



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

Wednesday, January 21, 2026
Horizon Community Center
15444 N. 100th Street
Scottsdale, AZ 85255

PRESENT: Chair Eric Maschhaupt (Commissioner after Election), Vice-Chair Michael Vreeland (Chair Elect), Commissioners Jamie Alford, Amy Arnold (Vice Chair Elect), Sandy Kull, Susan McGarry, and Teresa Kim Quale (departed at 5:28 p.m.)

STAFF: Deputy Director Kevin McKee; Senior Director Nick Molinari; Parks and Recreation Managers Kyu-Bin Hyun, Chris Walsh, Valerie Budnick, Stephanie Tippet, Hezekiah Allen, and Chris Haws; Principle Planner Eileen Baden; Community Services Operations Supervisor Matt Osterhold

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Members present as listed above.

PUBLIC COMMENT - Written Comment Cards

It was noted that there were comment cards which were provided to the Commissioners in advance of the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT - Non-Agendized Items

Steve Sutton gave an update on activities at the Chaparral dog park. He said park users are taking action, and the police department has been responsive to calls. He said Councilwoman Littlefield has had positive comments about the improvements at the park.

MINUTES

Approve Regular Meeting Minutes for December 17, 2025

COMMISSIONER KULL MOVED TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 17, 2025, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER MCGARRY SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MASCHHAUPT, VICE-CHAIR VREELAND, COMMISSIONERS ALFORD, ARNOLD, KULL, MCGARRY, AND QUALE VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Public Comment - Agenda Items

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

1. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Commissioner Quale nominated Eric Maschhaupt to continue in the position of Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Chair Maschhaupt declined the nomination.

COMMISSIONER MCGARRY NOMINATED MICHAEL VREELAND TO SERVE AS CHAIR OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION. CHAIR MASCHHAUPT SECONDED THE NOMINATION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MASCHHAUPT, VICE-CHAIR VREELAND, COMMISSIONERS ALFORD, ARNOLD, KULL, MCGARRY, AND QUALE VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

COMMISSIONER MCGARRY NOMINATED AMY ARNOLD FOR THE POSITION OF VICE-CHAIR OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION. CHAIR MASCHHAUPT SECONDED THE NOMINATION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR MASCHHAUPT, VICE-CHAIR VREELAND, COMMISSIONERS ALFORD, ARNOLD, KULL, MCGARRY, AND QUALE VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

The elected officers assumed their new positions immediately.

2. APPROVAL OF T 2025 PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT

Vice-Chair Arnold recalled that during the work study session held in August 2025, the historical presentation item was tabled. There was consensus to remove the item from the Annual Report.

COMMISSIONER MASCHHAUPT MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2025 PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER MCGARRY SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR VREELAND, VICE-CHAIR ARNOLD, COMMISSIONERS ALFORD, KULL, MASCHHAUPT, MCGARRY, AND QUALE VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

3. UPDATE ON 2024 PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES

Kevin McKee, Deputy Parks and Recreation Director, provided an update on progress made on the objectives outlined in the 2024 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, as well as Master Plan objectives anticipated to be completed or underway in 2026. He gave an overview of the four pillars of the City's planning hierarchy, including background and overview of the purpose of each stage. Mr. McKee explained that the Parks and Recreation Master Plan was adopted by the City Council in December of 2024 and works as the department's long-range roadmap for the next ten years, guiding capital improvements, programs and services, policies and operational priorities, and Parks and Preserve sales tax priorities. It was noted that Scottsdale's Parks and Recreation Master Plan was recognized for planning excellence by the Arizona chapter of the American Planning Association. Mr. McKee reviewed the master planning process, which began in July of 2023 and was approved by the City Council in December of 2024. He talked about the key components of the Master Plan, gave a detailed accounting of the achievements of each of the six master plan values since the plan was approved, and highlighted the master plan objectives for 2026.

Commissioners asked questions throughout the presentation. Mr. Walsh explained that initial bond dollars are being used to start a feasibility study for the Cactus Pool replacement. He anticipates that the feasibility study will take between 12 and 18 months to complete. The study will include Mountain View as an option and will also study other potential sites for the facility. The biggest focus will be on how potential locations would work from a traffic and neighborhood perspective.

4. PARKS AND PRESERVE SALES TAX MONTHLY UPDATE

Chris Walsh, Parks and Recreation Manager, provided an update on capital projects and other improvements funded by the Parks and Preserve sales tax. Updates were given on the following projects:

- Tree pruning and planting projects that have been completed since November 2025. Projects were completed at Northsight Park, Grayhawk Park, Cholla Park phase one, Doc Cavaliere, and Indian School Park. Trees were salvaged from Scottsdale Stadium and transplanted to Eldorado Park.
- Scottsdale Sports Complex entry enhancements
- Rotary Park and Osborn Park playground improvements (upcoming project)
- Comanche irrigation improvements (upcoming project)
- Chaparral Park plant installation (upcoming project)
- Facility painting (upcoming project)
- A new maintenance technician was chosen for Chaparral Park
- Interviews will be held next week for the urban forester position
- Asset management software evaluations
- On-call park planning architectural services. On January 14, 2026, the City Council approved three companies: Dig Studio, Kimley Horn and Associates, and WERK. On-call architectural services will offer the opportunity to move forward on projects without the delay of going through a request for proposal process.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Mr. Walsh explained that the process for new parks starts with finding and selecting a playground contractor and then reviewing playground equipment offerings. He noted that a lot of vendors are on state contract, which allows the City to get bids so that budget, design, and process timeline planning can begin. Commissioners expressed interest in observing some of the demo and construction of the new playground improvements. Valerie Budnick, Parks and Recreation Manager, said that she will reach out to installers to get a timeline for construction.

5. STAFF UPDATES

- Leisure Education

Matt Osterhold, Community Services Operations Supervisor, gave a presentation on leisure education, facility booking, and Eldorado Park. He noted that leisure education staff are located at Eldorado Community Center. The presentation included an outline of the responsibilities of leisure education staff, the Scottsdale Life brochure, the registration process, pricing for residents and non-residents, examples of available programs, and class locations.

Facility Booking is responsible for all reservations and permits, including rooms, ramadas, sand volleyball courts, and commercial rentals. It also works with departments citywide to reserve unique areas and events, and hosts Maricopa County elections at multiple sites. Mr. Osterhold explained that room rental costs are based on the square footage of the space.

Mr. Osterhold reviewed amenities which are available at Eldorado Park and Community Center, noting that the center shares space with the Boys and Girls Club Barker Branch. He said that the Eldorado irrigation project is nearing completion.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Mr. McKee explained that there have been ongoing conversations about evaluating software products with newer features. He said that the City has used ActiveNet for the past ten years, and staff is starting to evaluate whether it is the best system that is available. He anticipated the process of evaluating software products would begin next fiscal year.

6. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Vice-Chair Arnold said that she recently played ping-pong at Horizon Community Center, went to Pinnacle Peak Trail, road an e-bike on the Greenbelt for 14 miles, and walked the length of Chaparral Park.

Commissioner Alford said that she enjoyed attending the McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park New Years Eve at Noon event. She has played tennis at Scottsdale Ranch Park and noticed that the solar panels project is almost completed. She also walked the soccer field at 94th and Bell.

Chair Vreeland saw the dropping of the rail spike and participated in some holiday events at various parks.

Commissioner Maschhaupt commented that he had his first interaction with the Parks Department when taking a class at Horizon Community Center in the room they were in for this meeting. He is planning to attend the Civic Center Library book fair being held this week.

Commissioner McGarry requested that publications be brought to meetings for distribution. She asked that agenda item handouts include the date of the meeting.

Commissioner Kull thanked staff for taking Commissioners on a tour of McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park and hosting a ride on the train following their December meeting.

It was noted that the Parks and Recreation Department will be hosting the Wild West Roundup on Saturday, January 24, at Scottsdale Civic Center from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Parks and Recreation staff members will participate in Parada del Sol on January 31. Commissioners are welcome to participate in the parade and have the option of walking or riding on the trailer.

7. POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Kevin McKee, Deputy Parks and Recreation Director, presented a summary of the proposed agenda for the February meeting and tentative future agenda items for meetings through the summer.

8. ADJOURNMENT

COMMISSIONER MASCHHAUPT MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. VICE-CHAIR ARNOLD SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR VREELAND, VICE-CHAIR ARNOLD, COMMISSIONERS ALFORD, KULL, MASCHHAUPT, AND MCGARRY VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. COMMISSIONER QUALE WAS NOT PRESENT. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

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