



Meeting Minutes

Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

6:00 PM

Parks & Recreation Conference Room
14455 W. Van Buren St., Ste. C103
Goodyear, AZ 85338

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Silvester called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Present: 6 - Chairman Silvester, Vice Chairman Richardson, Commissioner Murphy,
Commissioner Padilla, Commissioner Harris and Alternate Wilson

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Peters and Commissioner Landefeld

Staff Present: Parks and Recreation Director Nathan Torres, Parks and Recreation Manager David Seid, Ballpark General Manager Bruce Kessman, Parks Superintendent Jeremy Figueroa, Recreation Superintendent Michael Beadle and Administrative Assistant Wendy Corsi.

3. **APPROVE MINUTES**

- 3.1 [MINUTES](#) Approve draft minutes of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
[77-2015](#) meeting held on October 15, 2015.

**MOTION BY Commissioner Murphy, SECONDED BY Chairman Silvester, to
APPROVE the draft minutes of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission held on
October 15, 2015. The motion carried by the following vote:**

Ayes: 5 - Chairman Silvester, Vice Chairman Richardson, Commissioner Murphy,
Commissioner Padilla, Commissioner Harris and Alternate Wilson

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Peters and Commissioner Landefeld

4. **CITIZENS COMMENTS/ APPEARANCES FROM THE FLOOR**

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

- 5.1 Review Loma Linda Survey Data (Nathan Torres)

Parks and Recreation Director Nathan Torres provided a brief history of the Loma Linda Master Plan that was approved by Council in 2010. The Master Plan proposed a multipurpose sports field with a fence and removing several mature trees to add a parking lot. St. John

Vianney Church has received funding and recently proposed partnering with the City in making some of the Master Plan improvements to the park. Since the plan is more than five years old and resident needs may have changed, city staff suggested reevaluating the plan to ensure residents and stakeholders would understand the outcome of the plan proposed. Staff solicited input from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission, St. John Vianney and the stakeholders to develop a survey to gather current information on resident and community needs for the park.

Surveys were conducted during two recent neighborhood events, “A Day at Loma Linda Park” and the “GAIN” event. City staff also visited the park throughout the week of November 16 to survey drop-in park users and gather their input. In addition to these in-person surveys, an online electronic survey was also solicited and collected. These efforts were very successful and provided valuable insight on community needs from 75 residents. The purpose of tonight’s meeting is to review the survey information collected and seek feedback from the Commission as to if the 2010 plan continues to fit the current needs of the residents.

Recreation Superintendent Michael Beadle presented an overview of the survey findings as follows:

General Trends

- The park is used by the local community, 51% of those surveyed enter the park from the neighborhood, and 47% use the park more than once a week
- The most used feature of the park is the playground (60%), followed by walking (50%), swimming (40%), and playing in the grassy area (36%)
- The tennis courts and community room were the 2 lowest ranked features of the park at only 17% being a top 3 feature

Master Plan Feedback

- 3 most supported park improvements by local community:
 - 78% support enhanced lighting
 - 75% support a splash pad replace the kiddie pool
 - 60% support more ramadas and a walking trail around the park
- 3 least supported park improvements by local community:
 - 59% do not support athletic field
 - 68% do not support putting a fence around the playing field
 - 71% do not support adding additional parking

Analysis

- The park is important to the community
- The trees are a vital component of the park: Ranked #2 overall as the best feature of the park and 2 of the 3 least desirable changes to the park were removing trees for parking/field
- Tennis courts and community room were the two lowest ranked features of the park

Parks and Recreation Director Torres then welcomed discussion and input amongst the

Commission on the survey results and process. He directed the commission to review the survey data collected and to consider the following three options:

- Option #1: Proceed with recommending funding for Loma Linda Park Master Plan as approved
- Option #2: Proceed with approved Asset Management items for Loma Linda Park
- Option #3: Recommend funding a revision of Loma Linda Park Master Plan with updated neighborhood input.

Parks Superintendent Jeremy Figueroa gave an overview of the Asset Management items pending for Loma Linda Park, including lighting and ramada replacement, tennis court resurfacing and fence repair. Director Torres also explained the process for revising the Master Plan if that is the direction the Commission is considering. Discussion ensued amongst the Commission on the current plan, survey results and the enthusiasm expressed by the residents at the recent neighborhood events. Commissioners also expressed their agreement with the top three community supported park improvements but did not support removal of the mature shade trees for the addition of the athletic field and additional parking.

Director Torres restated that a decision was not to be made tonight and the Commission's thoughtful review of the new data collected is requested and their recommendation will be made at an upcoming meeting.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Estrella Vista South Playground Design Selection (Jeremy Figueroa)

Parks Superintendent Jeremy Figueroa explained that Estrella Vista South Park's playground and shade canopy is approximately 20 years old and currently scheduled for replacement. He presented the Commission with the two playground design options. Both designs are long and linear providing optimal coverage of the long rectangular shape of the playground area. The Commissioners expressed their opinions on each of the playground designs and which elements would be best suited for the school-aged children at the park. Commissioners made suggestions on switching various elements from one design to the other to create the best design for the park. The Commissioners also agreed on a teal color scheme for the playground equipment.

Ballpark Manager Bruce Kessman also reported the Cleveland Indians and Cincinnati Reds players will be assisting with the Estrella Vista South's Park community build scheduled for late February.

MOTION BY Commissioner Murphy, SECONDED BY Commissioner Harris, to APPROVE option #1 for playground design at Estrella Vista South. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 - Chairman Silvester, Vice Chairman Richardson, Commissioner Murphy, Commissioner Padilla, Commissioner Harris and Alternate Wilson

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Peters and Commissioner Landefeld

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

Alternate Commissioner Wilson expressed his appreciation for the City's Veterans Day Tribute. He also mentioned that he attended the October 25th open house for the 17-mile stretch river development. He reported they are proposing on 12-foot wide bicycle path and separate horse path with community access points.

Parks and Recreation Manager David Seid stated he was very proud of the Veterans Day event and how the team came together to make this inaugural event a success. He also reported the department will be undertaking a \$3 million Asset Management Plan for improvements throughout the City as well as some park amenities and road right-of-ways. He also provided an update on the Goodyear Community Park lighting issues and stated they are working on some improvements and solutions.

Director Torres reported there is a community center funded in our current CIP, however, full funding is not available until four or five years out. Our Council is considering moving that project up to next year or the year after. The vision is to not have a stand-alone community center but to have it anchored to a community park and swimming pool facility. The proposed location will be on the approximately 40 acres located on Estrella Parkway and Yuma adjacent to Desert Edge Campus. The hope is to have a 30-acre park anchored with a recreation center and aquatic facility. We will continue to keep the Commission updated.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Silvester adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Wendy Corsi, Administrative Assistant

Jennifer Silvester, Chairman

Date: _____