

THE CITY OF SIERRA VISTA
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 6, 2022 5:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission was called to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Oscar Yrun Community Center Conference Room, 3020 E. Tacoma Street, Sierra Vista, Arizona 85635 by Chairman Wes Hewitt.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Wesley Hewitt Berlynda Schaff
 Joseph Hayes Jessica Kunkel
 Matt Moreno

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Councilman William Benning
 Laura Wilson
 Laura Killberg

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

Berlynda Schaff made a motion to accept the agenda as written. Jessica Kunkel seconded the motion.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

The motion carried.

RECREATION SERVICES REPORT

Laura Killberg addressed the commission with the department updates.

Sports – 600 Registrants for soccer between CAC and SV Soccer Club. Hosted the first Berean Academy HS football game on Arbenz Field, per their agreement with the city. Youth basketball season registration will open in the next couple of days. Opening day of football was delayed due to rain, but it has started. 730 participants for end of summer Tsunami Night at the Cove. Fall swim lessons will start in October. Cove will be closed from December 5 thru February 24 for maintenance and upgrades.

Children & Family Programming - Sparks Program is being held at Bella Vista School for the school year there were 40 participants this week. Rec & Roll dinosaur theme was held this past Saturday at Tompkins Park. Sensory Science fun will be Tuesday, September 20 will be doing balloon experiments. Next Rec & Roll is at Len Roberts Park on Saturday October 8.

Scoreboard at Cyr is up, there will be a ribbon cutting before the game on Saturday at 5:00pm.

Oktoberfest is coming up volunteer shifts were discussed.

Fencing around the Veterans Memorial Park Sports Complex football field and track – due to the turf fields, this is an operations issue just like DP and Cyr. There will be open/close hours that are not yet determined.

Tennis Court renaming – Laura Killberg is proposing that we wait to do this until the modifications are completed by the Schneider Project. The commission discussed the time frame.

Laura Wilson addressed the commission on the Schneider Project. Phase II – the Veterans Memorial Park well tank is being put in, the current well has been dead since June, hoping to have water by early spring/late summer. The sports complex will start being bulldozed and excavated for the football field and track. This will take a few months to finish. The tennis courts will also be redone. Looking at cutting 15-20' off the tennis courts and reformatting them to create a walkway between the court and fields. Discussed the restrooms for DP, even though they are not part of the Schneider Project. Discussed ice skating rink at Veterans Memorial Park and the usage of the lifeguards during the Cove closure. EV charging stations will start at the library next week.

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Council is discussing getting Buena's sports fields for the district sports. SVUSD reached out to the city to take all of their fields and using them for all sports, with the school having first dibs. They are also discussing what to do with the commissions.

NEW BUSINESS

Strategic Plan – Laura Wilson CM staff meeting discussion that this is coming up and wants to remind commission that future goals will be discussed. Are there any goals you want to discuss now, let Councilman Benning know. Strategic goals are set for 2 years and mayor and council come up with what they would like to see and this is discussed with commissions.

Electric Bikes – Laura Wilson addressed the commission – there is an active group that has been discussing electric bicycles and the use of the multi use path system. The multi use path is considered a roadway because it is an area of transportation, which means they are maintained by streets, not parks. The PD is working on some things with the multi use paths also. Some info about what the National Park Service has adopted was sent out, but we are currently waiting to see what PD comes up with. Laura wanted to get this on the agenda to see what the commission thinks their role is and any thoughts there might be and if there needs to be an ordinance on how to use it. Wesley Hewitt stated the policy of multi use paths is no motor vehicles, so now it comes down to definitions – what is considered a motor vehicle. Until PD weighs in and says what can be done with enforcement, our hands are tied. Laura Killberg has spoken with PD and says they are currently following AZ Statute, title 28 chapter 3 article 11, 28-819. This states that ebike 1 or 2 can be on a multi use path, there are 3 types of ebikes – 1, 2 and 3. Types 1 & 2 can go up to 20 mph, type 3 can go up to 28 mph. The problem PD has is they do not have anyone to patrol the multi use paths. It is possible to do a local ordinance to override the current AZ statute. Laura Killberg believes that PD can handle the multi use paths, but is concerned about Garden Canyon Linear Park. Wes Hewitt stated that one of the things the commission will have to address is to look at the paths that are in the parks and the definitions of what is considered a motor vehicle. Wes recommended that we put this back on next months agenda and the commission agreed.

Moving meeting back to second Tuesday – Wes Hewitt addressed the commission about moving the meetings to the original date of the second Tuesday. Matt Moreno made a motion to move back to the second Tuesday, Joseph Hayes seconded the motion. There was no discussion, the vote was four yays and one abstention. The meeting will be moved back to the second Tuesday of the month.

OLD BUSINESS

Clarification of facility definitions in City ordinance – Tabled

Discussion of dog ordinances – Tabled

Commission projects – Adopt a project and new projects – Nothing to discuss

CALL TO PUBLIC

Nothing

REQUESTS OF COMMISSION

Matt Moreno made a request do a tour of the multi use paths, Laura Wilson will look at dates and let the commission know.

Berlynda Schaaf requested that Councilman Benning invite the council members to Berean Academy's football game at 7pm on Thursday at Arbenz

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.