

**Parks and Recreation Board
General Meeting
August 30, 2012
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA**

MINUTES OF THE **General Meeting OF THE Parks and Recreation Board** held on **August 30, 2012** in the **Grace Sparkes Memorial Activity Center, Flagstone Room** located at **824 E. Gurley St.**, Prescott, Arizona.

1. Roll Call & Approval of Minutes from May 16, 2012

Members Present: Wayne Howell, Ted Blake, Janelle Riedl, Rowle Simmons

Members not Present: Mike King

Others Present: Joe Baynes, Chris Hosking, Eric Smith, Michelle Stacy-Schroeder, Steve Mancha, Rudy Litka, Don Fishel and Councilman Chris Kuknyo

Motion made by Rowle Simmons to accept the minutes from May 16, 2012 as written. Motion was seconded by Wayne Howell. Motion passed unanimously- all approved.

- 2. Prescott's Great Outdoors Recreation Festival and Expo** - Eric Smith reported that the Department will be running a 2-day event to highlight recreation opportunities in Prescott, The event will include business vendors, informational booths, exhibits, food, and live music. Eric stated that advertising has already begun with area radio stations and the City of Prescott Tourism office and that the event was given an anonymous donation of \$10,000.00. Eric stated that Arizona Game and Fish will be on hand to give a fishing clinic and also to share informational exhibits. Eric explained that this will be a consolidated City effort, with various Departments helping out with personnel or services. An entry fee has not been set yet, but Eric explained that there would be one.
- 3. Circle Trail-** Joe Baynes shared a powerpoint presentation on the recent installments of the Circle Trail. He stated that the City acquired State Land easements resulting in 6.6 miles of new trail. Joe stated that the proposal was taken to Council on Tuesday, August 27 and was approved with a 6 to 1 vote.
- 4. Disc Golf-** Joe Baynes gave an update on the proposed disc golf course at Goldwater Lake that was discussed at a previous meeting. He stated that with other proposed improvements at Goldwater, the better solution would be to move the course to Watson Lake. Joe explained that the course would consist of nine holes and funding would be provided through the partnering account. Cost would be approximately \$3,000 with the disc golf group doing the construction in an underutilized area of Watson Lake Park. Joe also explained that there is a possibility of finding archeological artifacts, but that the group would not be digging. Joe stated that this project does not need Council approval but wanted to get the Board's thoughts on the plan. There will not be any conflict with existing amenities or trails, and will create additional amenities to the park and revenue as participants will still have to pay a parking fee to access the course. A

motion was made by Wayne Howell to move forward with the planning of a disc golf course at Watson Lake Park. The motion was seconded by Rowle Simmons and passed unanimously in favor.

5. **Adopt-A-Spot-** Eric Smith discussed the possibility of crating an adopt-a-spot program. Service groups, organizations and individuals would be able to adopt different areas that are run by the City. The program would consist of minimal requirements such as clean-up or trash removal, but could include some maintenance, painting or weed pulling. Areas to consider would be right-of-ways, parks, trails or even sections of parks like playgrounds or restrooms. Groups would coordinate with staff members to be present when “working” in their adopted area. Joe Baynes added that our parks have vandalism issues and having this program will give the Department a point of contact and a line of accountability.
6. **West Granite Creek Park-** Joe discussed the area of Granite Creek Park that runs west of Montezuma, known as Pocket Park. Joe explained that this area has had a few incidents with homeless camping and that the weeds and shrubs are getting very high. The Department, in conjunction with Yavapai County Probation and APS, will be doing some improvements. APS will be removing dead trees, holes will be filled and the area will be cleaned up. The project will take approximately 30-45 days. Joe stated that this needs to be done in the interest of public safety and for vegetation management. Joe also stated that the clean-up will public safety offices a better line of vision on any happenings in the park.
7. **Impact Fee Projects-** Joe stated that the Kuebler Field and Goldwater Lake improvement projects have been tentatively approved for the FY13 budget, but still need to be presented and approved by Council. Joe explained that there is only so much money in the impact fee account and if all of the funds are spent on these two projects there will not be much left for future projects.
8. **Community Restitution Program-** Joe explained that the budget process evolved and the Department has gained the Community Restitution program from the Police Department. Joe explained that offenders in this program do community service rather than paying fees to the Court for their violations (DUI, domestic violence, shoplifting, etc.). Personnel will help in weed abatement, trash clean-up or due to physical limitations may work off hours at local non-profit agencies such as the Salvation Army or the D.A.V. Joe explained that the program will give more man hours to perform landscaping tasks. Kelly Tolbert will be the main person for registering and the Department also got Troy Kenner, who ran the program when it was under the Police Department.
9. **Division Reports**

- a. **Sports & Recreation** – Don Fishel reported that the tournament season was a great success for the Division. The Beat the Heat tournament hosted 43 teams (2 days), the Girl's Class A State hosted 24 teams (2 days), the Best of the West hosted the largest amount of teams with 63 (3 days), and the ASA Girl's Class A 18U Western National Championship played host to 18 teams (5 days). All of these tournaments had local teams playing, but the majority came from out-of-town teams. The Class A 18U Western National had teams from Utah, California, Arizona and Washington.

The AC Williams Men's Fast-Pitch Invitational hosted 6 teams in July and the Over-the-Line Tournament hosted 42 teams with individual participation at approximately 1,000 people for a 1-day tournament at Pioneer Park. Don stated that for the first time ever, a Men's 60-and-Over Fast-Pitch National will be held, and it will be hosted here in Prescott, September 21-23, 2012. He stated that he hopes to have at least 6 teams participating.

Michelle Stacy-Schroeder informed the Board that she ran a Women's Senior Olympic softball tournament on August 19-20. This year the tournament played host to 22 teams, but for the first time in the 12 years of the tournament, teams came from Michigan, Missouri and Ohio. She stated that every year the tournament gets bigger and she hopes next year will be bigger and better.

Don explained that the Division is gearing up for the rest of the Senior Games in October. He stated that the volleyball (30 teams in men's, women's and Co-ed divisions) took place at the beginning of August, as did the women's softball. He stated that this year events to be offered would be shooting (9 individual events), 3-on-3 basketball, track (12 individual events), swimming (10 individual events), golf (4-man scramble and individual), tennis, horseshoes and bowling (single, doubles and mixed). Don also expressed interest in hosting powerlifting, 5K/10K running, bocce ball, and mountain biking.

Don reported City league adult sports continue to grow. He reported that City league softball had 141 teams, basketball has two seasons (40 teams combined) and volleyball has two seasons (75 teams combined).

- b. **Parks Maintenance-** Rudy Litka reported that Parks Maintenance is gearing up for a busy fall season with youth football, youth soccer and Yavapai College Soccer. Rudy indicated that the turf is in its best condition in years due to rain and a new irrigation coordinator. Rudy explained that other than field use preparations, the Division is still busy with maintenance projects, but explained that all projects are under budget as they are all being done in house.

- c. **Lakes** – Steve Mancha reported that the Lakes Division has been busy with special events and the camping season. He also explained that he has been busy filling vacant positions within the Department such as irrigation, landscaping and community service. Steve has also been assisting Joe with the plans for the Goldwater expansion project.
- d. **Special Projects and Files-** Eric Smith reported that he has continued work on the Prescott Great Outdoor Recreation Festival and Expo, to be held at Watson Lake on October 6 and 7. Eric also explained that with the upcoming departure of Garry Grahlmann, he has focused a lot of attention on the volunteer ranger program, learning the rule compliances and the citation process.

Eric also stated that the Peavine Restroom project has been completed and came in under budget significantly.

- e. **Trails-** Chris Hosking reported that he has been busy completing the Watson Lake loop. He reported that the North Shore trail (Horsley property) has garnered lots of use. The Willow Loop is a few weeks away from an official opening. Chris reported that the trail is completed but he is waiting for the signage. Chris noted that the East Bay Loop has been getting a lot of cleaning from the Over-the-Hill Gang, Juvenile Probation and the Community Restitution Program. He stated that it was in great need because of the amount of mud brought on from all of the rain.

The Watson Woods trail system is currently being worked in by Prescott Creeks and has about six more weeks before completion. Chris is also working on trails within the Nature Center.

10. Next Meeting – TBD

Motion made by Wayne Howell to adjourn the meeting at 3:13pm. Motion was seconded by Ted Blake. All in favor- Motion passed unanimously in favor.

Janelle Riedl, Chairwoman

Michelle Stacy-Schroeder