

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board of the City of Mesa in a regular session via Virtual Zoom call on May 12, 2021.

Members Present:

Claud Cluff
Matthew Erickson
Kimberly Forest
Rob Giles
Nycole Leyba
Brent Maldonado
Jo Martin
Jacob Martinez
Orchidia Peterson

Staff Present:

Andrea Moore
Brandon Erno
Luis Ruiz
Tammy Davenport
Aimee Manis
Jason Hendrix
Matt Barber

Members Absent:

Jaime Glasser
Cindy Hayton

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by Matthew Erickson, Chair.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Erickson, Chair, asked if there was a motion for approval of the minutes from the March 10, 2021 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting. Brent Maldonado made a motion, Claud Cluff seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Cluff – Erickson – Forest –Giles – Leyba - Maldonado – Martin – Martinez - Peterson

NAYS – None

Public Comments: None

Welcome back to Jo Martin and New PRCF Staff:

Ms. Moore welcomed back Ms. Martin, who had briefly resigned from the Board to commit to another City project, but she was able to return to the Parks Board. Ms. Moore then mentioned that there were several new staff within the Department; Jason Hendrix, Recreation Supervisor over Athletics, Matt Barber, Office Supervisor over Registration and Reservations, Nina Bernardo, Recreation Coordinator in Adaptive, Katie DeVenuto, Recreation Coordinator over Recreation Centers, Will Warman, PRCF Maintenance Superintendent over Facilities Maintenance, and Steven Wargaski, GIS Specialist.

FY21/22 Budget Presentation:

Ms. Moore shared the PRCF FY21/22 Budget Presentation that had been given to the City Council. Citywide Budget approval will occur in June.

Director's Comments

Ms. Moore provided the following updates:

- PRCF Comprehensive Master Plan, although there have been other plans over the past 10 years, we have not had a Comprehensive Master Plan since 2002. A consultant has been selected and the Board will be receiving some invitations for input during this process. This will be a big effort that will take about a year to complete.
- The July 14th Meeting will be canceled, the next Parks Advisory Board meeting will be held on September 8, 2021 and will return to in person meetings.
- Ms. Manis gave an update on Recreation. There are several things happening in recreation. National Artistic Aquatic Championships end of April beginning of May. Hired 130 new lifeguards. Fun n' Fitness just finished their season. Adaptive programs continue to be busy. Special Events requests have increased. Desert Challenge Games will be coming up. Celebration of Freedom will be at Fiesta Mall again this year. Summer programs are preparing to start up. Registration was very successful. Mesa Public Schools provided a scholarship discount to our summer programs. Adult Sports continues with several programs. Youth Sports will be having some summer camps this year, which are new. Recreation Centers will also be having some camps. Red Mountain is open and will be having special interest classes. The Take and Make Bags that were a hit last year will be back this year, for pickup and to make at home. Pools open May 29, 2021. Celebrate Mesa will return in October.
- Mr. Erno gave an update on Development Projects. Eastmark expansion project is beginning. Palo Verde Park will have a Playground Build on June 9th. City Center Plaza is still on track and you will start to see more construction in that area. A Cell Tower Site in Basins 115 and 116 may be coming to Parks Advisory Board for approval in the September meeting.
- Mr. Ruiz gave an update on Commercial. Cemetery are going through an expansion right now in the North part of the Cemetery. They are working on beautification of the trees and landscaping. Golf Course their rounds are up and their operations for food and beverage are up. They have a new Top Golf technology system where they video and analyze and score their participants. They have generated a lot of new interest. They are working with several group homes in the Dobson Ranch area, to mentor teens, they are offering them free golf clubs, and lessons in hopes that one day Dobson High School will have a competitive golf team. They have hired some of the youth to work at the Golf Course. Convention Center is still hosting COVID testing and COVID vaccinations. There are three schools holding their graduations at the Amphitheatre. Several promoters have reached out to have concerts in the Amphitheatre. The Convention Center is also starting to book some events. Sales are working on the 2021/2022 Season there are a number of events coming.

Farewell to Matt Erickson and Jamie Glasser

Mr. Erickson and Ms. Glasser have served for the last 6 years and their terms will be ending on June 30, 2021. They have both been an asset the Parks Advisory Board and they will be missed. The Department presented them with Miniature Park Signs.

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

Nycole Leyba: Attended the Chris Powell workout experience at Adams Elementary.

Brent Maldonado: Shared that one of his neighbors enjoys golfing at Dobson Ranch Golf Course, and even though he plays all over the country, it is one of his favorites.

Orchidia Petersen: Has been attending the Special Events - Weekend Activities and said they are well planned and are a great family activity.

Mr. Erickson asked if there were any other items for discussion; the Board had no additional comments or discussion. Ms. Martin made a motion to adjourn, Ms. Leyba seconded, and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Cluff – Erickson – Forest –Giles – Leyba - Maldonado – Martin – Martinez - Peterson

NAYS – None

The meeting was adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Moore, CPRE
Acting PRCF Department Director