next week for art in the dog park.

Further advising our department has been struggling with dumping in desert open space areas. As reported last meeting signs have been update to include contact information for reporting violations. We have solicited and received substantial community support and interest related to cleaning up. We have scheduled and publicized a clean up event to generate more community involvement for April 10th with plans to make this a bi-annual event.

We have been receiving requests from the residents for fitness equipment at Superstition Shadows Park. Liz provided a presentation on what is called "The Bamboo Jungle" which is designed for older children and adults. Advising installation is expected for June of this year.

The Focal Point flowerbeds have a new look rather than just cactus or flowers. The rays are alternating with cactus and flowers. Liz advised that even the cactus struggled with the extreme heat last summer and the increase to water flowers will be minimal. If necessitated could include in corporate sponsorship if it works out well.

We have been experiencing more vandalism at the skate park. Parks Rangers are working through solutions.

Program Update - Director's update on upcoming events and activities.

Director Langenbach advised this Easter was a drive through event and we had a Leprechaun painted rock hunt at Prospector celebrating St. Patrick's Day. We are in the process of planning for summer activities and pool season, registration starts April 17th for residents and May 1st for non-residents. We are also looking forward to planning some kind of event and fireworks for the 4th of July.

7. Old Business

Parks and Recreation Fee Update - Presentation and discussion on changes to 4.1 of the City Code, Parks and Recreation Fees.

Riley King, Parks and Recreation Management Analyst reviewed incorporated options previously provided for review and discussion.

Jamie Sullivan, Recreation Superintendent advised fee structure includes commercial fees and resident fees versus non-resident utilization of our facilities. Further stating as everything increases we need to adjust also asking for feedback to incorporate and present to City Council for approval and implementation by September.

Resident/nonresident fee designation and discussion related to percentage difference was recommended. Staff advised changes will be made and brought back to next meeting for final review, approval and recommendation to City Council.

Discussion on COVID19 - related topics to include effect on recreational programming, facility usage and community wellness opportunities.

Director Langenbach updated the Commission on upcoming events & programs we are currently planning for the summer to include open swim & lessons. Pinal-Gila Council for Senior Citizens has approved our plans and we can start transportation and congregate meals and

activities sometime in May.

Basketball courts will be available wearing a mask will be encouraged. Exercise equipment will remain spaced out, climbing wall will become available once staff is increased. We will still be requiring cleaning and precautionary measures.

Director Langenbach further advised in emergencies we are designated as a point of distribution. Our responsibility during this time is to coordinate PODS (Point of Distribution) for COVID19 testing and vaccinations, which we have partnered with Embry "Women's" Health for such purpose. The first dose of vaccinations has already been provided, with the second does schedule for April 24th & 25th.

8. New Business

9. Call to Public

John Julian 5330 N. Grand Drive Apache Junction addressed the commission regarding the harsh glare from Prospector Park ballfield lights to neighborhoods in surrounding area and requested a solution to the issue.

John Abney, Musco Lighting, addressed the commission and provided information and demonstration on new lighting options available which meets Dark Sky designation requirements for replacement to current ballfield lighting.

10. Requests for Future Agenda Items

Parks & Recreation Fee Update; Commissioner Schoenbeck asked for ballfield lighting to be placed on agenda.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business Vice-Chairperson Borey adjourned the meeting at 7:18 pm.
