



Meeting Minutes

Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission

Thursday, February 5, 2015

6:00 PM

Goodyear Library Community Room
14455 W. Van Buren St., Ste. C102
Goodyear, AZ 85338

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Silvester called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Padilla and Commissioner Peters

Staff Present: Parks and Recreation Director Nathan Torres, Ballpark General Manager Bruce Kessman, Recreation Superintendent David Seid, Parks Superintendent Jeremy Figueroa, and Management Assistant Diana Vasquez

3. **APPROVE MINUTES**

[MINUTES](#) Approve draft minutes of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
[09-2015](#) meeting held on December 3, 2014.

**MOTION BY Commissioner Murphy, SECONDED BY Chairman Silvester, to
APPROVE the draft minutes of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission meeting
held on December 3, 2014. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Padilla and Commissioner Peters

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

- 4.1 Students from Western Sky Middle School will present their research findings to the Commission on a topic pertaining to municipal government. (Matt Nummerdor, Teacher, Western Sky Middle School)

The students from Western Sky Middle School presented a research project for youth sport fees in Goodyear. The presentation focused on field usage fees for youth sports in comparison to other municipalities. The students felt other municipalities had a very clear fee structure and felt that Goodyear's structure was difficult to understand and too expensive. Their recommendation is to review the fees and implement a simplified fee structure to be broken

down into resident versus non-resident fees and youth versus adult fees.

Upon completion of the presentation, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission asked staff to research the fee structure that has been established for Goodyear. Staff will report their findings at a future Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission meeting.

Pickle Ball (Terry Cox)

Terry Cox addressed the Commission regarding Pickle Ball. He explained that Pickle Ball is a sport that all ages can enjoy and that the sport is in great demand. He explained that Pickle Ball is a life sport, meaning it is something you can play for the rest of your life. Mr. Cox described the courts as 1/3 the size of a tennis court with shorter nets. He asked the Commission to consider installing more Pickle Ball courts in Goodyear.

5. OLD BUSINESS

None.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Tennis Court Rule Amendments (David Seid, Recreation Superintendent)

David Seid, Parks and Recreation Superintendent, explained that the tennis courts are an unsupervised amenity and staff has been receiving complaints from the public regarding how the courts are being managed. Based on the fact that it is an unsupervised amenity, it is very attractive for those who want to provide instruction for a fee. The rules posted on the court do not state they cannot be used for commercial purposes. By allowing the commercial users to continue to use the facility, it increases liability and provides reduced access for other guests. Staff recommends updating the rules in order to educate all users on the appropriate use of the tennis courts. Superintendent Seid also requested the Commission consider adding a commercial fee structure as well as requiring all commercial users to provide a Certificate of Insurance and a Goodyear Tax Privilege License (\$75/per year).

Staff is not trying to discourage use of the court for commercial use, but instead would like to have better control of the use. Staff is requesting to revise the rules to include commercial use language, add a commercial fee, require a Certificate of Insurance for all commercial activity, and require a Tax Privilege License for all commercial users.

MOTION BY Commissioner Murphy, SECONDED BY Chairman Silvester, to revise the tennis court rules, add a commercial fee, require a Certificate of Insurance for all commercial activity, and require a Tax Privilege License for all commercial users be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Padilla and Commissioner Peters

6.2 Fiscal Year Planning (Nathan Torres, Parks and Recreation Director)

Director Torres reviewed upcoming park improvement projects, Goodyear Community Park lighting, and the Wildflower playground. He advised the Commission that staff has entered supplemental budget requests for projects that are not budgeted in the Parks and Recreation base budget. He also explained that financial growth is steady and therefore the department will maintain its current service levels.

Director Torres inquired with the Commission to determine if there are any community needs that are not being addressed. The commissioners mentioned not seeing Little League in the INFOCUS Magazine and inquired about the following programs: fall flag football, additional soccer programming, cooking for adults, cycling and mountain biking at Estrella Mountain Regional Park, teen programming, and theater classes for adults. Staff will look into these ideas.

Director Torres explained to the Commission that via the Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Master Plan, the community has stated that they want more trails. Director Torres proposed entering into an agreement with Maricopa County to offer Goodyear residents free access to Estrella Mountain Regional Park. The concept is that Goodyear would pay Maricopa County an annual stipend to allow Goodyear residents access to the park at no charge to them. Director Torres followed-up by explaining that it would cost the city millions of dollars to build a similar facility. Commissioner Richardson suggested placing an ad in the West Valley View and INFOCUS Magazine to determine if this is something the residents would like to see. Commissioner Murphy expressed a concern that if Goodyear commits to this, it would be important to ensure the funds stay within the park for park improvements and not moved to other accounts within Maricopa County. He mentioned that the park's irrigation system, as well as restrooms, need work as they are not properly functioning and are not maintained. Commissioner Murphy feels this would be a tremendous asset to the city and thinks it would definitely be utilized. Commissioner Richardson asked if this issue was addressed in the Master Plan. Director Torres confirmed that the Master Plan did suggested partnering with the park.

6.3 Staff Updates

Parks Update:

Staff is currently working to complete the FY15 supplemental projects. The projects at Wildflower north and south should be completed prior to July 2015 and include redoing the irrigation system to improve vegetation, tree and shrub improvements, additional playground equipment at Wildflower south, and new railings on ADA ramps. Staff is also working on other projects to include finishing Foothills Community Park by adding temporary parking due to soccer traffic and repairing the tennis courts at Loma Linda. Staff updated the Commission on the Goodyear Community Park lighting issue. Last year, Goodyear spent \$35,000 on lighting improvements. This year, 80% of those lights are out again. It was determined that there is an electrical issue underground. Staff is reaching out to an electrical engineer to reevaluate the

system to confirm the issue is underground. The contractor is estimating the repairs to be approximately \$50,000 to fix the lighting issue for the skate park and the pathway lights. Staff will provide additional information during the next Commission meeting.

Recreation Update:

Winter flag football is currently underway with 26 teams and 292 youth participating. Volleyball registration is in progress with 185 participants thus far. Volleyball registration will be open until February 13th. The Loma Linda pool is under renovation and the plaster is currently being installed. Staff is in receipt of the new pool covers which will allow the pool to operate as efficiently as possible. The audio/video equipment for the pool is also being repaired and will fall within the budgeted amount.

Staff reminded the Commission of upcoming events. The 10th Annual Heart and Sole event is scheduled for Saturday, February 7th with 700 participants. The inaugural Art of Culture Expo is also on February 7th at Palmette Park. The Tale of Two Cities Parade is scheduled for February 21st as well as the Daddy/Daughter Dance at the Wigwam Resort.

Ballpark Update:

The Ballpark just completed three weekends of run events. The Black Light Run was held most recently and brought in 3,000 participants. The Ballpark will be hosting the Pac 12/Big 12 Spring Baseball Challenge (Oklahoma vs Utah) which usually brings a decent amount of fans. The Ballpark has been busy during the off-season. Staff attended Tribe Fest in Cleveland and Redsfest in Cincinnati. Mayor Lord also attended Tribe Fest. The Mayor and staff did a great job of promoting Goodyear and as part of the festivities, gave away a trip to Goodyear at each event. Staff is using the data collected at the events to determine how many fans travel to Goodyear from out of state for Spring Training.

Spring Training ticket sales are going extremely well. At this point in time, staff has sold 2,000 more tickets in comparison to last year. Staff is offering special ticket offers during the Heart and Sole Run and for Fix a Leak Week. The reading program recently implemented in schools encouraged students to read nine books for one Spring Training ticket. Thus far, staff has delivered 15,000 bookmarks. Lastly, the pitchers and catchers report on February 17th and 18th.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

Commissioner Harris mentioned that there was a new app that can be downloaded to your smart phone. The app allows residents to report issues in the community and even capture a photo.

Director Torres welcomed Commissioners Harris and Wilson to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Vice Chairman Richardson adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Diana Vasquez, Management Assistant

Jon Richardson, Vice Chairman

Date: _____