



MINUTES OF THE CITY OF PRESCOTT PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

City of Prescott Parks & Recreation Board
General Meeting
Thursday, December 16, 2021
3:00 p.m.

Grace Sparkes Memorial Activity Center
Flagstone Room
824 E. Gurley St.
Prescott, Arizona
928-777-1122

Minutes of the Recreation Services Board Meeting held on Thursday, December 16, 2021, in the Flagstone Room, located at 824 E. Gurley Street, Prescott, Arizona.

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Travers called the meeting to order at 3:00p.m.

2. Roll Call

Parks and Recreation Board Members and Liaisons

Present

Peg Travers
Linda Nichols
Sherri Hanna
Deborrah Miller

Excused/Absent

Chris Welborn

Council Liaison

Eric Moore

Staff Present

Staff Liaison, Samara Rice
Recreation Services Director, Joe Baynes

3. Approval of September 30, 2021, Meeting Minutes

Linda Nichols made the **MOTION** to approve the minutes of **September 30, 2021**, Deborrah Miller seconded, Motion passed unanimously.

4. Board Member Updates

Linda Nichols – Brief update on Dog Park - Linda did a commercial on the radio that brought about 2-3 more brick sales. Looking to buy an amenity, possible dog agility equipment with plaque stating where funds came from. Communicating with a couple of potential sponsors.

Sherrie Hannah – Fields continue to look great. Always appreciative of parks staff. Sherrie emphasized the fabulous job Michelle Stacy-Schroeder did on the Veteran's Day parade.

Deborrah Miller – No updates

Peg Travers - Christmas lighting and light parade was stellar. PPA approaching 700 members. Peg is looking into opportunities for youth.

- 5. Presentation – Community Nature Center** – Ellen Bashor, Community Nature Center Education Director, gave a brief history of the Community Nature Center. Ellen has been working with the CNC about 1 ½ years. She will present to council very soon but wanted to present to the P&R Board members. She discussed the partnership with the city and the schools. She has been serving as an education director. Brief history of the CNC – 1974 PUSD purchased ranch land for sports fields, but Dr. Henry Dahlberg started the CNC. In 1976 a cabin was built by PUSD students. 1975-1989 PUSD staffed and directed the CNC until funding dissipated. 1990-1996 Highlands Center for Natural History started at the CNC until moving to their current site. 1996-2005 CNC official programming paused and in 2006 the City of Prescott purchased CNC and designated it an open space preserve. In 2020 the City of Prescott, CNC and PUSD reaffirmed an IGA and opened COVID Care. COP Park Ranger program along with AmeriCorps have provided free experiential outdoor learning programs to PUSD. In a short period of time, they have built 4 new outdoor classrooms with whiteboards, seats, benches, picnic tables and a stage. The Pond classroom has pond study spaces. Trails have been improved, ADA portable restrooms provided, and pond habitat restored. Ellen mentioned Mardi Read stating it will be a model program others will want to replicate. There has been a great deal of local and national recognition since the program began. They enjoy getting kids excited about their community. From this, they started the partnership with the county health department and developed Nature Nino's. They found the most family friendly, easily accessible trails in the city for the Nature Nino's Program. There are QR codes that can be scanned, and all the information is in both Spanish and English. First Saturday of every month for 12 months.

6. Next Meeting – TBD

7. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Sherri Hannah made motion to adjourn, Linda Nichols second, Chair, Peg Travers, adjourned the meeting at 3:57p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:


Samara Rice, Staff Liaison


Peg Travers, Chairman

Date: 4/14/22