

**Parks and Recreation Board
General Meeting
December 8, 2008
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA**

MINUTES OF THE **Special Meeting** OF THE **Parks and Recreation Board** held on **December 8, 2008** in the **Parks and Recreation Administration Office** located at **125 N. Arizona St.**, Prescott, Arizona.

1. Roll Call–

Members Present: Bob Bockrath, Michael King, Janelle Riedl, Joe Baynes, Ali Schroeder.

Others Present: Debbie Horton, Diana Fister, Eric Smith, Michelle Stacy.

2. Summary of Issues–

Debbie Horton showed the Board the Capital Needs presentation made to Council. It highlighted the main priorities for improvements of Parks and Recreation. Main priorities are safety surface upgrades in the playgrounds, parking lot resurfacing, winterizing restrooms, ballfield and skate park lighting to the national standard and making existing facilities ADA compliant. The presentation also showed the cost affiliated with completing the 19-Acre park site, a proposed aquatic center and new recreational center.

**3. Board Tour– Goldwater Lake
Lakes**

Diana Fister gave a tour of Goldwater Lake. She highlighted that the trees marked with ribbons have been marked based on size and health and are considered “keepers”. The source of water for the lake comes from Bannon Creek. The dam was built in the 1930’s and separates Goldwater from Lower Goldwater, which has no public access. There is no running water at Goldwater Lake in winter months, and in fact the caretaker of the lake, who lives on the property, brings a water truck in to fill his water tank for the residence. Soft drink machines are available for the thirsty patron visiting the lake.

There is one Ramada at Goldwater Lake. The wooden tables under the Ramada were made by Yavapai Exceptional Industries, a local special needs group. The playground is in need of upgraded safety surface. The two fishing docks have been under reconstruction. One has already been completed and is back in the water, complete with a wench mechanism that changes the height of the dock with the rise and fall of the water level. The other is currently out of the water and the wood slates and floats are being repaired.

The lake is stocked with rainbow trout, catfish, and large-mouthed bass and swimming is not permitted. Only electric boat motors are allowed. In the summer months a concessionaire from Manzanita Outdoor rents kayaks and canoes. There are several plastic benches that line the lake and all are portable. There is a trail

that allows visitors to hike around the lake, before reaching the dam. Visitors are not allowed to access the dam. It was pointed out that the electrical wires at both ends of the lake are decorated with reflective markers to help prevent eagles and other birds from flying into them.

Parks

Eric Smith guided the Board on a tour of Acker Park. Initially the property was proposed for development but a citizen referendum saved it. The property is a little under 100-Acres. It is equipped with a trail system, bathroom, play ground and amphitheatre. At one time there was an influx of homeless persons inhabiting the property, who have since been removed. Eric informed the board that due to a rise in deviant behavior, loud music is played in the bathroom to deter any offensive behavior. On occasion, community service workers, led by the Prescott Police Department, help to clean the park. There has been a lot of illegal dumping at the Utility easement next to the park and the department has taken steps to try and alleviate any unwanted dumping.

The department has initiated a rainwater harvesting mechanism at the park. Rainwater is collected and filtered through a series of pipes and is then recycled for use in the drip system. There is a 100 gallon water holding tank on site to store the harvested water. There are two walls of art at the park, created by Mountain Oak School and the other, by Skyview School. There is also a "Braille trail" lined with rocks on both sides to allow visually impaired patrons to enjoy an outdoor experience..

4. Adjournment- 4:26pm

Bob Bockrath, Chairman

Michelle Stacy