

Date: October 17, 2016
To: City of Avondale Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
From: Kirk Haines, Director, Parks, Recreation and Libraries
Subject: Meeting Notes – Parks and Recreation Board Meeting October 12, 2016

The Avondale Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting was held on Wednesday, October 12, 2016.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M.

Roll Call:

The following Board Members were in attendance:

Angela Cardone, Chair Pat Dennis, Glenn Coleman, Kathy Hall, Chris Hazelton, Glen Hein

The following Board Members were absent:

Vice Chair Lynn Cheatham, Ana Bell Villa

Matters of Discussion/ Recommended Action:

Park Ranger – Albert Escobedo

Albert Escobedo, City of Avondale Park Ranger was introduced to the board. Mr. Escobedo stated he has been with the City of Avondale for five months and so far has not had any issues in the City Parks.

Mr. Escobedo stated the City of Avondale Friendship Park will be stocked with catfish on Friday, October 14th and again with trout in December. Mr. Escobedo stated he will be on-site to monitor patrons stay within the fishing limits. Mr. Escobedo stated he monitors the City of Avondale Festival Fields Park, Neighborhood Parks, and Crystal Gardens which is a catch and release fishing system.

Kirk Haines, Director asked what are his working hours.

Mr. Escobedo stated he works Sunday through Thursday from 12:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Kirk Haines, Director asked if Mr. Escobedo was a party of one.

Mr. Escobedo stated currently he is the only Park Ranger, but the department is looking to hire more manpower in the future.

Chair Pat Dennis asked how does he split his time between parks.

Mr. Escobedo stated he spends his time at all parks based on the activities going on in the Parks.

Board Member Hall asked have the parks been safe at night.

Mr. Escobedo stated in the past five months he has had no issues at any of the parks.

Board Member Hazelton asked what are the limits on fish that patrons can keep at Friendship Park.

Mr. Escobedo stated the limit depends on the type of fish, and signs are posted in the park as well.

Board Member Hein asked if an urban fishing license is required.

Mr. Escobedo stated yes, and the urban fishing license is good for everything.

Christina Underhill, Assistant Director stated you can also get a fishing license through the app on your smartphone.

Chair Dennis asked has there been any issues in the neighborhood parks.

Mr. Escobedo stated there have been no issues.

Kirk Haines, Director stated we will be having a movie night at Mountain View Park on Saturday, October 15th from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and would like for Mr. Escobedo to do a walk-through.

Mr. Escobedo stated he will be there.

Chair Dennis asked if there are phone numbers posted on the park signs.

Kirk Haines, Director stated the office number is posted on the signs, and any phone calls that come in after hours will be answered by the roamer.

Kirk Haines, Director asked Mr. Escobedo if he tracks his time in the Parks.

Mr. Escobedo stated he tracks his time, park activities, and duties.

Approval of Minutes:

Chair Dennis asked if anyone had any questions on the minutes, the Board stated they did not. Board Member Hein made a motion to approve the minutes; Board Member Hall seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

By-Laws - Powers and Duties of the PRLD Board:

Chair Dennis stated at the last meeting the Board discussed adding the Library component to the by-laws, so that the Board can format the By-Laws and submit the By-Laws to Legal and Council for approval.

Kirk Haines, Director stated that the current By-Laws were light as it related to the Library section as far as responsibilities, some duties were lost after the board was combined. Kirk Haines, Director asked the Board to share their comments so that we can modify the By-Laws and move forward with Council consideration of the requested changes.

Chair Dennis asked the board if they had any comments or concerns relating to the revised By-Laws.

Board Member Hall stated the following: Specify No. 4 under the library section, remove the word "the" in number 2, and if communities mean Avondale.

Board Member Hein stated the following: Is "City consistent with other documents, take off renders and add advise on opinions under section 2 of the Parks and Recreation section.

Kirk Haines Director stated yes, the word communities does mean Avondale, and the word City is consistent with other documents.

Chair Dennis asked for a motion to approve the By-Laws with the requested changes. Board Member Cardone made a motion to approve, Board Member Hein seconded the motion, the motion was approved unanimously.

Reports from Staff:

Christina Underhill, Assistant Director passed out flyers to the Board on all upcoming events. Christina Underhill, Assistant Director stated this past weekend there was a clean-up at the cemetery. During the clean-up, she spoke with families that have family buried at the cemetery in hopes of collecting historical information, so that the City can have accurate information on hand as to where people are actually buried.

Christina Underhill, Assistant Director stated we have received excellent feedback on the splash pad and new picnic shelters at Friendship Park.

Chair Dennis asked the status of the tennis courts at Friendship Park.

Christina Underhill, Assistant Director stated the tennis courts should be completed by early November.

Kirk Haines, Director stated we will be adding two pickle ball courts and one tennis court. Kirk Haines, Director stated that one of the tennis court nets will be used as a barrier between the two pickleball courts until we receive feedback from the public.

Ava Gutwein, Library Manager stated we have issued 933 student cards. Ava Gutwein, Library Manager stated kids are very excited to get their own cards, word of mouth is working, and the program has boosted staff morale.

Kirk Haines, Director stated he wanted to thank Vice Chair Cheatham, Board Member Coleman, and Board Member Hein for attending the Friendship Park Re-Grand opening.

Kirk Haines, Director stated the following on Billy Moore Days:

- Friday, October 21st - RAN/GAIN Event from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Western Avenue.
- Saturday, October 22nd - Parade at 10:00 a.m. from Litchfield Road east along Western Ave to 5th Street and ending at the Agua Fria High School, street party from 12:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. with performances from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., carnival at Deconcini Park from 12:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., beer Saloon sponsored by Friends of the Library, and a brief Firework Display at 8:30 p.m.
- Sunday, October 23rd – Carnival at Deconcini Park from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Consultant booth will be on hand to receive resident feedback on the Festival Fields Master Plan on Friday night during the RAN/GAIN activities.

Kirk Haines, Director stated the upcoming November events are the Mayor's Golf Challenge and Veterans Day.

Reports from Board Members:

Board Member Hazelton stated he is volunteering for the Billy Moore Days event.

Chair Dennis stated the new additions at Friendship Park are impressive, but the park directional signs are hard to read.

Kirk Haines, Director stated the signs will have to be changed and tied into the wayfinding sign program.

Chair Dennis asked if fencing was added on the outside of the park.

Kirk Haines, Director stated yes, fencing was installed along the south side of the park to stop ATV access into the park illegally.

Board Member Hall asked how long the road construction will be going on along McDowell Road.

Christina Underhill, Assistant Director stated the construction will be complete in January.

Next Meeting – November 9th

Chair Dennis Adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.



Parks and Recreation Board Chair or Designated Representative