

REGULAR MEETING
April 3, 2013

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CASA GRANDE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
HELD WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2013
AT THE PARKS & RECREATION OFFICE – ARMADILLO ROOM**

CALL TO ORDER

Community Services Director William Schwind called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present:

Donna McBride Nicole Perez
Garrett Powell Valyrie Wright
Michael Reid

Staff Present:

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

Others Present:

Christina Sampson, Casa Grande Dispatch

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 6, 2013

Member Mike Reid made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Member Garrett Powell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Review Alcohol Policy

Community Services Director William Schwind distributed copies of the City Code to Board members regarding alcohol and summarized on the discussion regarding the alcohol policy from the last board meeting. He stated Ordinances and rules were written for our parks system before some of our newer parks existed such as Villago and Ed Hooper Rodeo Park. With it not being an easy task to change Ordinances, he would like to do some assessment to the language that is in the City Code, which are written and broad enough to give a little bit of latitude when it comes to enforcing parks. Currently the

City Code via Ordinance allows alcohol to be consumed in public parks with a permit required issued by our Department for only Elliott, Nutt, Peart, and O'Neil Parks due to issues in the past with transients consuming alcohol in these parks. Permits were required for O'Neil Park due to the fact that used to be somewhat of the hub of the recreational activity for adult softball and with the housing so close and prominent to O'Neil Park.

Mr. Schwind said that currently the Ordinance does not state anything that allows the Police Department or our department to grant any other authority for either alcohol consumption in parks or to prevent it. Recently softball leagues were assessed and going back through some files, records were found that there have been some incidents of fighting, foul language and suspensions which may have not been all alcohol related but probable more to do with it; so we are trying to at least regulate the leagues. The no alcohol rule has been implemented for Paul Mason Sportsplex which has been going on for about a year now, however since its not an Ordinance or a City Code posted to that, Police have very little authority in which to charge and would require an Ordinance change. We would like to include the Paul Mason sportsplex to the Ordinance and possibly open it up to all parks. The current policy allows citizens to consume alcohol without a permit for other City parks with no glass containers allowed.

Board members were asked to review the City Ordinance and members agreed to send their recommendations to Chairperson McBride who will then send all recommendations to Mr. Schwind for review for him to compile.

Review Fees/Recreational Immunity

Community Services Director William Schwind reported that our City Attorney expressed that he didn't really feel that for us to charge a nominal fee for park reservations would present any big problems. If we are negligent on some particular item than obviously people have the right to sue over anything, but typically our parks maintenance standards are such that we kind of keep a good check on what we got going on; it will be up to us professionally manage our facilities like we do and he didn't think it would be a major issue.

Board members will submit suggestions for recommendations of fees/rates for park reservations.

Update on Recreation Center

Community Services Director William Schwind reported a Request for Qualifications has been distributed statewide for construction companies and architects to provide us a design and construction proposal for the design and development of the community recreation center. The proposals were due back to the City on March 27 with 21 submittals received. Submittals are now being distributed amongst City Council members, Executive Leadership Team and staff to review and score, and those numbers are due back to City's Project Manager on April 9. Discussions will be held and scored and interviews will then be scheduled.

Vice Chairperson Powell asked if there has been any progress on finding a partner or ways to support the facility. Mr. Schwind stated there is a request for proposal that's been drafted and the City Attorney's Department is reviewing a small section of the RFP that was submitted in regards to with the way the bonds were sold and how long a term that we can negotiate in with a partnership.

Chairperson McBride questioned if there will be any type of opportunity for public input due to the bond that the people voted on were under the assumption that it was going to be a facility run by the City and if there is a partnership, believes that needs to be considered. Bill stated the RFP process will be reviewed to staff and Board members before it is out for people to see, but our Parks and Recreation Advisory

Board meetings are opened to the public, so we would be able to broadcast and advertise our board meetings to give citizens that opportunity.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS

Report from Recreation Division

Recreation Superintendent Caryl Chase gave a recap on upcoming programs and special events; she also reported the summer activity guide will be available online April 16 and registration begins May 6.

Chairperson McBride reported the Youth Commission's Day of Shredding is scheduled for 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. on April 20 at First American Credit Union, and first 5 boxes are free.

Report from Park Maintenance Division

Parks Superintendent Rod Wood stated crews continue to help with community events and youth sports programs that required assistance from Parks Maintenance staff along with the daily maintenance duties.

Mr. Wood also reported a trail build at Casa Grande Mountain Park was held on March 23 with 1,930 ft. of trails built. He reported it is the last trail build until the fall.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

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

Approved this _____ day of _____, 2013 by the Parks
and Recreation Advisory Board.

Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.