

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board of the City of Mesa met in a regular session at the Parks and Recreation office at 200 S. Center Street, Building 1, Mesa, on March 13, 2013.

Members Present:

Kent Bulkley
John Duclos
Milt Fort
Jennifer Madsen
Kathleen Rahn
Niki Tapia
Ron Wills

Staff Present:

Marc Heirshberg
Michael Holste
Leslie Clark
Jo Donovan
Stacy Thompson
Kym Otterstedt
Tiffany Krahenbuhl
Carmen Rodriguez

Members Absent:

Roel Dilig
David Martinez
Bert Millett
Mark Yarbrough

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Kent Bulkley, Chair.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Bulkley asked if there was a motion for approval of the minutes from the January 9, 2013 Parks Board meeting. Mr. Wills and Ms. Rahn mentioned that a couple of typos had been noted in the minutes, Ms. Rahn made a motion, Mr. Fort seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes with corrections.

Public Comments: - None

Introduction of CAPRA Team Members:

Mr. Heirshberg explained that over the past few months staff has been keeping the Board apprised to the CAPRA process and he wanted to introduce each of the members of the CAPRA accreditation team and have Kim Conrad the Chair explain the process that they will be doing for the next couple of days. Mr. Heirshberg introduced Ms. Conrad and Kevin Beavers, the third member of the team Harvey Feldman was unable to attend the Board Meeting.

Ms. Conrad explained that she had been out touring facilities and seeing the City and she explained that the team all worked in Parks and Recreation Departments in different areas of the Country and were accredited by the National Parks and Recreation Association to be allowed to come in and review the documents and assure that the Department has documented and provided necessary proof to satisfy the requirements to meet the standards for CAPRA. During the review of the documents if there were any questions or clarifications needed, staff was contacted and Ms. Conrad was very pleased with the quick response received when anything was requested. During visits to the PRCF facilities some of the staff was quizzed and staff answered all questions. The CAPRA team does not grant the accreditation or deny the accreditation, they just provide the report to the CAPRA Commission and in October the commission decides whether or not to grant the accreditation to the Department.

Mr. Heirshberg explained that there are 144 Standards and best practices that the Department is responsible for meeting, 36 fundamentals which are required; it has taken 2 years to prepare for this site visit. Mr. Heirshberg explained that due to the longevity of many of the staff this was a great tool to capture some of the knowledge and train some of the younger staff on why many of these practices are done in the way they are. This formalizes these practices and sets out the standards that this Department is striving to maintain to be a top of the line Parks and Recreation Department. Mr. Heirshberg explained that this process could not have been completed without the hard work of Leslie Clark, Management Assistant and the Supervisors of PRCF, who have put in countless hours preparing for this process. This has been an intense process but has been a learning process and has been worthwhile and awarding effort. Councilmember Richins will be representing the City Council in October at the accreditation hearing in Texas which is a huge honor to have one of our elected officials interested in going down this path with us. Only 108 agencies across the country are accredited so the City of Mesa PRCF will be joining an elite group of agencies.

Ms. Rahn asked Mr. Heirshberg what facilities the CAPRA team toured, Mr. Heirshberg explained that due to limited time many facilities were driven by but the team was able to visit Hohokam Stadium, Skyline Aquatics Center, Red Mountain Center and Jefferson Recreation Center, where Webster and Jefferson Recreation Centers were holding a cooperative kickball program.

Presentation on PRCF Adult Sports:

Mr. Heirshberg introduced Kym Otterstedt, Recreation Supervisor, who in turn introduced Tiffany Krahenbuhl and Carmen Rodriguez who work in the Athletic Sports program. Ms. Otterstedt explained that PRCF Athletics includes; adult sports, youth sports, community youth groups and sports complex rentals. The staff includes 6 full-time and 1 part-time City employees, 10 temps that work as Site Supervisors, 14 temps that work as on-site Facility Supervisors and 47 temps that work as Sports Officials.

- Adult Sports programs offered are softball, flag football, volleyball and kickball. In FY 11/12 1,352 teams were registered with 175,132 participants with an additional 116,497 spectators and revenue of \$635,117.
- Youth Sports programs include basketball, flag football and dodgeball. In FY11/12 Revenue was at \$21,788 and participants were 578. To date in FY12/13 revenue is at \$35,088. Youth sports also has many special events including Punt, Pass and Kick, Hershey Track and Field Meet, Pitch, Hit and Run and dodge ball, basketball and football training days. Special event participation in FY11/12 was 719 participants. For FY12/13 youth sports have added additional sports programs; rugby, lacrosse, multi-sport soccer and volleyball and FY12/13 revenue is at \$35,000.
- Community Youth Groups include 26 partner groups at 25 locations on 75 separate fields. Locations include: elementary schools, junior high schools, high schools, City parks and City sports complexes. Mr. Heirshberg explained that CYG groups have over 2,200 different schedules on an annual basis. Revenue for FY11/12 was at \$610,718 and field rentals included events such as; USSSA Baseball, Triple Crown Baseball, Top Choice Baseball, SC Del Sol Soccer, AZ La Crosse, Baseball Factory and Prospectwire. These private groups add another 1,500 schedules and rentals on our City fields.

Chair Comments: none

Director's Comments

- Parks Bond Plan update. Mr. Heirshberg explained that there will be upcoming community meetings to discuss the different Bond projects and the schedule that he will

be asking the Board to attend. Mr. Heirshberg shared the PowerPoint presentation that he presented to City Council. The Council requested that some of the items along the light rail path be reprioritized so that they will be ready when the light rail opens. Mr. Heirshberg went over the following updates; the expansion of the Museum at the federal building, the swimming pool at Mesa High the RFP is going out this week, within the next 30 days the RFQ's for Powell/Kleinman will be sent out, a code assessment for all the buildings at Mesa Jr. High was completed and decisions will be made as to what building PRCF would like to keep. Currently in negotiations for additional acquisition of the other two parcels for Monterey Park and trees are being planted to shield the neighborhood from future lighting and expansion of the parking lot was started. The City has received the appraisal on Buckhorn Baths and is currently in negotiations, and ADEQ has given a grant to inspect the property of Buckhorn Baths to see what contaminants may be on the property. The properties on McDowell and Recker and McKellips and Ellsworth are approximately 90 days out for RFQ's to be released. The City Manager allowed PRCF to hire a project manager and Roxana Rojas Yantos has accepted the position, she currently works for Maricopa County, she has a landscape architecture degree which will be a huge assistance to the Department. Riverview Park continues on track and on schedule.

- Spring Training is on-going and has been busy with the last season for the Chicago Cubs at Hohokam Stadium.
- City Council and Oakland A's have signed a contract to play at Hohokam Stadium beginning spring of 2015.
- Pioneer Park RFQ has been reviewed and one of the items in there was to work with the public on the movement of the train.

Reports on meetings and/or events attended by Board Members:

Ms. Madsen attended the PRCF/Chicago Cubs Batter-Up Day.

Mr. Wills attended the PRCF/Chicago Cubs Batter-Up Day. He also invited the Board to attend the Grand Prix being held at Skyline Pool on April 11 – 13th, currently 35 Olympians have signed up to be in attendance.

Ms. Tapia attended the PRCF/Chicago Cubs Batter-Up Day.

Mr. Fort attended Chicago Cubs spring training, Allegiant Air annual conference held in Mesa, the Tough Mudder and Longbows LPGA qualifier.

Ms. Rahn attended the City of Mesa Long Term General Plan meetings, as the Board representative. She also mentioned that there is an application for I-phone and Android called "This is my Mesa" where you can take pictures if you see something that you really like when you are out traveling about.

Mr. Duclos attended the PRCF/Chicago Cubs Batter-Up Day.

Mr. Bulkley attended the District 6 Neighborhood Breakfast.

Mr. Heirshberg reminded and invited the Board to attend Celebrate Mesa on April 20th.

Mr. Bulkley asked if there were any other items for discussion; the Board had no additional comments. Mr. Fort made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Wills seconded, and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc Heirshberg, CPRE
PRCF Department Director