



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

Wednesday, January 15, 2025  
Florence Ely Nelson Desert Park  
8950 East Pinnacle Peak Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255

**PRESENT:** Vice-Chair Teresa Kim Quale, Commissioners Amy Arnold, Sandy Kull, Eric Maschhaupt, Susan McGarry, Michael Vreeland

**ABSENT:** Chair Kristen Parrish

**STAFF:** Community Services Assistant Executive Director Nick Molinari; Parks and Recreation Managers Brett Jackson, Kyu-Bin Hyun, Chris Walsh, Stephanie Tippett, Hezekiah Allen; Community Services Management Analyst Marci Sanders; Community Services Operations Supervisor Matt Osterhold

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-Chair Quale called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Members present as listed above.

**PUBLIC COMMENT - Written Comment Cards**

No written comment cards were presented.

**PUBLIC COMMENT - Non-Agendized Items**

Steve Sutton said that there is much to be done on specific details of the new dog park signs at Chaparral Park and spoke about the importance of understanding the fallibility of human memory, highlighting the Mandela Effect as an example of collective false memories. He stressed the need for accurate, detailed documentation created at the time of events to ensure reliable decision-making later.

## **MINUTES**

Approve Regular Meeting Minutes for October 16, 2024

COMMISSIONER ARNOLD MOVED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 16, 2024, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER VREELAND SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. VICE-CHAIR QUALE, COMMISSIONERS ARNOLD, KULL, MASCHHAUPT, MCGARRY, AND VREELAND VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

## **REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT - Agenda Items**

No public comment cards were presented.

#### **1. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

In accordance with the bylaws of the Parks and Recreation Commission, election of a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson is to take place at the first meeting of the calendar year. Those elected will take office immediately upon completion of voting for a one-year term or until their successors are elected.

COMMISSIONER MCGARRY NOMINATED ERIC MASCHHAUPT FOR THE POSITION OF CHAIR OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION. COMMISSIONER ARNOLD SECONDED THE NOMINATION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. VICE-CHAIR QUALE, COMMISSIONERS ARNOLD, KULL, MASCHHAUPT, MCGARRY, AND VREELAND VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

Chair Maschhaupt assumed his position immediately following the vote.

COMMISSIONER MCGARRY NOMINATED MICHAEL VREELAND FOR THE POSITION OF VICE CHAIR OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION. COMMISSIONER ARNOLD SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MASCHHAUPT, VICE-CHAIR QUALE, COMMISSIONERS ARNOLD, KULL, MCGARRY, AND VREELAND VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

Vice-Chair Vreeland assumed his position immediately following the vote.

#### **2. APPROVAL OF THE 2024 PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT**

Review and approval of the Parks and Recreation Commission 2024 Annual Report as presented or with suggested changes.

COMMISSIONER MCGARRY MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2024 PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT. COMMISSIONER ARNOLD SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MASCHHAUPT, VICE-CHAIR VREELAND, COMMISSIONERS ARNOLD, KULL, MCGARRY, AND QUALE VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

### **3. 0.15% TAX ALLOCATION, TIMELINE, & BUDGET DISCUSSION**

Nick Molinari, Community Services Assistant Executive Director, lead a discussion about the process for allocating funds generated by the 2025 0.15 percent tax for budget year 2025/26, and presented an initial draft of the budget for the 2025/2026 budget year. He outlined key milestones, including the passage of Proposition 490 and the approval of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. He stressed that the Parks and Recreation Commission serves as a citizens' oversight body for tax implementation, focusing on master plans, capital projects, and park improvements funded by the tax.

As part of the presentation Director Molinari reviewed:

- Ordinance No. 4633 and the Commission's role as the citizen's oversight body for the 51 percent park improvements tax allocation.
- The six values identified in the 2024 Parks and Recreation Master Plan.
- The draft five-year improvement plan that receives 51 percent of the 0.15% tax allocation funds prioritizes the first year, with flexibility to revise subsequent years based on evolving needs and revenue forecasts.
- The Parks Maintenance Plan that receives 14 percent of the 0.15% tax allocation funds for park and recreational facility maintenance, excluding WestWorld.
- Tentative Proposition 490 major park improvement projects by location.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions throughout the presentation and were given an opportunity to ask additional questions following the presentation. Director Molinari explained the improvement plan focuses on aging parks in southern Scottsdale and some proposed investments in year one include \$3.5 million for Pima Park improvements and \$225,000 for master planning. The Parks and Recreation priority for the Vista del Camino/Eldorado Park master plan improvements approved by Council are budgeted for tax years three and five to align with Army Corp. permitting and revenue collection.

Director Molinari answered questions about the Pima Park Improvement Project saying it has been determined that the regional stormwater project at that location has room to accommodate pickleball courts and amenities in the basin. The City worked with Valley Metro to relocate the bus turnaround area within the project.

Director Molinari answered questions about the 14 percent tax allocation saying it could fund expanding the Park Ranger team and possible installation of security cameras in high-priority areas. Several positions will also be funded through the allocation. Decisions on safety measures will involve coordination with the Scottsdale Police Department.

Brief discussion ensued regarding the focus of improvements and the prioritization of projects if revenue projections were to fall short.

The timeline anticipates Commission approval during the February 19th Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. The City budget will be released in April, and tax collection will begin on July 1, 2025.

**4. NAMING PROPOSAL FOR ROOM IN HARTLEY AND RUTH BARKER BRANCH BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB IN ELDORADO COMMUNITY CENTER**

Matt Osterhold, Community Services Operations Supervisor, gave a presentation and asked for the Commission to recommend that the City Council approve the Boys & Girls Club's request to name a multipurpose room (#111) within the Hartley & Ruth Barker Branch, located within the Eldorado Community Center, to the "Diamondbacks Give Back Reading Room." Boys and Girls Club of America received a \$25,000 Grand Slam Grant from the Arizona Diamondbacks Foundation. The grant money will be used to refresh an existing room at the Hartley and Ruth Barker Branch.

The "Diamondbacks Give Back Reading Room" will serve as a center for reading-related programming aimed at improving literacy for Boys and Girls Club members. Acceptance of the grant requires that signage be placed in the room and outside of the room, above the door. Mr. Osterhold noted that the lease agreement between Eldorado Community Center and Boys and Girls Club was renewed in 2024 for another 20-year period, plus the option of a five-year extension.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. The Arizona Diamondbacks Foundation sponsorship will be for the length of the Boys and Girls Club lease with Eldorado Community Center.

VICE-CHAIR VREELAND MOVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB REQUEST TO NAME MULTIPURPOSE ROOM #111 WITHIN THE HARTLEY AND RUTH BARKER BRANCH, LOCATED WITHIN THE ELDORADO COMMUNITY CENTER, TO THE "DIAMONDBACKS GIVE BACK READING ROOM." COMMISSIONER ARNOLD SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MASCHHAUPT, VICE-CHAIR VREELAND, COMMISSIONERS ARNOLD, KULL, MCGARRY, AND QUALE VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**5. COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS**

Commissioner Quale said that she has completed her goal to walk the entire Indian Bend Wash and see all of the parks. She commented about the poor placement of directional signs for the dog park.

Commissioner Arnold said that she enjoyed attending Holiday Lights at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park. She also toured Chaparral Park including Chaparral Dog Park.

Commissioner Kull said she is working on her goal to familiarize herself with southern Scottsdale parks. Commissioner McGarry echoed Commissioner Kull's report.

Vice-Chair Vreeland attended Holiday Lights at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park. He had

positive comments about the change made during COVID to the ticketing process, assigning specific time windows to ticket holders. He commented that it was disappointing that Santa Claus was not available during Holiday Lights. He said he is excited about the passing of Ordinance No. 4633.

Chair Maschhaupt said he is looking forward to 2025.

## **6. POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Future meeting agenda items could include:

- Proposition 490 budget discussion
- Parks and Recreation annual rates and fees recommendations
- Chaparral Dog Park history and signage
- Youth sports field allocation policy work study (February 26<sup>th</sup>)
- Presentation or information from the Scottsdale Police Department regarding security in city parks.
- Information from the Preserve and fire departments regarding their tax allocations

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

COMMISSIONER QUALE MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. VICE-CHAIR VREELAND SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MASCHHAUPT, VICE-CHAIR VREELAND, COMMISSIONERS ARNOLD, KULL, MCGARRY, AND QUALE VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.