Tempe

Minutes
Parks and Recreation Board
April 16, 2008

Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board meeting held on April 16, 2008 7:00 p.m., Library Board Room, 3500 S. Rural Road, Tempe, Arizona.

Members Present:
Frank Granillo, Chair
Chuy Carreon
Buddy Davis
Andrea Esquer
Scott Hamilton
Ed Parker
Ed Roberts
Don Watkins

Members Absent:
Angela Thornton, Vice-Chair

City Staff Present:
Travis Dray, Deputy Manager – Parks & Recreation Department
Cynthia Yanez, Executive Assistant – Parks & Recreation Department
Sam Thompson, Deputy Manager – Parks & Recreation Department
Dave Bucher, Supervisor – Parks and Recreation Department
Nancy Ryan, Rio Salado Manager – Community Development
Karl Stephens, ADA Compliance Specialist, Diversity Department

Meeting convened at 7:05 p.m.

Frank Granillo called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item 1 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes;
The amended minutes of the February 20, 2008 meeting were accepted.

Agenda Item 2 – Rio Salado Updates
Nancy Ryan, Rio Salado Manager, provided updates for the Rio Salado Area.

1. An updated design of the pedestrian bridge was shared with the Board.
2. The consulting firm that provided the map of the lake bottom wrote an article about Tempe Town Lake that was published in *Land & Water Magazine*.

3. Staff continues to work with Chanen Development for the design and development of the boathouse.
4. A development proposal will most likely be presented to Council this summer.
5. The board was invited to join the Earth day event at the Indian Bend Wash Habitat.
6. Phase III of the Indian Bend Wash Habitat will include the completion of a portion of the habitat as well as creating a path that will connect to the Rio East area.
7. Proposed development agreements for Elements are now being reviewed.
8. Engineering is working on the subdivision of the Elements area.
9. Staff is looking to relocate the restrooms at Tempe Beach Park to alleviate the problems that are caused by the pump feed.
10. Additional restrooms may be added as a part of the relocation.

General Discussion by the Committee:

- The pedestrian bridge will be a multi-use path and will be ADA accessible.
- The plans do not call for the pedestrian path to be divided.
- The fitness center will more than likely provide equipment that will geared to those who are training for various activities on the lake.
- The operation and maintenance would be funded by user fees for storage, room space, fitness membership etc.
- The building will be managed by City staff.
- Chanen will donate the design and construction of the building and will receive naming rights in return.
- The City will probably look at a lease-back option for the residents of Elements.
- The buildings will be designed by the artists, but will be subject to the City's review.

Agenda Item 3 – ADA Presentation

Karl Stephens, ADA Compliance Specialist, was joined by the chair of the Disability Commission, Frank Emory, to share a document addressing proposed guidelines for recreational facilities.

1. These guidelines would apply to recreational program, services and activities.
2. It would also provide guidelines for the development, or renovation, of recreational facilities.
3. Specific complaints regarding accessibility issues were shared with the board.
4. The board was asked to review the document and then return with a recommendation for the City of Tempe to adopt the guidelines.

General Discussion by the Committee:

- Staff asked for information on other cities that have adopted these guidelines and the effects of implementing them.
- Their goal is to make the City of Tempe the most accessible city.
- The guidelines have to be economically feasible.

Agenda Item 4 – Parks Maintenance Levels of Service

Sam Thompson, Deputy Manager – Parks Services, along with his staff, have been working a project to provide quantitative data on parks maintenance responsibilities throughout Tempe.

1. Staff has been collecting the data for over 1 year.
2. The data includes an asset inventory.
3. It also categorizes the parks and special facilities as well as the level of maintenance required for each site.
4. Tasks may vary depending on the scheduled uses of the parks/fields.
5. Tasks may also very depending on the season.
6. The project breaks down the staff hours that are available to perform these tasks.
7. The results of this project will allow for the creation of an operational maintenance calendar for each park.
8. Quarterly inspections are performed at each park to identify necessary improvements or repairs.

General Discussion by the Committee:

- There are only 50 full-time staff members budgeted for maintenance of the parks.
- This number does not include staff members that are assigned to the stadium or the two golf courses.
- Various departments can, and do, share equipment as needed.
- Parks staff will be working with Public Works and the Police Department on a plan to address graffiti problems.
- The staff's goal is to eradicate graffiti within 24 to 48 hours.

Agenda Item 5 – Tennis Courts

Dave Bucher, Supervisor, provided information on the upcoming installation of new tennis court surfaces at Kiwanis Park.

1. The original surface was asphalt.
2. In 1994 a cushioned surface by Premier was installed.
3. The surface is worn and needs to be replaced.
4. The new surface will be installed by Rebound Ace.
5. This surface is made from recycle Nike Tennis Shoes.
6. The surface provides for slower or medium play which is good for beginning or intermediate players.
7. The installation will begin on April 21.

Agenda Item 6 – Chair/Board Member Comments

Chuy Carreon had visitors from Washington that attended, and were impressed by, the Ironman competition.

Ed Parker requested information regarding the Tempe Beach Park events schedule. He also had concerns about tournament play at the golf course. Travis will forward his concerns to the appropriate staff.

Andrea Esquer said she drove by the Esquer Park which is nearing construction. The park should be open by late May.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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