



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

Wednesday, February 19, 2025
Mountain View Park Community Center
8625 E. Mountain View Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85258

PRESENT: Vice-Chair Michael Vreeland, Commissioners Amy Arnold, Sandy Kull, Susan McGarry, Kristen Parrish, and Teresa Kim Quale,

ABSENT: Chair Eric Maschhaupt

STAFF: Assistant Executive Director Nick Molinari; Parks and Recreation Managers Brett Jackson, Kyu-Bin Hyun, Chris Walsh, Stephanie Tippet, Hezekiah Allen; Management Analyst Marci Sanders; Operations Supervisor Brian Sheets

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Vreeland called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present as listed above.

PUBLIC COMMENT - Written Comment Cards

There were no members of the public who submitted written comment cards.

PUBLIC COMMENT - Non-Agendized Items

There were no members of the public who wished to comment on non-agendized items.

MINUTES

Approve Regular Meeting Minutes for January 15, 2025

COMMISSIONER PARRISH MOVED TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 15, 2025, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER KULL SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. VICE-CHAIR VREELAND, COMMISSIONERS ARNOLD, KULL, MCGARRY, PARRISH, AND QUALE VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

PUBLIC COMMENT - Agenda Items

It was noted that there was one member of the public who wished to speak under Item 1, following the staff presentation.

1. CHAPARRAL DOG PARK UPDATE

Nick Molinari, Assistant Executive Director, provided an update to the Commission on Chaparral Dog Park's signage. He said that during the February 11, 2025, meeting City Council voted to change the dog park signage from "large" and "small" areas back to "active" and "passive" area designations. Staff is working through signage changes, wording, and design. All Scottsdale dog parks that have multiple dog cells will be resigned. Mr. Molinari anticipates that the project will be completed within 30 days.

Steve Sutton commended City staff for the work they do in the Scottsdale parks system. He mentioned that he recently submitted written comments commending City Parks and Recreation staff to a local media outlet. He talked about how opportunities to communicate with dog park users can make a difference in how people interact with each other.

2. 0.15% TAX BUDGET REVIEW

Nick Molinari, Assistant Executive Director, lead a discussion with the Commission about the draft budget for the 0.15 percent tax for the 2025/2026 budget year. He highlighted changes that were made to the tax budget as a result of feedback received from Commissioners during their January meeting.

As part of his presentation, Director Molinari reviewed:

- Pima Park improvements project completion timeline and budget.
- The year 2 neighborhood plan, noting that Paiute Park was added to the budget and Chestnutt Park was removed from the five-year plan.
- The Pima Park design plan, which is expected to be executed and completed during year 1 of the tax.
- The new Budget Review Commission's priorities.
- Differences between the tax budget structure and the bond structure. He explained that out-of-budget packages brought forward under the tax budget structure would go through the Parks and Recreation Commission and then to City Council.
- The importance of citizen engagement and transparency about the approved budget, keeping citizens updated on projects that are coming forward, and the status of those projects throughout the year. Leveraging the Shape Scottsdale Parks website as a form of two-way communication with the public about projects.
- \$750,000 has been included in year 1 for design of Vista and Eldorado projects, as part of the Indian Bend Wash Thomas to McKellips Master Plan.
- Chaparral Park Master Plan, which will include Camelback Park.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask additional questions. Director Molinari said that the Paiute plan is similar to the one for Chestnut Park, except there is more budget capacity because the bathroom replacement at Paiute is already funded through another

funding source. Master plans for Chestnut Park and Agua Linda are not completed; they are included in the master planning scope in year 1. He explained that estimates from similar projects that have been recently completed in the City are being used to make cost estimates. In the case of Pima Park, they are hard estimates based on actual design that is being done for Pima Park. Projections established for Paiute Park and Agua Linda Park are based on budget and revenue assumptions. Director Molinari talked about how the scope of work can be modularized based on the budget.

Director Molinari said Indian School Park is not in the five-year plan. The current tax restriction on debt service does not provide an opportunity in the first five years to borrow against the tax. A long-term funding source for Indian School Park will need to be identified. Once the WestWorld improvements are completed, there could be some debt opportunity for Indian School Park. He noted that the City has a wide range of philosophies that have been adopted to pay for projects. Historically, improvements in Scottsdale's parks have been the result of bond funding and/or debt funding. Director Molinari noted that the plan is to reinvest in the oldest parks in the southern part of Scottsdale and in Indian Bend Wash.

Director Molinari said Cactus Pool currently has \$32 million in bond funding, which will not be enough to complete the project. The goal at this point is to fund the design and the master planning for Cactus Pool replacement. He said that there are some complications between the bond language and how funding can be leveraged when considering two different locations. The Bond Oversight Committee will have to be consulted about any relocation of the project.

Director Molinari said the Budget Review Commission outlined their priorities during their most recent meeting. He noted that City Council has the authority to adopt the budget regardless of the Parks and Recreation Commission or the Budget Review Commission's recommendation.

COMMISSIONER PARRISH MOVED FOR THE COMMISSION TO RECOMMEND CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL OF THE FY 2025/26 51 PERCENT CITY PARKS IMPROVEMENT BUDGET, WHICH WILL BE FUNDED THROUGH THE APPROVED 2025 0.15 PERCENT TAX. COMMISSIONER QUALE SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. VICE-CHAIR VREELAND, COMMISSIONERS ARNOLD, KULL, MCGARRY, PARRISH, AND QUALE VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

3. APPROVAL OF PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT FEE AND CHARGE ADJUSTMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025/26

Marci Sanders, Parks & Recreation Management Analyst, provided the Commission with a presentation of proposed fee and charge adjustments and recommendations for programs within the Parks and Recreation Department. Changes were proposed for the rental of the entire complex for all three sports complexes. Ms. Sanders noted that FY 2025/26 is year 5 of a five-year plan for gradual increases of fees at the Scottsdale Sports Complex. Costs to operate and maintain Scottsdale Sports Complex and Bell 94 have increased a combined average of 45 percent over the past three years. There is no historical data on Reata.

Proposed fee increases for entire complex rentals, with a two-day minimum, were as follows:

- Scottsdale Sports Complex: from \$2,250 per day to \$2,500 per day.
- Bell 94: from \$1,600 per day to \$1,800 per day.

- Reata: from \$1,300 per day to \$1,500 per day.

Total increased revenue is approximated at \$360,000 for the year.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions. Brian Sheets, Operations Supervisor, reviewed the process used to determine how much the increase should be, noting that benchmarking was done at the beginning of the five-year implementation. Director Molinari gave an overview of increases in operational expenses. He does not anticipate additional increases for the sports complexes next year.

COMMISSIONER PARRISH MOVED TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATION THAT CITY COUNCIL APPROVE THE FEE INCREASES FOR ENTIRE COMPLEX RENTAL FOR ALL THREE SPORTS COMPLEXES. COMMISSIONER KULL SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. VICE-CHAIR VREELAND, COMMISSIONERS ARNOLD, KULL, MCGARRY, PARRISH, AND QUALE VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

4. APPROVAL OF SCOTTSDALE STADIUM FEE AND CHARGE ADJUSTMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025/26

Chris Walsh, Parks & Recreation Manager, provided the Commission with a presentation of proposed fee and charge adjustments and recommendations for programs within Scottsdale Stadium. As part of his presentation, he shared photographs of the First Base Patio and listed events that have been held in that space. He noted that pilot fees were approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission on May 15, 2024. He requested formalization of the current pilot fee as part of the Stadium schedule, and to implement the First Base Patio fee of \$1,725 per day, effective July 1, 2025.

COMMISSIONER MCGARRY MOVED FOR THE COMMISSION TO APPROVE FORMALIZATION OF THE CURRENT PILOT FEE AS PART OF THE STADIUM'S FEE SCHEDULE, AND TO IMPLEMENT THE FIRST BASE PATIO FEE OF \$1,725/DAY, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025. COMMISSIONER PARRISH SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. VICE-CHAIR VREELAND,

COMMISSIONERS ARNOLD, KULL, MCGARRY, PARRISH, AND QUALE VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

5. COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

Commissioner Kull said that she enjoyed attending Parada del Sol and the Arabian Horse Show.

Vice-Chair Vreeland said that he is looking forward to attending both the GlowUp event and Bunnanza.

Commissioner Parrish commended staff for doing an admirable job. She said that she enjoyed attending Holiday Lights at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park. She mentioned that she has applied for reappointment to the Commission.

Commissioner Quale encouraged everyone to subscribe to the Scottsdale Parks and

Recreation Instagram page.

Commissioner Arnold said that she visited seven Scottsdale parks and enjoyed attending the Trails End Festival and the Arizona Indian Festival.

6. POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Future meeting agenda items could include:

- Youth sports field allocation policy work study (February 26th)
- Public Safety presentation related to Prop 490 and Park Rangers

7. ADJOURNMENT

COMMISSIONER PARRISH MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER QUALE SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. VICE-CHAIR VREELAND, COMMISSIONERS ARNOLD, KULL, MCGARRY, PARRISH, 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 5:36 p.m.