

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board of the City of Mesa met in a regular session at the Parks and Recreation office at 200 S. Center Street, Building 1, Mesa, on May 11, 2016.

Members Present:

Kent Bulkley
John Duclos
Matt Erickson
Sarah Johnson
Jennifer Madsen
Wayne Manske
Bert Millett
Kathleen Rahn
Josh Todd

Members Absent:

Jaime Glasser
Justin Murdock

Staff Present:

Marc Heirshberg
Michael Holste
Aimee Manis
Erik Ostlund
Leslie Clark
Jo Donovan
Mark Foote
Jan Johnson
Darla Armfield
Paula Zeigler
Beth Skowronek
Tiffany Krahenbuhl
Dawn von Epp – City
Auditors Office

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by Jennifer Madsen, Chair.

Approval of Minutes

Jennifer Madsen, Chair, asked if there was a motion for approval of the minutes from the March 13, 2016, Parks Board meeting. Kent Bulkley made a motion, Wayne Manske seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes.

Public Comments: Items currently not on the agenda:

Brad Boren, Red Mountain Devils, Football League, asked to speak regarding Community Youth Groups (CYG), field reservations and lighted fields. Mr. Boren requested the ability to receive a list of CYG so he could verify whether or not they were still active CYG groups, as he would like to become a CYG group, which is currently unavailable. Mr. Heirshberg stated that there has only been one new CYG group added over the last 6 years, due to the limitation on requested fields. The field reservations are maintained by Mesa Public Schools and PRCF handles the lighting.

Presentation on Reservations and Registration – Jan Johnson and Staff

Ms. Leslie Clark introduced Jan Johnson, Office Manager, Paula Zeigler and Beth Skownek, Reservation and Registration Assistants. Ms. Johnson and her staff then presented a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the tasks that the Reservation and Registration staff complete on a daily basis.

The front staff handle reservations for 205 parks and basins, and 65 reservable ramadas. From July 2015 through April 2016 reservations accounted for \$1,375,826 in revenue from ramada reservations, pool reservations, open field reservations and special permits. From May 1, 2014 through May 1, 2016 staff answered 32,150 calls.

Registrations for Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities programs are busiest during the second and third week of April when summer registration begins. During April 2015 through April 2016 there were 23,828 registrations.

This year staff completed the first digital activity guide “Jump-In” this allows easier and more accurate registration experience, this guide will be issued 3 times per year, Fall, Winter and Summer.

Recreation Swim Team Discussion – Mr. Bert Millett, Board Member

Mr. Millett requested to have a discussion as to why Recreation Swim Team for the summer of 2016 at certain pools filled so quickly and why spaces were not available when parents tried to register. Along with Mr. Millett there were two additional parents, Stacy Moritz and Breanne Johnson, who wished to voice their concerns with the inability to register their children for swim team, all children were requesting to be on the swim team at Kino Aquatics Complex and were placed on the wait-list. Mr. Heirshberg shared that due to the large amount of outreach done by staff this year and with the new “Jump-In” guide that a number of programs filled within the first two days of registration. During the first 24 hours of registration there were over 14,000 registrations with 92% coming in on-line. Darla Armfield, Recreation Supervisor and Mark Foote, Recreation Coordinator explained that nothing had changed at the pool with registration numbers, the teams are not smaller or have less space than any other year. Ms. Armfield did explain that there is a number of things that change prior to the start of season, and that staff is hopeful that all those on the waitlist will be able to be accommodated.

Director’s Comments

Mr. Heirshberg presented a token of appreciation to departing Parks Board members, Kathleen Rahn, Kent Bulkley, Bert Millett and Wayne Manske.

Mr. Heirshberg mentioned that the summer season is gearing up to be very busy. The upcoming Sports Field Complex proposed by Visit Mesa is still going forward and City Council will be deciding by July if it will be on the November ballot.

Reports on meetings and/or events attended by Board Members

Mr. Erickson attended Celebrate Mesa, Day at the Diamond, and Fountain Plaza.

Mr. Millett attended Celebrate Mesa.

Mr. Duclos attended Celebrate Mesa and Falcon Field Open House.

Mr. Manske attended Riverview.

Ms. Johnston will be attending the Desert Challenge Games.

Ms. Rahn attended Day at the Diamond, Desert Trails Park, and Dobson Ranch Golf Course. Ms. Rahn also announced that she will be running for Arizona State House of Representatives in District 25.

Mr. Bulkley attended Dobson Ranch Golf Course and the course was in excellent condition!

Ms. Madsen attended Celebrate Mesa.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc Heirshberg, CPRE
PRCF Department Director