

Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission

Goodyear Recreation Campus
420 South Estrella Parkway
Goodyear, AZ 85338



Wednesday, February 21, 2024

5:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Beckles called the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Vice Chairman Benita Beckles; Commissioner Gerald Wilson; Commissioner Kiesha Beard (via TEAMS); Commissioner Sharolyn Hohman; Commissioner Chad Millette; Commissioner John Cox

Absent: Chairman Jose Gonzales-Excused; Alternate Brian Murphy

Staff Parks and Recreation Deputy Director David Seid; Park Superintendent Jeremy

Present: Figueroa; Recreation Coordinator Lucas Parker; Parks and Recreation Administrative Assistant Jacque Bento do O'

MOTION BY Commissioner Gerald Wilson, **SECONDED BY** Commissioner Chad Millette to EXCUSE Chairman Gonzales from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission meeting held on February 21, 2024.

AYE: Vice Chairman Benita Beckles, Commissioner Gerald Wilson, Commissioner Kiesha Beard (via TEAMS), Commissioner Sharolyn Hohman, Commissioner Chad Millette, Commissioner John Cox

Passed - Unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Before you begin to speak, identify yourself by clearly stating for the record, your name and address. This is the time for citizens who would like to address the Board on any non-agenda item within the jurisdiction of the Board. The Board will listen to comments, and may take any one of the following:

- Respond to criticism.
- Request that staff investigate and report on the matter.
- Request that the matter be scheduled on a future agenda.

BUSINESS

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION BY Commissioner Sharolyn Hohman, **SECONDED BY** Commissioner John Cox to APPROVE the draft minutes from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission meeting held on December 13, 2023.

AYE: Vice Chairman Benita Beckles, Commissioner Gerald Wilson, Commissioner Kiesha Beard (via TEAMS), Commissioner Sharolyn Hohman, Commissioner Chad Millette, Commissioner John Cox

Passed - Unanimously

2. **ADAPTIVE PRESENTATION:**

Recreation Coordinator Lucas Parker will give a presentation on the Adaptive Recreation Programs. (Coordinator Lucas Parker)

Recreation Coordinator Lucas Parker gave an overview on the Parks & Recreation, Adaptive Recreation Program.

- Lucas Parker oversees the newly created Adaptive Recreation Division.
- This division was developed in response to community feedback and a vocal proactive group that desired to provide recreational programs for children with special needs.
- Adaptive Recreation is designed for a person with an intellectual disability, such as autism and down syndrome.
- Goodyear is involved with the Special Olympics of Arizona in the Palo Verde area in the west-valley region.
- The Westside Roadrunners, a community-based Special Olympics delegation in the west valley since 2008, was rebranded to the now Goodyear Roadrunners as the official Special Olympics team of Goodyear.
- The Goodyear Roadrunners swim team successfully moved from the YMCA to the Goodyear Recreation Campus (GRC), tripling in size of members in one year.
- Goodyear created a Special Olympics golf team with individual skills athletes, unified pairs, and independent golfers.
- Also created are three Special Olympics soccer teams and a Young Athletes program ages 3-7.
- An affordable fee structure was created at \$20 for a bi-annual fee for participation in all the sports offered in the program.
- Adaptive Programs are open to both residents and non-residents.
- The Adaptive Program will continue to leverage and grow the Special Olympics brand with the \$20 bi-annual fee for participation, coach, and staff training opportunities.

3. **PALMATEER PARK PROJECT UPDATE:**

Park Superintendent Jeremy Figueroa will provide an update on the Palmateer Park Ramada replacement and present color schemes for commission consideration. (Park Superintendent Jeremy Figueroa)

Parks Superintendent Jeremy Figueroa gave a presentation on the Palmateer Park ramada replacement project.

- Jeremy stated that feedback from the historic neighborhood residents, during the Master Plan process, it was identified that Palmateer Park was lacking ADA accessibility.
- A community development block grant was pursued and awarded to provide upgrades and accessibility to the park.
- Currently the park has 6 play elements; the new proposed upgrades will have 15 new park

elements with 12 of them ADA accessible. There are a few existing park features that will remain.

-Another addition to the park is a 20 x 20 ramada structure with a grill that will also have ADA accessibility features.

-Jeremy solicited input from the commissioners for their color-scheme preference for the new ramada, and they favored the Sandstone-B color palette.

-The playground project is anticipated to be installed and completed by this summer from June to July.

4. **GOODYEAR RECREATION CAMPUS (GRC) UPDATE:**

Deputy Director David Seid will give an update on GRC Safety & Security. (Deputy Director David Seid)

Parks & Recreation Deputy Director David Seid gave an update on safety and security practices at the Goodyear Recreation Campus (GRC).

-David briefed that when violations or alterations occur, staff continue to follow the security policies and procedures in place.

-David informed that to provide an enhanced, continuous safe environment, a weapons detection device will be installed at GRC in March.

-Other enhanced security features will be the expansion of the security camera coverage, to hit the blind spots and perimeter, and there will also be crash bar enhancements.

5. **PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT UPDATES:**

Deputy Director David Seid will give Parks & Recreation Department updates. (Deputy Director David Seid)

Parks & Recreation Deputy Director gave these department updates.

- Opening Day of the 2024 spring training season at Goodyear Ballpark is scheduled for Saturday, February 24th. The Cleveland Guardians will open as the home team, taking on the Cincinnati Reds. 2024 spring training marks the ballpark's 15th anniversary.

-An upcoming event is the Wag & Tag Pet Festival, March 2nd, at Goodyear Civic Square.

-At the next commission meeting in April, staff will give a presentation on upcoming summer programs and events.

-David informed that the Goodyear Parks & Recreation Department Annual Report is available for everyone to review. The report is on the Goodyear Parks and Recreation website.

-At the next commission meeting in April, David will give an update on the city's finalized strategic priorities and the Parks & Recreation Department strategic plans.

-David suggested that if there are any other topics or presentations that the commissioners would like to hear about at a future meeting, they can advise us, and we will add them to the agenda.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Comments, Commendations, Report on Current Events and Presentations by Board, Commission or Committee Members, staff or members of the public. The members may not propose, discuss, deliberate or take any legal action on the information presented pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02.

-Commissioner Wilson asked about the Hop & Hops event, and David stated that it is scheduled for March 29th. A schedule of upcoming events will be sent to the commissioners.

-Commissioner Millette gave favorable feedback about the quick response that he had experienced from the Park & Recreation staff when he was coaching softball at Falcon Park and needed assistance with opening the gates.

-Vice Chairman Beckles gave recognition to Commissioner Cox, because he was voted as Citizen of the Year.

-Youth Commissioner Michaela Grumbling reported that she is going to Washington DC, March 9th, with the Youth Commission. She will provide a report at the next commission meeting in April.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on April 10, 2024, at the Goodyear Recreation Campus.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Vice Chairman Beckles adjourned the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jacque Bento do O', Board Secretary

Date:_____

Approved at the Parks & Recreation Advisory Meeting held on _____.