



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Hybrid Meeting – [Click here to join the meeting](#)
Community Room, Aquaplex 1702 N Fourth St.
August 21, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.



MINUTES

Members

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Richard Conway (Chair) | <input type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Dana Rowden |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Stephen Parsons (Co-Chair) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Josh Stackhouse |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Austin Kerr | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Autumn McLeod |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Ryan Martin | |

Councilmember / Liaison to the City Council

- Councilmember Deborah Harris

Staff and others present

Gino Leoni – Parks Manager
Tyrone Johnson – Recreation Manager
Rebecca Sayers – PROSE Director
Martin Ince – Transportation Planner
Jay Hicks – Dig Studio
William Wilson – Open Spaces Commission Chair
Danyel Mezzanato – Dig Studio
Brandon Stocksedale
Sirena Rana – Trails Inspire
Koren Brown – PROSE Admin

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 pm.

1. Roll Call

Those present are noted above.

2. Approval of the July 23, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Co-Chair Parsons motioned to approve; Commissioner Stackhouse seconded the motion. The commission approved the minutes unanimously.

3. Public Participation

FLAGSTAFF, Arizona – This portion of the meeting is for items that are NOT on the agenda. The Commission cannot act on items presented during the public participation of the agenda. The Commission is prohibited by the open meeting law from discussing or considering the item until the item is officially placed on an agenda. Please limit comments to five minutes.

No public participation.

4. Sun Corridor Trail presentation – Sirena Rana, Trails Inspire, LLC

Ms. Rana provided information about the benefits and history of the Sun Corridor Trail which is a 1500-mile trail concept from Douglas, AZ to Las Vegas NV. The trail will connect hub cities of Tucson, Phoenix, Prescott, Sedona, Flagstaff, Kingman, and Las Vegas. This is what's called a credit card trail as opposed to backcountry. This means the trails' purpose is to drive business to hub cities to increase tourism and local support, as participants would pause to rest and re-fuel. AZ Office of Tourism awarded a \$250k grant for a 2-year period in 2021.

There are dozens of partners involved across multiple regions. Some Flagstaff challenges being considered involve the alignment of Lake Havasu to Flagstaff. The concept objective for the entire project involves using the most scenic established routes, with the least amount of effort to integrate. This approach allows for less maintenance and overall cost efficiency. Time to completion would be 1-2 years out.

There will continue to be partner meetings and trail town participation throughout the process.

5. Commissioner Appointments

This was Chair Conway's final meeting and commissioners, and staff thanked him for his time and service on the Commission. Commissioners Kerr and Martin have applied for another reappointment. Three appointments will be made at City Council on August 28. The max length of Commissioner service is two, three-year terms and one partial term, or a maximum of eight years.

6. July 4th Event Recap

Rebecca Sayers provided a summary of the events that occurred this last 4th of July, both permitted by the City and organized and staffed by the City. With current staff resources, it was a busy day with much to manage through the 15-plus hours that events were taking place. Next 4th of July, the City is interested in putting on an event focused in the downtown area. Given the lack of large open areas in downtown, the team is exploring options for multiple showings and/or multiple days to spread out the crowd size.

7. City Council Liaison Reports – Councilmember Deborah Harris

Councilmember Harris had an enjoyable tour of parks, recreation centers, and open spaces recently.

8. Reports – Monthly highlights of Parks and Recreation, Open Space, and Events

Commissioners noted the new air hockey table at Hal Jenson Rec Center, which Tyrone Johnson confirmed is a big hit. Other discussion included that the event season seems to be winding down, although Athletics programs and tournaments are keeping the team busy.

9. Informational items to and from Commissioners and Staff

City Council meetings will re-convene on August 28 at 3 pm, then Tuesdays thereafter. Co-chair Parsons noted that the downtown library entrance is complete and open to the public. Buffalo Park signage is on order and then the accessibility project will be complete.

10. Agenda Item ideas for the September 18, 2023, meeting

- a. Pollinator program update
- b. Recreation supervisor updates
- c. Potential pickleball update
- d. Future ballot questions

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm.