



Community Services
Parks & Recreation

DISCOVER. IMAGINE. GROW.

OCTOBER 7, 2025, | 5:00 P.M. PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair David called the meeting to order on Tuesday, October 7, at 5:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance:

Chair John David

Vice Chair Melanie Dykstra

Board Member Lynette Bradley

Board Member Jegadesan Krishnamurthy (arrived at 5:06 P.M.)

Board Member Sarah Sharits

Board Member James Montgomery

Members Absent:

Board Member Sue McInturf

Staff Members:

Erika Berry, Becky Kuiper, Chris Smith,, Jensen Valenzuela, Corey Povar, Rachelle Kuzyk, John Sefton, Alexis Apodaca, Dylan Raymond, and Sandy Popovich

Others Present:

Sherri Friend

Teri O'Herron

Alexander Rahman

UNSCHEDULED/SCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Mr. Alex Rahman from the Mayor's Youth Commission was introduced.

ACTION ITEMS

1. *Approval of Minutes from August 5, 2025, Parks and Recreation Board Meeting.*

Boardmember Montgomery moved to approve September 2nd, 2025, Parks and Recreation Board meeting minutes and **Vice Chair Dykstra** seconded.

The motion was approved unanimously, 6-0.

DISCUSSION

2. *Development of a department program for donations (Adopt-a-Tree, bench donations, etc. – Corey Povar, Assistant Director of Community Services)*

Mr. Povar explained to the board that the city was seeking input on a new donation program for the parks division. Chair David asked if best practices were explored from other cities. Mr. Povar replied that yes, other city programs were reviewed and that donations were more general with no specific tree/plaque assigned. Discussion ensued and it was determined to add this topic to the next meeting on November 4, 2025.

BRIEFING

3. *Adult Sport Programs – Jensen Valenzuela, Recreation Coordinator*

Mr. Valenzuela briefed the Board on the Adults Sports Program and participation numbers. Mr. Valenzuela shared that softball, basketball, and volleyball leagues are offered at Tumbleweed Recreation, Folley Park, Snedigar Sportsplex, and Hamilton High during the fall, winter, and spring. Mr. Valenzuela stressed that the goal of the Adult Sports Program was to get people involved and to have fun with the activities.

Board Member Montgomery asked if tennis was involved with the city leagues. Mr. Valenzuela responded that the Tennis Center manages those leagues.

Board Member Sharit asked if kickball or dodgeball will become part of the program. Mr. Valenzuela responded that he had tried to add kickball, but there wasn't enough interest at the time.

Vice Chair Dykstra asked if there were any plans to expand the locations where the leagues were being played. Mr. Valenzuela responded that there are no expansion plans at this time.

4. *Dementia and Age Friendly City – Becky Kuiper, Recreation Superintendent and Dylan Raymond, Management Analyst*

Ms. Kuiper briefed the **Board** on dementia statistics and the city's recent designation as a Dementia Friendly Community. Ms. Kuiper introduced Mr. Dylan Raymond who added information on dementia and the city's Dementia Friendly Focus. Support for the application included **Vice Mayor Ellis** and **Councilmember Encinas** along with a partnership with Oakwood Creative Care. Ms. Kuiper introduced Ms. Sherri Friend and Teri O'Herron from Oakwood. Ms. Friend spoke about the various programs provided at Oakwood including Memory Cafes. Ms. O'Herron invited everyone to an open house on October 20, 2025.

5. *Library Book Locker and Discovery Library – Rachelle Kuzyk, Library Senior Manager*

Ms. Kuzyk briefed the **Board** on new Library Book Locker program and the Discovery Library. The Library Book Locker program allows patrons to check-out items they have placed on hold at a stand-alone kiosk using a unique access code. The first locker is located at Tumbleweed Recreation Center with future lockers planned throughout the city. Ms. Kuzyk also briefed the **Board** on the Discovery Library, which is a mobile unit that can provide outreach and programming throughout the city.

Vice Chair Dykstra asked if the library currently rents out packages such as puzzles, camping things, etc. Ms. Kuzyk responded at this time item check-out is not available.

CALENDAR ITEMS

6. Dragonfly and Butterfly Bash, October 4 from 9 a.m.-noon at Veterans Oasis Park
7. Sonoran Sunset Series – Outside the Line, October 16 from 6-7:30 a.m. at Veterans Oasis Park
8. Dine-in Movie, October 17 from 6-8:30 p.m. in the Community Center Courtyard, registration required
9. Concerts in the Courtyard Series, October 24 from 6-8 p.m. at the Community Center
10. Pumpkin Dunk, October 25 from noon-2 p.m. at Mesquite Groves Aquatic Center, registration required
11. Community Nights in the Courtyard – Halloween Edition, October 30 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Community Center
12. Halloween Spooktacular, October 31 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Dr. A.J. Chandler Park Stage Plaza
14. The next **Parks and Recreation Board** meeting will be held November 4, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers Conference Room, 88 E. Chicago St.

FUTURE ITEMS

The development of a department program for donations will be added to the next meeting agenda, November 4, 2025.

ADJOURN

Chair David moved to adjourn October 7th Parks and Recreation Board meeting, and **Vice Chair Dykstra** approved the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

John David, Chair

Erika Berry, Recreation Superintendent