

TUCSON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, January 22, 2020
3:30 p.m.

Tucson Parks & Recreation
Mesquite Conference Room
900 S. Randolph Way
Tucson, Arizona

MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair, Blake at 3:37 p.m. Those present and absent were:

Present:

Commissioner Norma Coffman, Ward 2 Representative
Commissioner Kendall Kroesen, Ward 4 Representative
Vice Chair Willie Blake, Ward 5 Representative
Commissioner Steve Poe, Ward 6 Representative

Absent:

Commissioner Robin McArdle, Ward 3 Representative

Staff Present:

Brent Dennis, Tucson Parks & Recreation
Mike Hayes, Tucson Parks & Recreation
Greg Jackson, Tucson Parks & Recreation
Diana Schroeder, Tucson Parks & Recreation

Other:

Ron Spark, Constituent
Ben Moore, Constituent
Peter Packard, Constituent
Frank Flacsh, Constituent

2. Approval of Minutes – December 4, 2019 (Action Item)

Motion was made by Commissioner Coffman, duly seconded by Commissioner Poe to approve the December 4, 2019 minutes. Motion carried by a voice of 4-0. (There is no appointed representative for the office of the Mayor and Ward 1.)

3. Call to the Audience

At this time, any member of the public is allowed to address the Committee. Speakers are limited to three (3) minute presentations. Pursuant to the Arizona Open Meeting Law, individual Committee members may ask that the matter be placed on a future agenda, or respond to criticism made by speakers. However, the Committee may not discuss or take legal action on matters raised during "call to the audience".

Constituents spoke to the committee regarding various matters.

No action was taken.

4. Naming of Parks and Recreation Amenities Procedure

P&R Director, Brent Dennis informed the board that the updated Naming of Parks and Recreation Amenities policy has been posted on the Parks & Recreation website.

No action was taken.

5. Reports / Announcements

a. Parks and Recreation Commissioners

Vice Chair Blake reported that a Pueblo Gardens, Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast was held at the Holmes Tuttle Boys and Girls Club on Saturday, January 18, 2020. The Mayor, Regina Romero and Vice Mayor, Paul Cunningham as well as Council Member Richard Fimbres were in attendance. Mr. Blake received a Lifetime Achievement Award during the event. 410 people participated in the event.

Commissioner Coffman reported that Palo Verde Park will host a free park fest on March 29, 2020 from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm. The event will have twelve bands and food trucks.

Commissioner Kroesen shared information on the following events that will take place at the Mission Garden: Hands-on Archeology on Saturday, January 25, 2020 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Participants will have an opportunity to try out primitive technologies.

Produce sale on February 1, 2020. The activity takes place every other Saturday.

Native American Arts and Crafts Fair on February 8, 2020 from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. A variety of Native American vendors will be selling their items. There will be Native American storytelling as well.

No action was taken.

b. Staff

Information was provided in meeting packets.

No action was taken.

c. Director

P&R Director, Brent Dennis reported that the department completed 2020 kick-off and orientation meetings with the Mayor's office and ward offices 1 and 5. Discussions included information on a list of items that will Mayor and Council will review in the next quarter. Some discussion items include: operating and capital budgets, rates and fees, and intergovernmental agreements (IGA) with various organizations. Meetings with the other ward offices are scheduled to take place.

Mr. Dennis spoke about the Sonoran Desert Rain Garden located at the Parks and Recreation administration office. The department renovated a parking lot island into a Sonoran Desert Rain Garden. A curb was cut which will divert rain water into the basin. In addition, low water use plants were installed. An art sculpture made of steel will be placed in the garden as well. The project is a partnership between Tucson Clean & Beautiful and the P&R Department. Mr. Dennis added that the department is working with the arts community including the Southern Arizona Arts Foundation, Sculpture Tucson, Tucson Museum of Art, and the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) to develop a city-wide master plan for the introduction of art in public spaces.

The director said that staff is working on finalizing an amendment for an agreement with Bureau of Land Management. The agreement has limitations on events that involve financial transactions. The amendment will allow for reactivation of events for the Fiesta Area in Kennedy Park.

Mr. Dennis mentioned that Mayor and Council will host a retreat on January 28, 2020. All department heads will compose a two-page report with various strategic topics.

The director spoke about the Cyclovia event on March 29, 2020. The event is a collaboration between the Parks and Recreation Department and the Transportation Department. The event is hosted by the non-profit organization, Living Streets Alliance. A network of streets will be closed to cars so that they become "open" to people. During Cyclovia, anyone can bike, walk, skate, and participate in free activities. He also talked about the "Thrive in the 05", neighborhood design charette on January 25, 2020. The workshop will focus on workforce and economic development opportunities for local businesses and representatives in the 85705-zip code. The department will be in representation. Mr. Dennis also mentioned that the department is partnering with the non-profit organization, Rob Dollar Foundation on a safety awareness program to promote the three-foot safe passing initiative for bicyclists. On March 3, 2020 at 3:33 pm, there will be a sign unveiling of public educational signs with the three-foot safety zone rule at the A-Mountain/Sentinel Peak Park. The date and time of the event will symbolize the meaning and purpose of the program.

No action was taken.

6. Commission Future Agenda Items and Next Meeting Date

a. Future Agenda Items:

No items were discussed.

No action was taken.

b. Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, February 26, 2020

No action was taken.

c. Location:

Tucson Parks and Recreation Administration, 900 S. Randolph Way

No action was taken.

7. Adjournment

Motion was made by Commissioner Poe, duly seconded by Commissioner Coffman to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0. (There is no appointed representative for the office of the Mayor and Ward 1.)