

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CASA GRANDE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
HELD MARCH 5, 2014  
AT THE PARKS & RECREATION OFFICE – ARMADILLO ROOM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Donna McBride called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**The following members were present:**

Nicole Perez                      Donna McBride  
Garrett Powell                  Michael Reid

**Members Absent:**

Valyrie Wright

**Staff Present:**

William Schwind, Community Services Director  
Rod Wood, Parks Maintenance Superintendent  
Caryl Chase, Recreation Superintendent  
Lydia Cordova, Administrative Assistant

**Others Present:**

Dennis Bloomquist, Casa Grande Remote Control Flyers  
Robert Miller, Pinal County Veterans Memorial Foundation

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – FEBRUARY 5, 2014**

Member Michael Reid made a motion to approve the minutes of February 5, 2014 as written. Member Garrett Powell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Election of Officers

Chairperson McBride opened the floor for nominations of Chairperson. Chairperson McBride made a motion to nominate Member Reid. Member Nicole Perez seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The floor was then opened for nominations of Vice-Chairperson. Chairperson Reid made a motion to nominate Member Perez. Member Powell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Review and Approve Glo-Fuel Model Air Craft at RC Park

Community Service Director William Schwind reported he has been approached by the CG Remote Control Flyers of possibly allowing glo-fuel model aircraft no greater than 10 lbs. at RC Park. He summarized on the current contract with the group and currently it only allows batter operated aircraft and the group is responsible for any improvements at the RC park. He stated that they are trying to do improvements and by allowing glo-fuel model aircraft would allow more members to join the group. Mr. Schwind stated he did have a few concerns in regards to safety and noise, but has found that to a level that it's not all that noisy. He

broached the subject with the City Risk Management team and our insurance providers and they came back with the fact that the Aeronautical of Flying Institute do have their own insurance and will cover them and us (City of Casa Grande), therefore Risk Management did not have an issue with allowing the glo-fuel air craft.

Dennis Bloomquist a member of the group commented that there are approximately 45 members who are flying around Casa Grande illegally as they are using fields that are not their property. This would allow them to join the group and a place for them to go.

After further discussion, members approved to amend the contract to allow glo-fuel model aircraft at RC Park.

#### Discussion on Use of City Facilities for Religious Purposes

Recreation Superintendent Caryl Chase stated she has received requests to use our City facilities for religious services. She said it has been our policy in the past to not allow our facility to be used for religious services mainly for the fact they are ongoing events and our facilities are kept open for city and community events.

Member Powell asked what the statutes are. Community Services Director William Schwind replied that there are state statutes that obviously deal with church and state in which we are well aware of that, however when it comes to using a facility, they are groups not for profit, they are a church like any other patron who would like to rent a facility.

Members then discussed the possible issues of ongoing rentals and how it could possibly restrict use from other users and/or City events. Mr. Schwind stated that in other recreation departments and facilities that he has managed in the past have dealt with religious groups using facilities, but it was up to a six month period where they can't have it for more than four weekends, so there are options and revenues could be generated.

Member McBride stated she did have some concerns in regards to long term reservation requests and requested to review and discuss further at the next Board meeting. All members were in agreement.

#### Update on the Status of the Recreation Center

Community Services Director William Schwind provided an update and summarized on the Performa that was received from the YMCA. He said City Manager then wanted to see the difference between what the YMCA was proposing relative to their overall annual operational cost based on the size of the pool they presented; and he wanted to see comparable numbers of different sizes of pools and/or without an aquatic feature or possibly a splash pad. Since that process, the Director of the YMCA has retired and their Finance Director Ron Chamblis is no longer employed by the YMCA; and they are having a few challenges with existing partnerships they have now and are now assessing their budget.

Mr. Schwind stated he and Deputy City Manager Larry Rains have made contact with the YMCA Advisory Board and shared with them the information they were negotiating with from the administrators of the YMCA at the time and the advisory board had not seen the proposed Performa. They will be taking a few weeks to regroup themselves and will get back with us to set up a meeting with them to see where we are as far as what's on paper and how we want to move forward, and if they want to move forward with us as partners.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**REPORTS BY OFFICERS**

Update on Parks Maintenance Projects

Parks Maintenance Superintendent Rod Wood reported signs have been made for emergency GPS signs for trails at Casa Grande Mountain Park. There will be an Eagle Scout member and his volunteers placing the signs to predestinated locations to help make emergency medical response a lot more efficient as an Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Wood then spoke of the improvements at the aquatic pool and the ongoing daily maintenance duties of Park crews.

Update on Recreation Division's Programs and Upcoming Events

Recreation Superintendent distributed the March calendar and told about upcoming events for youth some of them being the Catfish Rodeo, Spring Baseball Camp and the Hershey Track and Field. She also reported the Senior Follies event had a sold out crowd with over 600 in attendance.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Robert Miller presented interest on the Master Plan for Ed Hooper Park to include a Veteran's memorial by the Pinal County Veterans Memorial Foundation.

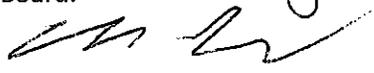
This item will be brought back for discussion at a later Board meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Submitted by   
Secretary of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, subject to Board approval.

Approved this 7th day of May, 2014 by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

  
Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.