



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING**

**MINUTES**

Wednesday, October 18, 2023  
Eldorado Park and Community Center Room 1  
2311 N. Miller Rd.  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257

**PRESENT:** Chair Kristen Parrish, Vice Chair Teresa Kim Quale, Commissioners Michael Vreeland, Eric Kurland (left at 5:33 p.m.), Eric Maschhaupt, Susan McGarry

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Maryann McAllen

**STAFF:** Director Nick Molinari; Parks and Recreation Managers Chris Walsh, Denise Clayton, Brett Jackson, Kevin McKee, Kyu-Bin Hyun, Stephanie Tippet

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Parrish called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Members present as indicated above.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

**MINUTES**

Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes – June 21, 2023

COMMISSIONER KURLAND MOVED TO APPROVE THE JUNE 21, 2023 PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER MCGARRY SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR PARRISH, VICE-CHAIR QUALE, COMMISSIONERS VREELAND, KURLAND, MASCHHAUPT, AND MCGARRY VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSIDENTING VOTES.

## **REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

### **1. PROTECT AND PRESERVE SCOTTSDALE TASK FORCE UPDATE**

Nick Molinari, Community Services Assistant Executive Director, provided an update on the Protect and Preserve Scottsdale Task Force, with a specific focus on plan elements that are closely associated with Scottsdale parks, special events, and other recreational activities. The Task Force made its first presentation to City Council during a work-study on September 5th and received feedback from Council Members. The information presented to City Council included a recommended annual parks expense of approximately \$2,806,000, down from the original \$3.4 million recommendation. Annual expenses would include staffing, contractual expenses, commodities, and project management. At this time, the Protect and Preserve Scottsdale Task Force is recommending that Indian Bend Wash parks be prioritized. Director Molinari reviewed unfunded annual needs and highlighted facilities and maintenance responsibilities that have been added since FY 2006/07; Council feedback, including their discussion about bond funding versus tax funding; and next steps.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Chair Parrish noted that because so many things changed since the last meeting of the Commission, the memo that was drafted from the Commission to the Task Force was not submitted. Director Molinari said that several members of the Task Force are involved with the Preserve, so it is very Preserve focused. They do support parks, but tend to put parks into the same mold as the Preserve and have a hard time understanding the importance of facilities and community centers. Staff has stressed to the Task Force that funding should include park improvements and should include recommendations from the Parks and Recreation Commission and citizen input. City Council is expected to make a decision in time for the November 2024 election.

Discussion ensued regarding the Parks and Recreation Commission recommendations to the Protect and Preserve Scottsdale Task Force. It was agreed that the Commission will schedule a special meeting to draft a recommendation for submission to the Task Force.

### **2. PARKS AND RECREATION ANNUAL REPORT FY2022/23**

Kevin McKee, Parks & Recreation Manager, presented Parks & Recreation Department's annual achievements and progress made on priorities identified in the 2023-2028 Parks & Recreation Strategic Plan. His presentation included a recap of the five-year strategic plan, the Department's vision, mission, and values and strategic plan achievements during the past year. He highlighted accomplishments and strategic plan achievements in the following areas: environmental stewardship; marketing and communications; maintenance of parks; facilities and spaces; tourism and economic vitality; resident access and participation; and investment in parks and recreation workforce.

### **3. PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE**

Stephanie Tippett, Parks and Recreation Manager, provided an update to the Commission on the progress of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Process – Shape Scottsdale Parks.

Her presentation included overview of the process, marketing and engagement efforts, response statistics, and next steps for the master plan. She said that the first in-person and virtual meetings have been completed and that the majority of engagement has come through the online platform (shapeScottsdaleparks.com) and at pop-up events. Information can also be accessed through QR codes available throughout the City. Over the coming months, a master plan survey will be sent out to a random pool of residents.

#### **4. PATHS & TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE APPOINTMENT**

COMMISSIONER MCGARRY WAS APPOINTED TO REPRESENT THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION ON THE PATHS & TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE WITH A ROLL CALL VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). NO MOTION WAS MADE.

#### **5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Molinari said that ground has been broken on the Ashler Hills Neighborhood Park project, which was originally funded through the Bond 2000 and then most recently through the 2019 Bond. Native tree salvage is currently under way. Small cactuses that were not identified for tree salvage have been collected by Preserve staff and volunteers for transplant in the burn scar area of the Preserve. It is expected that construction will take 12 to 18 months.

At the Reata Wash Sports Complex project, all turf is down and work is continuing on landscaping and vertical structures. The facility is expected to be completed late January/early February.

Eight new shade structures have been installed at Chaparral Park ball fields.

Thompson Peak Park site plan is scheduled to go before the Development Review Board in November. The project is not required to go to Planning Commission, because it is part of the existing Thompson Peak Park master plan.

Parks and Rec Rewind 80's Night was held at Scottsdale Civic Center on September 2, 2023 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Approximately 3,800 people were in attendance.

McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park is hosting Halloween Spook-Track-ula from October 6 through October 31.

Scottsdale's annual Fall Festival is scheduled for October 28, 2023 at Chaparral Park.

McDowell Mountain Aquatic Center will be hosting the annual Dunkin for Pumpkins on October 22, 2023.

#### **6. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

Commissioner McGarry said she attended the Rewind 80's night.

Vice-Chair Quale mentioned her participation as the Commission liaison for the master plan meetings has been interesting.

Commissioner Maschhaupt said he is looking forward to giving input for forwarding to the task force and looks forward to attending the Fall Festival.

Chair Parrish congratulated the Parks and Recreation Department on the multiple awards that they have received. She suggested that the master plan website information be mentioned during by speakers during City events.

**7. POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

No future agenda items were suggested.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

VICE-CHAIR QUALE MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER MCGARRY SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR PARRISH, VICE-CHAIR QUALE, COMMISSIONERS VREELAND, MASCHHAUPT, AND MCGARRY VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. COMMISSIONER KURLAND WAS NOT PRESENT. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m.