

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order**
The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm.

2. **ROLL CALL**

NOTE: One or more Commissioners may be in attendance through other technological means.

PRESENT:

Stephen Parsons (Co-Chair)
Austin Kerr
Ryan Martin
Micah Smith
Josh Stackhouse

ABSENT:

Dana Rowden
Autumn Layden
Councilmember Deborah Harris - Council Liaison

STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT

Haley Reynolds - Recreation Supervisor
Gino Leoni - Parks Manager
Matt Faull - Recreation Supervisor
Tyrone Johnson - Recreation Manager
Koren Brown - Admin Specialist
Rebecca Sayers - PROSE Director
Amy Hagin - Assistant Parks and Recreation Director
William Wilson - Open Space Commission Chair
Cristen Crujido - Beautification, Arts & Sciences Coordinator
Kathleen Slogum - Representative for BPAC

3. **Approval of Minutes**

- A. August 21, 2023 Minutes

Commissioner Stackhouse motioned to approve the August minutes, Commissioner Kerr seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

4. **Public Comment**

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 comment.

5. **Pollinator Program Update - Amy Hagin**

February of 2023 marked the fourth year of the Mayor's Monarch Pledge, which is an initiative to provide beautiful and functional gardens that support and encourage pollinators throughout the city. Seeds for the program are cultivated indoors through the winter, then moved to the greenhouse at Thorpe Park in spring. Pollinator spaces are at City Hall, Heritage Square, Hal Jensen Rec Center, City Parks Shop, and Citizens Cemetery. Parks staff did attempt a garden space at Bushmaster Park, but unfortunately, the space was trampled by users so has not returned. This effort is supported through collaborations with the Sustainability Division, Beautification, Arts and Sciences, and city recreation centers.

Kathleen Slogum of Conservation International spoke to the Commission detailing a developing initiative to plant a collection of fruit bearing trees and bushes at a plot at Bushmaster Park, near the southeast corner. The projected orchard would be approximately 38 trees, budget allowing.

6. **Recreation Supervisor Update - Tyrone Johnson**

Matt Faull has spent approximately 15 years at the Thorpe Park Adult Center, now known as Joe C Montoya Senior Recreation Center (JCM). JCM is the home location for the Senior Lunch Program in partnership with Coconino County, which serves about 65 seniors daily. He shared a recap of repairs and renovations over the years. This year the center is anticipating adding a new recumbent bike. A current activity schedule was shared online and with the Commissioners. Many programs are in partnership with NAU; technology, nurses rotation, dental hygiene.

7. **Pickleball Update - Amy Hagin**

The chosen contractor has requested to be removed from the design portion of the pickleball project and contract at Bushmaster Park. City staff has called upon the on-call landscape architecture/design firms to acquire new quotes for the design of the courts. Staff liaison Amy Hagin will report to city council on September 26 regarding suggestions on sport court lighting and park hours based on the May 16th agenda item and request from City Council. There is a discussion around adjusting park times from the current 5 am – 10pm (Sunday through Thursday) and 5 am – 12 am (Friday and Saturday) to a daily time of sunrise to 10 pm. Staff will report back the results of the discussion with City Council.

8. **Future Ballot Questions - Rebecca Sayers**

The commission discussed potential options for ballot measures in the future; including basic info on how ballot measures are funded, appropriate projects. The commission also reviewed existing projects on the BBB recreation 5-year plan.

9. **City Council Liaison Report - Councilmember Deborah Harris**

No report.

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

A. PROSE August Newsletter

11. **Informational items to and from Commissioners and Staff**

There was a recent Buffalo Park celebration for the completion of the new ADA accessibility parking/walkway, trail surface upgrade, and additional adaptive exercise equipment along the Nate Avery Trail. The project was complicated with the previous snow season and some staffing issues, and it is exciting to see it completed.

12. **Agenda Items for next meeting**

- Park hour changes
- Supervisor update
- Residential Use in Public Facility Zone - Zoning Code

13. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:28 pm.