

**City of Mesa
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Minutes**

DATE: Wednesday, January 11, 2022
TIME: 5:00 PM
LOCATION: 708 W Baseline Road Bldg. #4, Board Room, Mesa, AZ

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:02pm

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Jacob Martinez, Nina Fader, Robert Ingram, Nycole Leyba, Brent Maldonado, Melanie Narish, Orchidia Peterson, Amelia Romney, Jeff Rush, and Michelle Streeter
Absent: Troy Campbell

3. INTRODUCTION OF NEW ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER- Melanie Narish

New Board member Melanie Narish introduced herself.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from November 9, 2022

Board member Robert Ingram motioned to approve the Meeting minutes for November 9, 2022, and Board member Brent Maldonado seconded the motion.

Board member Nycole Leyba proposed making edits to the November 9, 2022 minutes. The proposed edits are as follows:

Change "Ms. Leyba stated that it is difficult for families to pay \$100 a week for summer camps" to "Ms. Leyba stated that it would be difficult for families to go from paying \$40 bucks a month to \$400 a month for summer camps," and

Change "Board Member Nycole Leyba asked if there is more staff during the Summer than during the school year programs," to "Board Member Streeter asked if there is more staff during the Summer than during the school year for programs."

Board member Robert Ingram amended his motion to include the edits to the November 9, 2022, Meeting Minutes, Board member Brent Maldonado seconded the amended motion.

Minutes were approved as amended.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comment.

6. ATHLETIC PROGRAM PRESENTATION

The Athletics division gave an overview of various athletics programs being offered. Agustin Perez, Recreation Coordinator over Athletics, Meghan Houk, Recreation Programmer over the Mesa Tennis and Pickleball Center, and Diana Nguyen, Recreation Specialist for the Mesa Tennis and Pickleball Center presented on behalf of the Athletics division.

Youth sports programs are offered year-round for participants ages 5-14. Some of the more popular sports are volleyball, soccer, basketball and soccer. Youth sports is looking to expand and add NHL Street, and Futsal.

Adult sports programs are offered year-round for casual or competitive play. Some of the programs that are offered are softball, cornhole, flag football, and Mesa Hikes. Adult sports is looking to expand and offer adult basketball, and indoor pickleball.

Board member Nycole Leyba asked what the most popular types of sport rentals are and if there is a specific field or area that renters tend to gravitate too. Mr. Perez answered that Adult soccer and Little League are the most popular. Rentals are distributed throughout the City.

Ms. Houk presented that the Mesa Tennis & Pickleball Center offers programs year-round ranging from tennis, pickleball, and sand volleyball. Some upcoming programs at The Mesa Tennis & Pickleball Center will be drop in pickleball, weekend school tournaments, glow in the dark events, and tri-sport events.

Board member Jeff Rush asked if there are any trend as it relates to tennis vs pickleball. Ms. Houk answered that both tennis and pickleball are on the rise with increased participation. Board member Rush asked if the tennis and pickleball courts are coated, Director Andrea Moore answered that they are coated with plexipave in some locations, but that courts for drop in use in the parks are not typically coated.

Board member Jeff Rush asked if there is heavy use of horseshoe courts since there are so many of them in the park system. Director Moore answered that they are not heavily used. For many years Boy Scouts put in the horse shoe pits for Eagle Scout projects, but the City does not approve those types of projects any longer.

Board member Brent Maldonado asked if the Legacy Sports Complex is impacting programming? Meghan Houk answered that there has been no drop in programming demand for City facilities.

7. DIVISION UPDATES – Planning & Operations, Recreation, Commercial

Deputy Director Brandon provided some updates on projects around the City. Signal Butte Park is in phase II and has received positive support from the community. Lehi Sports Park will have its grand opening on Saturday January 21st. Reed Park improvements are slated to construction in Fall 2023. Monterey Park expansion is going very well, and is on track for a June 2023 opening. Red Mountain Park expansion is tracking well. Board member Melanie Narish asked if there were any plans for any future skate parks. Mr. Erno answered that nothing has been decided, but that it has been discussed for a future expansion of Red Mountain Park. Board member Jeff Rush asked what is done when negative comments come up for park projects. Mr. Erno answered

that the City listens to all concerns and do our best to alleviate and address concerns from the citizens.

Deputy Director Luis Ruiz provided updates on Commercial Facilities. Mr. Ruiz oversees the Mesa Convention Center, Amphitheater, Special Events office, Mesa Cemetery and Dobson Ranch. In FY 2022/2023 to date the Convention Center and Amphitheatre have already brought in \$4 million. The Post will be an indoor and outdoor facility with an estimated completion date of April 2023. The Special Events office is up and running. Dobson Ranch Golf Course is surpassing revenue of previous years, and is offering many programs and amenities. Board member Robert Ingram added that is a great facility and is smoothly ran. Board member Jeff Rush asked if all commercial facilities are recovering 100% cost. Mr. Ruiz said that the goal is to be around 90% percent recovery and all the facilities are within that range.

Deputy Director Aimee Manis provided updates on Recreation programs being offered. Adaptive programs held 192 events/programs, and 5,345 participants served in 2022. The Aquatics division hosted over 6000 activities, 22,800 participants, and generated \$1.2 million in FY 22. The Front desk operation processed over 246,000 transactions, generated \$1.7 million in registration revenue, and realized over \$203,000 in rental revenue. The Park Rangers had over 22,000 park visits, and over 44,000 contacts with the homeless. Board member Jeff Rush asked what the policy is on homelessness in parks. Ms. Manis answered overnight camping is not allowed and shopping carts are not allowed in the parks. Ms. Manis continued on with the City has contracts that can send help and services to those who are ready to get off the streets. Recreation centers had over 220,000 visitors, 859 events/programs and generated over \$774,000 in revenue for FY 2022. For FY 2022 the City had 1,262 volunteers which equated to over 26,000 hours served and over \$755,000 saved by using volunteers.

8. DIRECTOR'S UPDATES

Director Andrea Moore stated that the budget season will be starting soon for the next fiscal year. The MLK Parade will be held January 16th, and Lehi Sports Park grand opening is on January 21st.

9. REPORTS OF MEETINGS OR EVENTS ATTENDED

Board member Orchidia Peterson attended the Jefferson Recreation Center Fall Festival, Breakfast with Santa, and Merry Main Street.

Board member Nina Fader attended the tree planting event at the Mesa Cemetery.

Board member Nycole Leyba attended Celebrate Mesa in October, Dia de Los Muertos, Veteran Day Parade, Spark Program with MPD at Eagles Community Center, We Run Mesa at Eagles Park with MPD, Posada with the Mesa Hispanic Chambers of Commerce, Tamale Festival at Mesa Convention Center, Council member Farewell ceremony for Council member Luna and Thompson, swearing ceremony for new council members, and visited Edison Elementary to promote health and fitness.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on March 8, 2023.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Board member Jacob Martinez motioned to end meeting, Board member Robert Ingram seconded motion to end meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:13pm

AYES: Jacob Martinez, Michelle Streeter, Nina Fader, Brent Maldonado, Jeff Rush, Nycole Leyba, Orchidia Peterson, Robert Ingram, Amelia Romney, Melanie Narish

NAYES: None

Absent: Troy Campbell