

## **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 708 W. Baseline Rd, Bldg. #4, Mesa, on September 11, 2019.

### Members Present:

Claud Cluff  
Kimberly Forest  
Cindy Hayton  
Nycole Leyba (phone)  
Brent Maldonado  
Jo Martin  
Jacob Martinez  
Orchidia Peterson

### Staff Present:

Marc Heirshberg  
Fred Rustam  
Andrea Moore  
Tammy Davenport  
Dyan Seaburg  
Aimee Manis  
Maigon Hudson  
Jo Donovan

### Members Absent:

Matt Erickson  
Jaime Glasser  
Justin Murdock

The meeting was called to order at 5:08 p.m. by Jo Martin, Parks Advisory Board Chair.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Martin asked if there was a motion for approval of the minutes of the May 8, 2019 meeting. Kimberly Forest made a motion to approve, Orchidia Peterson, seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Cluff, Forest, Hayton, Leyba, Maldonado, Martin, Martinez, Peterson

NAYS - None

### **Introduction of new Parks Board Members:**

Brent Maldonado, grew up in Chandler and now live in Mesa. Has 3 children, 10, 7 and 3-year-old. Works for Salt River Project.

Claud Cluff grew up in Mesa. Works for the City of Chandler Parks and Recreation Department. Wanted to give back to the City that he grew up in.

### **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Election of Chair and Vice Chair FY 2018-19:**

Ms. Martin opened the floor for nominations for Chair and Vice Chair. Nycole Leyba nominated Jo Martin for re-election of Chair, Jacob Martinez made the motion and Kimberly Forest seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Cluff, Forest, Hayton, Leyba, Maldonado, Martinez, Peterson

NAYS - None

Ms. Forest nominated Nycole Leyba for Vice Chair, Orchidia Peterson made the motion and Jo Martin seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Cluff, Forest, Hayton, Maldonado, Martin, Martinez, Peterson

NAYS - None

**Presentation by Recreation Teams; Adaptive, Summer Programs, Special Events and an overview of the Autism Certification.**

Mr. Heirshberg introduced Lane Gram, Recreation Supervisor. Lane is an big part of our team, and was a asset in helping move one of our goals along to become a Certified Autism Center, which she will touch on later in her presentation.

Ms. Gram also presented a PowerPoint presentation on highlights of the Adaptive, Summer Programs and Special Event areas of the PRCF Department, along with a newsletter highlighting some of the events in her area of the Department.

Ms. Gram stated that the City of Mesa Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities Department had become the first Parks Department in the World to become a Certified Autism Center. Ten staff members were trained to teach the certification, and then trained all full-time and part-time staff that interact with the general public. Six locations have completed an audit and now have Sensory Guides available to the general public and Mesa Visitors. This movement started with Visit Mesa and PRCF was able to join the movement.

**Director's Comments:**

**Introduction of New Staff:** Mr. Heirshberg introduced Dyan Seaburg, new Commercial Administrator, Dyan was previously the Venue Manager for the Convention Center and Amphitheatre. He also introduced Maigon Hudson, Administrative Support Assistant I, supporting Jo Donovan and the Cemetery digitization project.

Mr. Heirshberg asked Andrea Moore, PRCF Administrator, to provide the Project Updates for the Department.

**Eagles Park Update:** Most fences have been removed around Eagles Park and the park has been opened, and the fields have also been opened for Soccer for use. The Grand Opening Ceremony will be scheduled in January.

**Signal Butte Park Update:** Phase 1 of Signal Butte Park was funded in the 2012 Bond Project and the playground will be completed by the end of the year. Phase 2 was funded with the 2018 Bond and will be started sometime in 2020.

**City Center Plaza:** This project will be going next to the City Plaza Building. There will be an acre and a half, which will include a seasonal ice rink, a water feature and grass hill and a public viewable screen for "movies in the park" or other events. There will be room for food trucks and other amenities.

**Eastmark Great Park:** The next phase of expansion will be opening in November. This includes baseball fields, playground, sand volleyball courts, basketball courts, ramadas, and a grass field.

Mr. Heirshberg provided the following updates.

**2018 Bond Projects:** The land has been secured for the North Center Project, which was moved up a year, to provide more multi-use fields in North Mesa. A public meeting has been held at Red Mountain Park, regarding the expansive project at that location, to help the neighbors understand what was involved with the project. The land acquisition for the final 5 acres for Monterey Park is in negotiations. Several playground and aquatic projects were in the Bond package, and staff is working on securing procurement for those items.

**NRPA Gold Medal Award:** The PRCF Department is a finalist in the NRPA Gold Medal Award. The award will be presented at the National NRPA Conference in Baltimore, MD on September 24, 2019. Several staff will be in attendance and hopefully will bring home the Grand Award. Mr. Heirshberg shared the video that was submitted to the NRPA Gold Medal panel.

#### **Reports on meetings and/or events attended by Board Members**

Nycole Leyba: Attended the Red Mountain Project open house.

**Jo Martin:** Attended the Red Mountain Project open house, Adaptive play “The Little Mermaid, Jr.” at Red Mountain High School.

**Cindy Hayton:** Attended the opening of the Light Rail Extension.

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Crider, seconded by Ms. Martin and the motion was carried.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Cluff, Forest, Hayton, Leyba, Maldonado, Martin, Martinez, Peterson

NAYS - None

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc Heirshberg, CPRE  
PRCF Department Director